



BAY TRAIL RICHMOND

NEW YEAR 2024 REPORT



This 25th New Year report by TRAC, the Trails for Richmond Action Committee, summarizes San Francisco Bay Trail progress in the City of Richmond. The City has 36 miles of Bay Trail completed, representing over 10% of the existing 340 miles of the planned 500-mile walking, jogging and cycling route encircling San Francisco and San Pablo Bays. Nevertheless, six miles of gaps remain in Richmond as shown on the report's last page map.

After twenty-five years of working with governmental agency and private sector partners, TRAC has found that Bay Trail progress varies considerably from year to year. Headway was made on major projects during 2023, but the year also brought disappointments. Contrary to expectations, construction did not start on the Point Molate Trail, and little or no progress was made on funded projects implementing the award-winning Ferry to Bridge to Greenway Complete Streets Plan (F2B2G Plan). Read on to learn more, stay healthy and enjoy the Bay Trail!

POINT MOLATE BAY TRAIL

East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD) has partnered with the City to build 2.5 miles of Bay Trail along the shoreline north from the Richmond San Rafael Bridge past Point Molate Beach Park to the Winehaven Historic District using over \$6 million in grants secured by the City and the District. Construction bidding was delayed for several reasons, but is expected to take place by February, followed by construction during 2024. The trail will open up a scenic, historic stretch of San Francisco Bay shoreline where there is no public access other than at Point Molate Beach Park.



Point Molate Bay Trail Rendering

“There is an inherent legacy in trails – one that honors the past, enriches the present and provides a gift to the future.”

– Keith Laughlin, Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

RICHMOND SAN RAFAEL BRIDGE TRAIL

About 700 bicyclists turned out on November 11 to celebrate completion of the [RSR Bridge Trail's](#) four-year pilot project. Cumulatively, there were about 360,000 bicycle and pedestrian trips across the bridge since the trail opened. To date, over 5,200 people have signed [Rich City Rides petition](#) to save the trail. An analysis by [Bay Area Toll Authority \(BATA\) staff concluded](#) that the trail had no significant impact on traffic congestion. By mid-year 2024, UC Berkeley's Partners for Advanced Transportation Technology group will produce a report analyzing the project's performance, and BATA plans to decide on the the future of the trail by year-end 2024.



RSR Pilot Poster



EXTENDING THE BAY TRAIL TO PINOLE

The Bay Trail now ends one mile north of the Atlas Road Bridge entry to Point Pinole Regional Shoreline. EBRPD developed a preferred design for closing a 0.9-mile gap to link with [San Pablo Bay Regional Shoreline](#) in Pinole, Hercules and Rodeo. The District reached out to the public via an online survey and met with many of the residents who live near the project area for input on design of the new trail. A CEQA document should be available for public review in the first quarter of 2024.

FERRY TO BRIDGE TO GREENWAY PLAN

The City Council unanimously approved the [F2B2G Plan](#) in 2021. In 2022, the City secured funds and started building 2-1/4 miles of protected bikeway as a “quick build” project on Harbour Way South, Hoffman & Cutting Boulevards where the Bay Trail detours inland around working ports and boatyards. However, the project remains incomplete without the planned bikeway on Hoffman Blvd. and Marina Way South between Hoffman and Wright Avenue. Moreover, none of the designed safety and directional signs have been installed on this bikeway.



Harbour Way South Bikeway

RICHMOND WELLNESS TRAIL



The City contracted with the Trust for Public Land (TPL) to lead implementation of Phase 2 of the [Richmond Wellness Trail](#), and TPL is in the process of selecting a consultant team to prepare construction plans. Phase 1 was completed in 2022 as an attractively landscaped, two-way protected bikeway and wide sidewalk linking the Richmond BART Station with the Richmond Greenway and Cutting Blvd. Completing Phase 2 to the shoreline of Lucretia Edwards Park will improve the Bay Trail along Marina Way South where there are sidewalks for pedestrians but no bikeway for cyclist safety. Project design and construction is funded by the [Richmond Rising Transformative Climate Communities](#) grant from the California Strategic Growth Council.

PRIVATE SECTOR FUNDING

The private sector has always played an important role in building, improving and maintaining the Bay Trail in Richmond. This includes building six miles of new trail, contributing \$424,000 toward implementing the F2B2G Plan and funding about 20 interpretive panels to enrich the Bay Trail experience. The City approved three new projects during 2023 that will repave and landscape existing trail sections and provide two new interpretive exhibits. However, construction started on only one of the seven diverse projects approved during 2022 with important Bay Trail and shoreline access improvements.

NEW TRAIL & BIKEWAY SWEEPER

The City’s Public Works Department took delivery of a new [Madvac sweeper](#) with a pressure washer for use on the City’s bikeways, which suffer from roadway debris, as well as multi-use Bay Trail sections, and is looking forward to hiring a new employee to operate it.

TRAC Steering Committee

Donald Bastin, Bruce Beyart-Chair, Bruce Brubaker -Vice Chair, Andrew Butt, Claudia Garcia, Aimee Flynn-Curran & Michelle Hook

SHARE THIS REPORT WITH YOUR COMMUNITY!

Thank you for supporting the completion of the Bay Trail in Richmond. Please share this report with your friends and neighbors, encouraging them to join the Richmond Bay Trail Network at no cost by e-mailing baytrailtrac@gmail.com.

- To learn more about TRAC, the RSR Bridge and Point Molate trails, download maps and guides, etc, visit: <https://www.pointrichmond.com/bay-trail/>



Bay Trail

- Complete
- Incomplete

Connector Trail

- Complete
- Incomplete

- Water Trail site
- Water Trail site (planned)
- Parks/Open Space
- Water Bodies



Welcome to Richmond

Over 36 miles of Bay Trail linking a necklace of 12 shoreline parks

April 2023

