

**MEASURE WW -- \$27 MILLION FOR EASTSHORE STATE PARK:
PROPOSAL FOR ALBANY SHORELINE IMPROVEMENTS**

Proposed by: Steve Granholm

I propose that a substantial portion of the Measure WW funding be used for the following projects on the Albany Shoreline, within the Eastshore State Park:

1. Prepare a Project Area Plan for the Albany Plateau, consistent with the Eastshore Park General Plan, to specify the facilities to be constructed there. The western portion of the Plateau (west of the burrowing owl habitat area) should be designed for informal recreation. The facilities should include a picnic area, a turf area, restrooms, drinking fountains, and landscaping. The plan should also include trails and viewpoints, with interpretive signage, on both the western and eastern portions of the Plateau. The eastern portion of the Plateau (which includes the burrowing owl habitat area) should be improved by replacing non-native plants with locally native plants, where feasible.
2. Implement the Project Area Plan for the Albany Plateau.
3. Prepare a Project Area Plan for the Albany Bulb and Neck. Developing this plan would require extensive coordination between the City of Albany, the East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD), and the California Department of Parks and Recreation (State Parks). A key part of the plan would be to resolve the specific process and steps required to transfer the Bulb and other City-owned lands to the Eastshore State Park. The plan should address the issue of construction debris removal on the surface of the Neck and Bulb (e.g., unstable concrete piles) that would minimize disturbance to upland wildlife habitat.
4. Implement the Project Area Plan for the Albany Bulb and Neck.

Rationale: To date, most of the funding for implementation of Eastshore Park facilities has been spent on (or allocated to) the Berkeley shoreline. Now it is important to move forward with park improvements on the Albany shoreline. The Bulb, with its incredible views and isolation from urban noise and congestion, is one of the most dramatic locations in the Park. The Plateau is also a key location, both for informal recreation facilities and for beautiful views of the Albany Mudflat, with its abundant waterbird populations.

Cost: The estimated cost for preparing a Project Area Plan, and implementing those plans, for the Albany Plateau, and the Neck and Bulb, has not been determined.