San Francisco Bay Area Water Trail

Site Description for

Barbara & Jay Vincent Park

Location, Ownership, and Management: Barbara and Jay Vincent Park is located at the end of Peninsula Drive, in the southern portion of Richmond's Marina Bay. The six acre park is managed by the City of Richmond. The park is also part of the Rosie the Riveter / WWII Home Front National Historical Park.

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Lower beach	Water access stairs	Upper beach

Facility Description: Barbara & Jay Vincent Park is an approximately six acre park located in the southern portion of Richmond's Marina Bay. This park is a popular kayak launch due to the numerous amenities and its proximity to Brooks Island and other nearby destinations. The site is also a popular windsurfing launch due to the ideal wind direction and frequency. There are three water access locations within the park: 1) a small beach launch accessed from an ADA path, located immediatedly south of the parking lot; 2) concrete stairs that lead to water in the central portion of the park shoreline; and, 3) a beach launch accessed from an ADA path, located in the southwestern portion of the park.

Barbara & Jay Vincent Park provides a variety of other amenities that make the site a good launch for non-motorized small boats. ADA-accessible restrooms (1 male, 1 female) are located near the parking area. The park also offers picnic tables with BBQ pits, a large grass lawn, a playground and benches that offer stunning views of Brooks Island and the San Francisco Bay.

Free parking is available in a large lot with 38 spaces, including two van-accessible ADA spaces.

Other Identifying or General Information:

Site ID: CC17 In WT Plan: Yes Existing or Planned: Existing Ownership: Public County: Contra Costa Geo-Region: Richmond Area SF Bay Plan Region: Central Bay North Launch or Destination: Launch Home of a Club: No Used by a Program that Assists Persons with Disabilities: No Appreciated for Windy Conditions: Yes Near Food or Drink: No	Proximity to Other Sites: Barbara and Jay Vincent Park is located in proximity to three other launches within the greater Richmond Marina Bay complex: Shimada Friendship Park is located approximately 0.3 miles east; Marina Bay Park is located 0.4 miles to the northwest within Marina Bay and the Richmond Municipal Marina is located 0.4 miles to the north. To the southeast, Point Isabel is located approximately 1.4 miles away. Farther south, designated Water Trail sites at the Berkeley Marina and Small Boat Launch are 2.5 and 3.6 miles away, respectively. The designated Water Trail site at Ferry Point is located approximately 2.0 miles to the west.

Site Overview Map

Description of Launch/Landing:

Fixed Dock/Pier Launch/Landing: No Float: No Transfer/Launch Assistance System: No Gangway: No Beach: Yes Boat/Trailer Ramp: No Mudflats Affect Site Usability: No Beach Wheelchair Available: No Stair Water Entry: No Firm-Surface Beach Crossing: Yes Fee for Launch or Parking: No	Other Launch/Landing Notes: There are two beaches at this site. One is located near the parking lot and one is located near the breakwater. Measurements are to the closer beach. Restrictions: Last 20 feet of ramp is covered by sand. Water Trail recommends the City regularly clear the sand from the ramp to the high-tide line. Water Entry Path: Yes

The lower beach has an ADA path that leads to the approximate high tide line. The proximity to the parking area, no restriction on parking duration, restrooms, and ADA path of travel make this a popular site.

Site Appears to be Suitable For:

Kayak: Yes	Canoe: Yes
Windsurfer: Yes	Outrigger Canoe: No
Kiteboard: Yes, if highly skilled	Sculling: No
Whaleboat: No	Rowboat/Dinghy: Yes
Stand Up Paddleboard: Yes	Dragonboat: No

Transportation and Parking:

General Spaces (number): 38 ADA Parking Spaces (number): 2 Duration (hours): Parking is not time restricted during park hours Overnight Parking Allowed: No ADA Parking Description: Two van-accessible spaces located closest to the Bay.	Loading/Unloading Area: Yes Bay Trail: Yes Public Transportation: The nearest public transportation is the 74 Bus line stop at Marina Bay, approximately 1 mile north of the Park.

The large surface parking lot has 38 spaces, including two ADA spaces. There is a striped curb close to the Bay that can be used as a loading/unloading zone.

Path of Travel:

Distance to Launch from Parking Area (feet): 297
Distance to Launch from ADA Parking (feet): 305
Distance to Launch from ADA Restrooms (feet): 320
Distance from ADA Restrooms to ADA Parking (feet): 117
Path of Travel Exists: Yes

Path of Travel Description: Paved path of travel from the parking area to the restrooms and to the paved path that leads down to the beach.

