BOLINAS COMMUNITY PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT

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MEMORANDUM

TO:	Board of Directors
FROM:	Georgia Woods, General Manager
RE:	***Item 1.*** *Status Update on the Repair of the Bike Path*
DATE:	October 21, 2026

Purpose

To provide the Board with an update on the status of the Bolinas Mesa Pedestrian and Bicycle Path Repair Project, including Coastal Development Permit (CDP) processing, project funding, and potential strategies for addressing the project's anticipated funding shortfall.

Background

The District resubmitted its Coastal Development Permit application to Marin County on October 16, 2026, following completion of the additional materials requested in the County's Project Status Letter. Staff's immediate priority is obtaining a completeness determination and advancing the project to a Deputy Zoning Administrator (DZA) hearing as quickly as possible.

As previously discussed with the Board when authorizing additional expenditures associated with the CDP application, staff's recommendation has been to pursue permitting for the entirety of the bike path project. The coastal permitting process is lengthy, complex, and expensive, and staff believes it is in the District's best interest to secure approvals for the full project even if construction ultimately must be phased due to funding limitations. Obtaining a permit for the complete project preserves future flexibility and avoids the need to return to the coastal permitting process for subsequent phases of work.

Timely permit processing remains particularly important because the District's existing State Parks Per Capita grant requires the funded improvements to be completed and opened to the public by January 1, 2028.

Funding Status

Updated cost estimates indicate that the project currently faces an anticipated funding shortfall of approximately **$200,000** between available grant funding and the estimated cost necessary to complete the full bike path project as planned.

Staff continues to evaluate options for addressing this funding gap while maintaining the ability to construct the entire pathway rather than reducing project scope.

Recreational Trails Program (RTP)

As part of this effort, staff has been exploring the California State Parks Recreational Trails Program (RTP), a federally funded grant program that supports non-motorized trail projects.

Staff recently met with State Parks grant staff to discuss whether the District's bike path project could be a candidate for RTP funding and whether RTP funding could be combined with the District's existing State Parks Per Capita grant. Based on those discussions, RTP appears to be a promising potential funding source that could help offset a portion of the project's funding shortfall.

However, because RTP is a federal program, participation would require compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The environmental review and documentation necessary to satisfy NEPA requirements would not be reimbursable through the RTP grant program and would therefore represent an additional project cost.

To better understand the potential financial implications of pursuing RTP funding, staff has requested a proposal from WRA to evaluate the scope and cost of the NEPA compliance work that would be required.

Project Phasing Considerations

If RTP funding is pursued, the project would need to be structured as a phased project due to the differing timelines associated with the District's existing Per Capita funding and the RTP funding cycle.

The Per Capita-funded portion of the project must be completed and open to the public by January 1, 2028. RTP funding would not be available in time to be incorporated into that schedule. As a result, the District would need to complete an initial phase utilizing existing grant funds and subsequently pursue RTP funding for a later phase of improvements.

For this reason, staff continues to view permitting of the entire project as a prudent strategy. Even if construction proceeds in phases, obtaining approvals for the full project now would position the District to efficiently pursue future funding opportunities without requiring additional coastal permitting.

The WRA proposal was expected to assist the Board in evaluating whether pursuing RTP funding would be financially advantageous. Accordingly, this item was originally anticipated as a possible action item. However, at the time this memorandum was prepared, the proposal had not yet been received and therefore no Board action is requested at this time.

Next Steps

Staff's immediate priorities are to:

1. Obtain a determination from Marin County that the CDP application is complete.
2. Continue working with County staff to expedite scheduling of the Deputy Zoning Administrator hearing.

3. Advance the project through the County approval process and obtain a Coastal Development Permit for the full bike path project.
4. Review WRA's proposal regarding required NEPA compliance work and associated costs.
5. Continue evaluating RTP funding as a potential source to offset a portion of the approximately $200,000 project funding shortfall.
6. Upon receipt of the Coastal Development Permit, proceed with preparation of construction bid documents.
7. Structure the bidding documents so that contractors can provide pricing for both:
    - Construction of the entire pathway; and
    - A phased construction approach should full project funding not yet be available.
8. Initiate fundraising efforts and pursue supplemental grant opportunities to close the remaining funding gap and maximize the likelihood of constructing the full project as planned.

Receipt of the Coastal Development Permit will place the District in a significantly stronger position to pursue both fundraising and grant opportunities, as the project will have completed its primary entitlement process and be positioned to move toward construction.

Recommended Board Action

Receive update and provide direction as desired. No Board action is requested at this time.