

# Fact Sheet

## Lake Merritt Park Improvement Projects Lakeshore Avenue and El Embarcadero

### PROJECT LOCATION

This project includes parkland located west of Lakeshore Avenue from East 18th Street to El Embarcadero and parkland adjacent to El Embarcadero between the Lakeview Library and the Pergola.

### SCOPE OF WORK

The park improvement projects include the following:

Lakeshore Avenue will be narrowed from four lanes to two lanes for vehicle traffic and will include six-foot-wide Class 2 bike lanes. A continuous left-turn lane will run down center of the street. The number of on-street parking spaces will remain essentially the same as existing.

Installation of improved pathways. This includes a continuous 10-foot-wide, decorative concrete, multi-use trail. A new planting strip next to the new curb location will buffer the multi-use trail from the roadway. The shoreline trail will be reconstructed with polymer-hardened decomposed granite in order to provide a firm and stable surface and to be compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

The southern-most traffic couplet on El Embarcadero will be closed to vehicle traffic and will be reconstructed to accommodate the multi-use trail and a new formal plaza area just north of the Pergola. The northerly traffic couplet of El Embarcadero is proposed to be widened by two feet toward the Library to safely accommodate two-way traffic. The northerly traffic couplet will be configured with two lanes going eastbound and one lane going westbound. No trees would be removed or adversely affected by this widening.

Full renovation of 8.4 acres of existing planting and irrigation. This includes planting approximately 137 new trees. The landscaping plan also includes the removal of approximately 25 existing trees out of a total of 106 trees within the project area, for a net gain of 112 trees. The trees have already been removed because they were diseased, had severe structural defects, were crowding buildings, were in conflict with the new construction or are fast-growing, short-lived trees reaching the end of their life expectancy. Shrub planting will replace lawn areas in narrower parts of the park corridor to reduce maintenance and water use and to reduce the food supply for geese.



Many new seating areas will be developed throughout the park. A higher level of development will occur at creek nodes and where small peninsulas jut out into the Lake. A highly developed patio area will be created near the Pergola to emphasize the creek heritage of the area.

Markers will be installed to designate the historic shoreline of the Lake. Under a separate project, a comprehensive signage plan is being developed to unify and upgrade signs for park regulations and way-finding. Interpretive signage describing the area's history is also being developed as part of the signage plan.

Pedestrian improvements include a new traffic signal at El Embarcadero, installing bulb-outs at Cleveland Cascade, adding highly visible crosswalk pavement marking at mid-block crossings at the Lakeview Library and Cleveland Cascade and creating pedestrian refuge islands at El Embarcadero, Cleveland Cascade, Brooklyn, and Wesley. ADA-compliant curb ramps will also be installed at all intersections and a ramp will be installed at the Pergola to provide wheelchair access.

### FUNDING:

The projects are funded primarily by Measure DD — The Oakland Trust for Clean Water and Safe Parks. The current available construction budget for the Lakeshore Avenue/El Embarcadero project is about \$4.5 million.

### CURRENT STATUS:

The Lakeshore Avenue/El Embarcadero project is scheduled to begin in September 2008 and take about one year to complete.

For more information, contact  
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