Other Site Amenities:

Total Restrooms: 2 Total ADA Restrooms: 2 Restroom Description: One male and one female ADA accessible restroom.	Boat Washing: No Rigging/Staging Area: No Picnic Tables: Yes Benches: Yes BBQ: Yes Boat Storage: No

The park provides ADA restrooms, bike racks, picnic tables, benches, a large grass lawn, BBQs, and interpretive signage.

Overnight Accommodations:

Hotel: No	Hostel: No	Ship: No	Camping: No	Other: No

Additional Notes Related to Accessibility:

Barbara and Jay Vincent Park provides a variety of accessible features including two parking spaces, ADA restrooms, paved path of travel, and picnic tables. Both of the beach launches provide a concrete beach access route across the sand to the approximate high-tide line.

Additional Notes on Use of Site (Boating and Non-Boating) and Existing and Planned Management:

This park is a popular kayak launch due to the numerous amenities and its proximity to Brooks Island and other nearby destinations. The site is also a popular windsurfing launch due to the ideal wind direction and frequency.

Safety and Security, including Parking:

The riprap that comprises the shoreline can be hazardous for winsurfers that get stuck too far inshore and are unable to tack back to the launch. The Santa Fe Channel is a busy shipping channel and the Richmond Marina is popular with recreational sail and motor boaters, so small boaters must be aware of larger ships and avoid collisions.

There is a 300-foot security exclusion zone around the Chevron Long Wharf, located within four miles of the site. Water Trail signage will emphasize that users need to be aware of ferry routes, shipping channels, and larger boats.

Wildlife and Habitat Considerations:

Barbara and Jay Vincent Park and adjacent shoreline is fairly urban, with limited natural habitat occuring in the immediate vicinity. The Albany Mudflats Ecological Reserve / State Marine Park, an important feeding ground for a variety of shorebirds and waterfowl, is located approximately 1.7 miles to the southeast.

In addition, Brooks Island is within four miles of the site. Brooks Island hosts 18 species of nesting birds, including herons, gulls, and terns. Brooks Island is also home to a secondary harbor seal haul-out site. Access to Brooks Island is only allowed by reservation on a guided trip with EBRPD. Secondary haul-out sites are also located at Red Rock and Castro Rocks within four miles of Vincent Park. Trips to Brooks Island can be scheduled through EBRPD Reservations Department at 888-327-2757, option 2 or visit EBParks.org/Register for the current schedule of trips.

Education, Outreach, and Stewardship, Including Signage:

The Water Trail educational sign includes information about safety precautions, not landing on Brooks Island, how to boat responsibly near wildlife, and buffer distances from sensitive species. More detailed information about boater safety is found on the Water Trail website and in the Water Trail brochure.

Accessibility of Sites within the Richmond Area Waterfront Geo-Region:

There are eight potential/existing Water Trail sites identified within this geo-region: Point Molate Beach Park; Keller Beach; Ferry Point; Boat Ramp Street Launch Area; Richmond Municipal Marina; Barbara & Jay Vincent Park; Shimada Friendship Park; and, Point Isabel Regional Shoreline. Of these, Ferry Point and Barbara & Jay Vincent Park provide the most accessible water access.

The Richmond Area Waterfront Geo-Region provides opportunities to enjoy windy conditions, calm conditions, wildlife viewing, and urban experiences. There are two broadly accessible sites within this Geo-Region. Ferry Point offers a Water Trail Grant funded firm surface path across the beach, new accessible restrooms, accessible parking, and other accessible amenities such as picnic tables, a drinking fountain, and loading/unloading area. Barbara and Jay Vincent Park similarly provides a firm surface path across its two beaches, accessible restrooms, accessible parking, and other accessible amenities such as picnic tables, a drinking fountain, and loading/unloading area.

A Water Trail Grant-funded improved launch at Point Isabel is currently being designed by EBRPD that will include ADA access to the water. In addition, the new accessible boat launch is proposed for the Richmond Municipal. Upon completion of improvements to Point Isabel and the Richmond Marina (anticipated to be completed in 2018), this Geo-Region will have four broadly accessible sites - Ferry Point, Barbara and Jay Vincent Park, Point Isabel, and the Richmond Marina.

