

City of Oakland Update Lake Merritt Water Quality Projects and Funding

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**Presentation at Lake Merritt Public Stakeholder Meeting on San Francisco Bay Regional
Water Quality Control Board's Lake Merritt Advance Restoration Plan Project**

Updated 8/6/26 - added information that was provided verbally at the 8/4/26 event

August 4, 2026



City of Oakland Lake Merritt Water Quality Management Planning

August 2022 – Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB) ➔ Planning

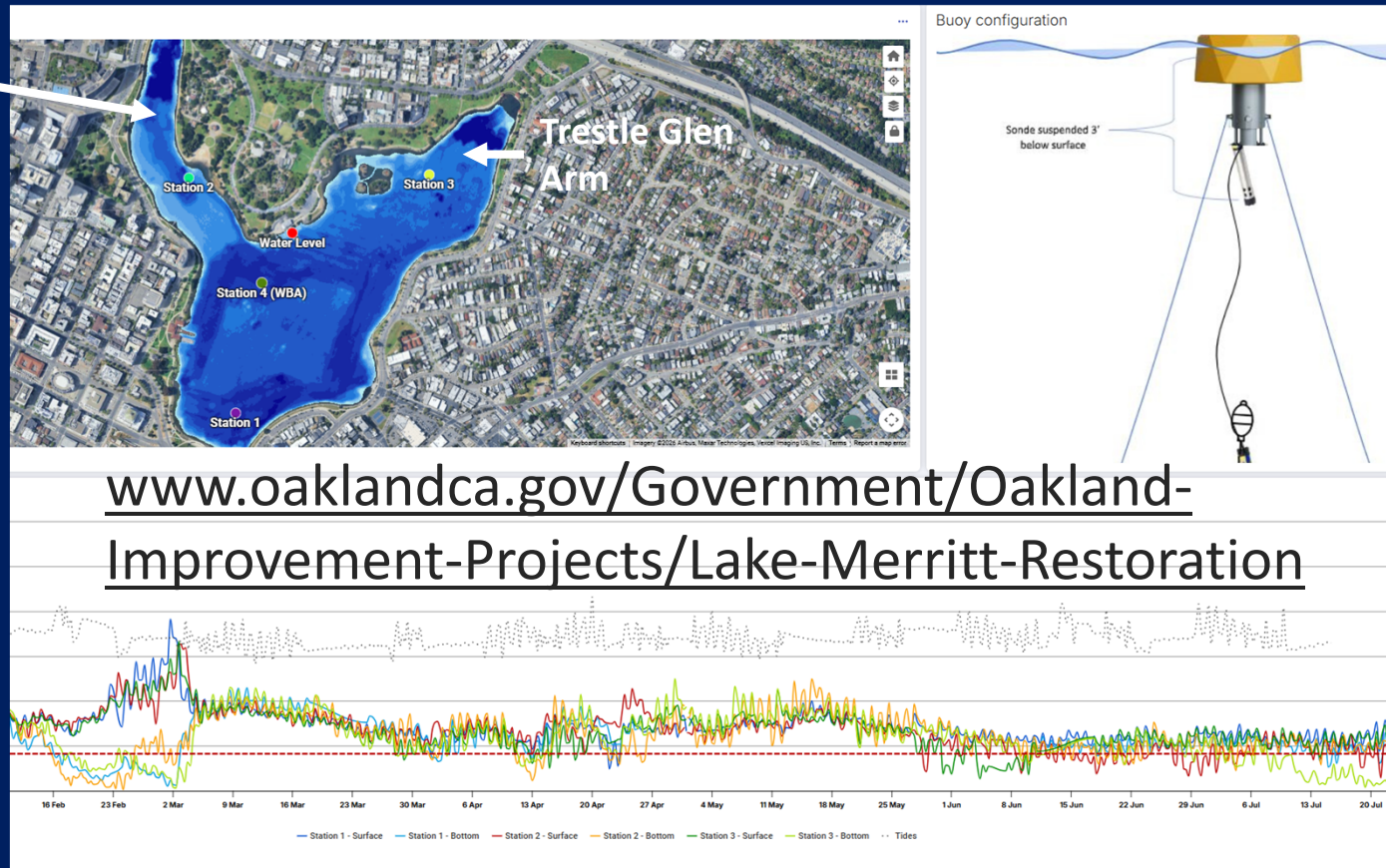
Winter 2022/23

- Input: consultants, Lake Merritt users, advocates, local experts
- Stakeholder meeting – 12/12/2022
- Water quality monitoring - partnered with Lake Merritt Institute
- Proposed two Capital Improvement Program (CIP) projects