Summary of Environmental Review
based on the
San Francisco Bay Area Water Trail Plan Final Environmental Impact Report

Barbara & Jay Vincent Park
March 10, 2017

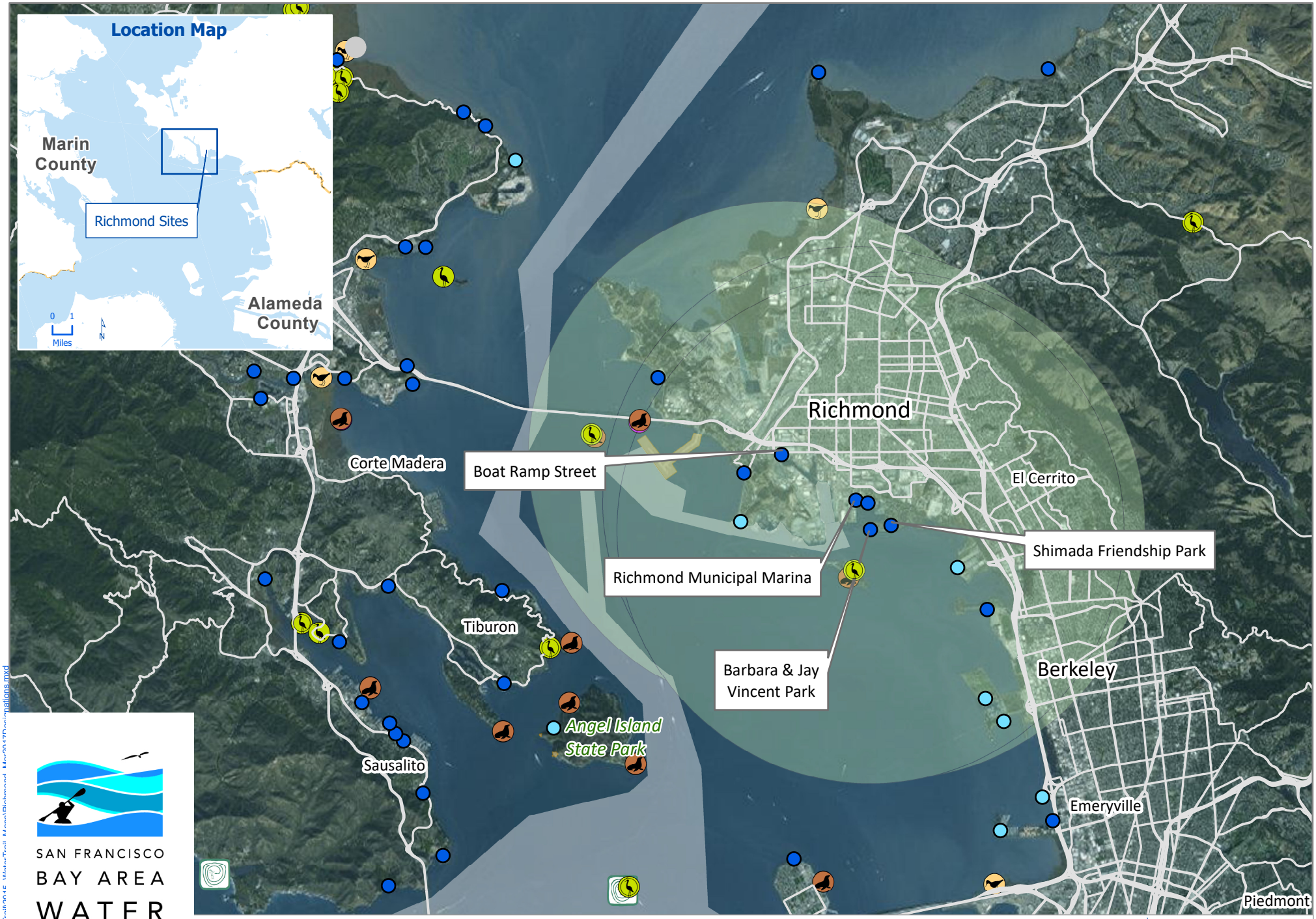
Resource Area	Impacts Analysis	Notes
Recreation References: WT DREIR, pp. 3-32 to 3-37.	Vincent Park is a developed park with high levels of existing public use. Facilities are well maintained and have sufficient capacity to accommodate levels of use associated with the Water Trail use.	Regarding recreational conflicts, Water Trail users may submit comments to Water Trail staff through the website if they witness or experience recreational conflict at any designated site. In spite of the current heavy use, no user conflicts have been observed.
Navigational and Personal Safety References: WT DREIR pp. 3-38 to 3-51, and Figures 3.4.2-1 and 3.4.2-2.	Small boat users should be aware of winds and currents. Ships entering the Port of Richmond come from the Bay west of Brooks Island, approximately 0.5 miles west of Vincent Park. West of Marina Bay is an active commercial shipping channel, so boaters need to be cautious to avoid the barges and other large ships that frequent the area. There is a 300-foot security exclusion zone around the Chevron Long Wharf, located within four miles of the site.	The Water Trail educational sign provides information related to navigational and personal boating safety. Water Trail signage will also emphasize that users need to be aware of ferry routes, shipping channels, and larger boats.
Aesthetics References: WT DREIR pp. 3-56 to 3-68.	Vincent Park is considered an urban launch, characterized by the developed beach park adjacent to the City of Richmond.	The Water Trail will require the inclusion of a Water Trail identification sign at the three primary access locations along the park. A “sign program” will be developed with the City of Richmond to ensure that the I.D. signs and additional educational sign do not result in sign clutter at the site.

Resource Area	Impacts Analysis	Notes
Biology- Vegetation References: WT DREIR pp. 3-69 to 3-92 and Table 3.7.2-1 and Table 3.7.2-2.	The shoreline of Vincent Park is reinforced with riprap and is generally developed. Tidal mudflats occur within Albany Mudflats to the southeast of Vincent Park.	Boaters should keep recommended distances from sensitive habitats. Preventing the inadvertent spread of exotic, invasive plant species is important at all launch sites. A boat washing station could be a good addition near the restrooms.
Biology – Birds *References: WT FEIR text and map*	Due to the developed nature of the region, there are limited active nesting areas in the vicinity of the site. Brooks Island is within four miles of the site. Brooks Island hosts 18 species of nesting birds, including herons, gulls, and terns.	The WT educational sign includes information about how to paddle responsibly around wildlife and to maintain a buffer distance from nesting birds. The WT website and brochure include more detailed information about not disturbing birds. Landing on Brooks Island is prohibited unless as part of a tour with EBRPD in order to protect nesting bird species. Visitation to nearby sensitive shorelines is not anticipated to substantially increase. Signage will inform paddlers not to land on Brooks Island unless on a guided EBPRD tour.
Biology – Rafting Waterfowl References: WT DREIR pp. 3-93 to 3-131 and Table 3.8.2-1, Figure 3.8.2-1.	This site provides access to areas where rafting waterfowl congregate.	Disturbance of rafting waterfowl is not addressed in existing signs on site but is highlighted in the Water Trail educational sign, brochure, and website.
Biology – Ridgway's rail and California black rail and high tide refugia References: WT DREIR pp. 3-93 to 3-131 and Figure 3.8.2-2	Ridgway's rail and black rail depend on habitat that does not exist at or in the immediate vicinity of Vincent Park.	Signage is needed to emphasize the importance of not entering marshes, keeping a 50-foot buffer from rail habitat (not entering channels less than 100-feet wide), importance of staying clear of high-tide refugia, and that landing in marshes and on levees is prohibited. The Water Trail educational sign and brochure include this information.
Biology –Western Snowy Plover References: WT DREIR pp. 3-93 to 3-131 and Figure 3.8.2-3	Western snowy plover nesting in San Francisco Bay is associated with emergent or dry salt pond beds, or sometimes levee roads. These habitats are not found in the vicinity of Vincent Park.	The Water Trail educational sign and brochure include bird avoidance information.

Resource Area	Impacts Analysis	Notes
Biology – Harbor Seals References: WT DREIR pp. 3-132 to 3-156, Figure 3.9.2-1, and Tables 3.9.2-1, 3.9.2-2, 3.9.5-1, and 3.9.5-2	Primary haul-out sites are located at Bluff Point in Tiburon and at Angel Island State Park, both located approximately four miles away from the park. Secondary haul-out sites are located on Brooks Island, Red Rock, and Castro Rocks within four miles of this site.	The WT educational sign, brochure, and website all advise boaters not to land at haul-out sites and to always stay at least 330' away from hauled-out harbor seals and at least 500' away from March to July when seals are pupping.
Cultural Resources	No WT-related construction is proposed. No cultural resources are anticipated to occur. NMSB users are not allowed to land in adjacent wetland habitat, where they could potentially disturb cultural artifacts.	The WT website includes information about avoiding disturbance to cultural artifacts.
Hydrology	No Water Trail related construction is proposed that could result in changes to site hydrology.	There would be no changes to site hydrology from designation.
Transportation, Circulation, and Parking	Parking during weekends can become congested. The entry road has sufficient capacity for existing and foreseeable future use.	City staff manage high visitor numbers on weekends. Increased use by non-motorized small boat users is not expected to be great enough to result in overuse.

San Francisco Bay Area Water Trail

www.sfbaywatertrail.org



SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA WATER TRAIL

Richmond Water Trail Sites

- Designated Water Trail Site
- Potential Water Trail Site
- 4 Mile Buffer (from Potential Sites)
- Shipping Channel
- Active Heronry
- Pelican Roost
- Primary or secondary harbor seal haul out site
- Ridgway's/Black Rail

N 0 1.7 Miles

CA Harbor Seal data from Water Trail FEIR. Ridgway's and black rail, Western snowy plover, and heronry data generalized from 2015 California Natural DiversityDatabase

(2/27/2017)

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