Annually – The City conducts algae harvesting in Lake Merritt

City of Oakland Water Quality Monitoring Public Data Dashboard (by LakeTech)

Hey, this is the
Glen Echo Arm



Lake Merritt Water Quality Management Pilot Project

Capital Improvement Program Project #1

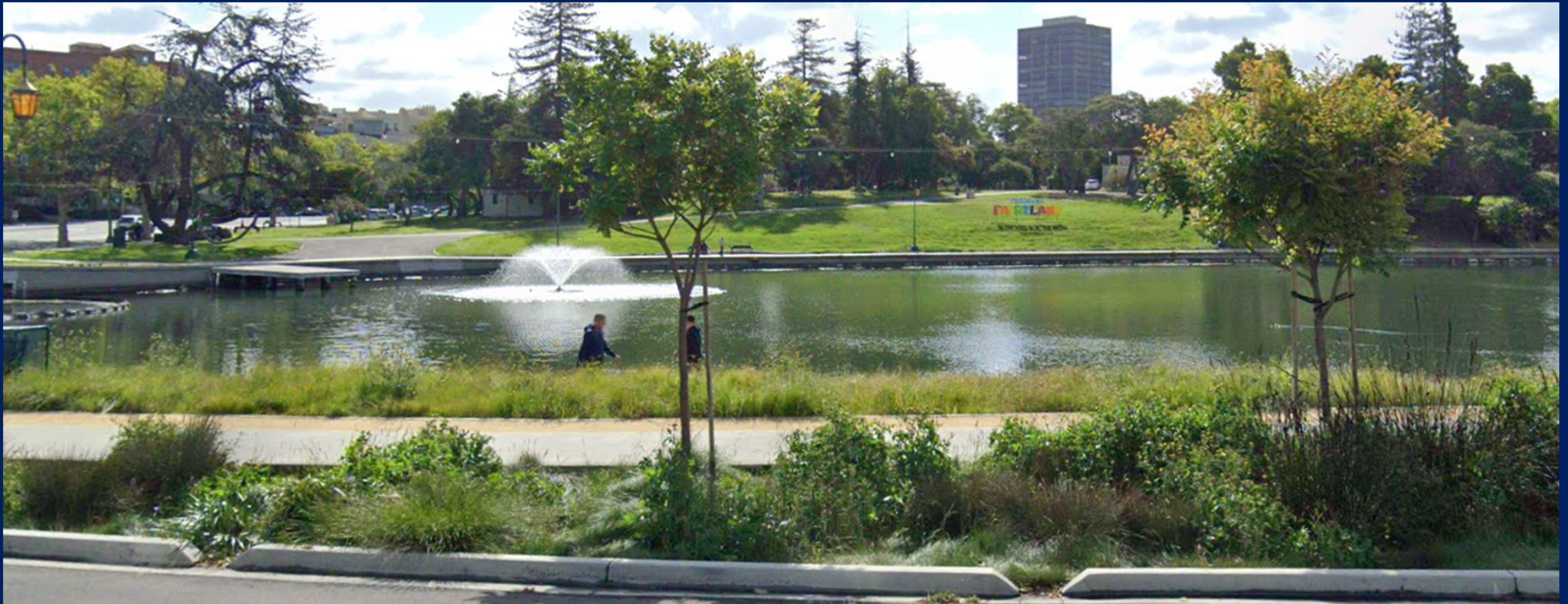
1. Continued monitoring, including effectiveness
2. Installed aquatic life refuge devices
 - i. Trestle Glen Arm – surface aerator
 - ii. Glen Echo Arm - Hypolimnetic oxygenation device
3. Permits for safe algaecides



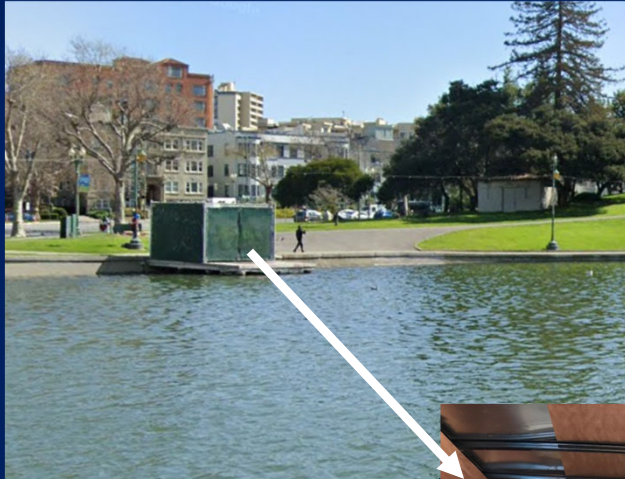
Funded by Oakland Voter-approved Measure Q:

<https://www.oaklandca.gov/Government/Oakland-Improvement-Projects/Parks-and-Rec-Preservation>

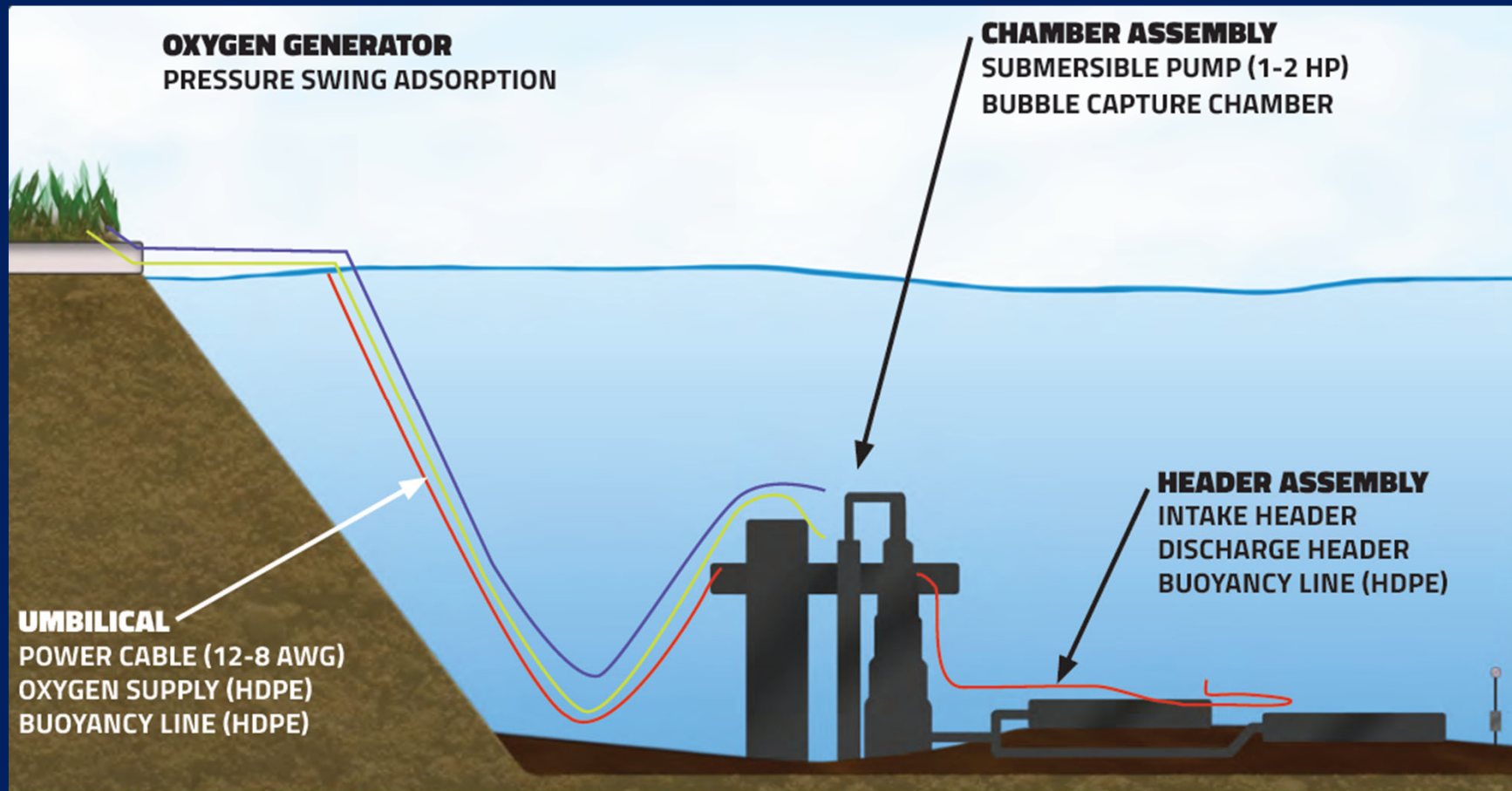
Before the Hypolimnetic Oxygenation System



Installed Hypolimnetic Oxygenation System

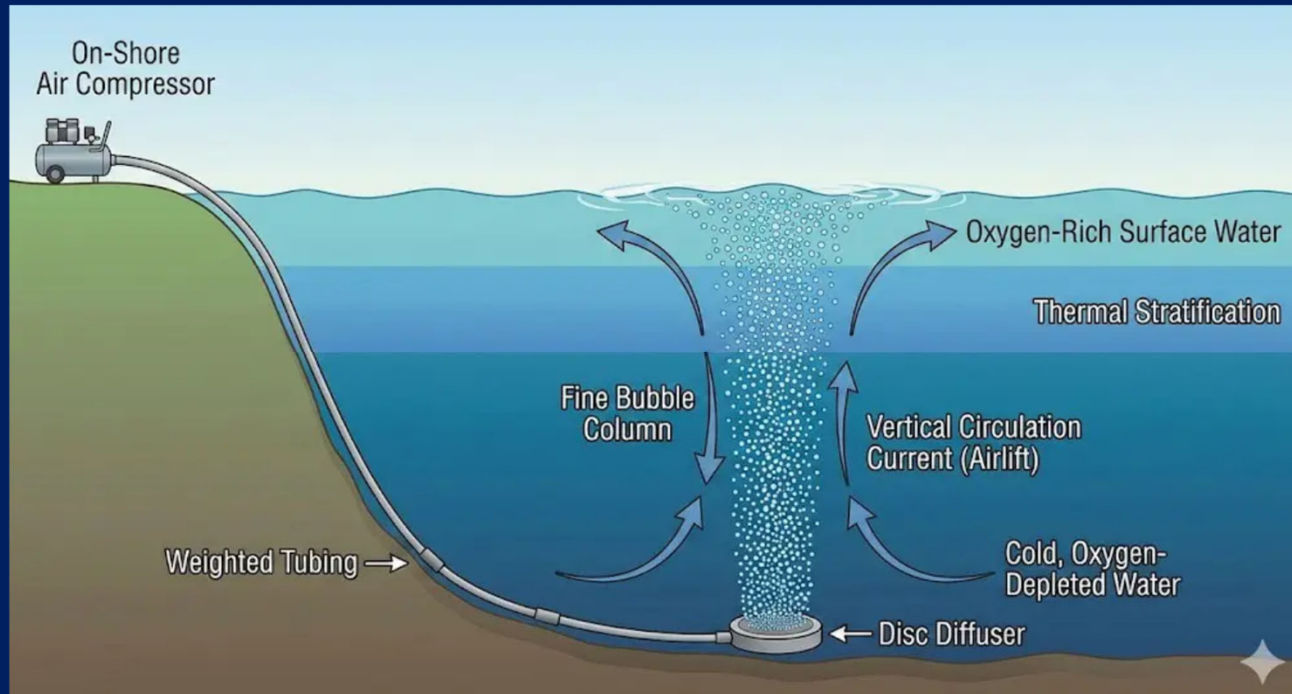


Depiction of Hypolimnetic Oxygenation System (HOS) installed in 2023 in Lake Merritt



Removed Oxygenation System and Replaced with Diffused Aeration System – January 2026

- Allowed alternate use of oxygen generator – **depiction of type of system installed**



Lake Merritt Water Quality Management Pilot Project

Capital Improvement Program Project #1

- Evaluated Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB) response options
- Obtained **Council approval and permit from State Water Resources Control Board** to apply hydrogen peroxide solution to Lake in an emergency (safe algaecide)
- **No HAB has required this yet**

 **CAUTION 警告 CUIDADO**

Avoid Water Contact
不要接触水
Evite el contacto con el agua



Stay away from algae and scum in the water.
远离水中的藻类和浮渣。
Alejese de las algas o espuma lamosa en el agua.



Do not let pets go into nor drink the water nor eat scum on shore.
请勿让宠物进入或喝水，或吃岸上的浮渣。
No deje que sus mascotas se metan o beban el agua, o se acerquen a la espuma lamosa.



Keep children away from algae in the water and on the shore.
让儿童远离水中或岸上的藻类。
Mantenga a los niños alejados de algas en el agua u orilla del agua.



Do not drink nor use this water for cooking.
不要喝这种水或用它来做饭。
No beba de esta agua y no lo use para cocinar.

Harmful algae may be present.
由於最近檢測到有毒藍藻（也稱為藍綠藻）。
Puede haber algas nocivas.

Call your doctor or veterinarian if you or your pet get sick after contacting this water.
For information visit



Oak311

致电您的医生或兽医，如果您或您的宠物在接触此水后生病。欲了解信息，请访问

311.oaklandca.gov
510-615-5566

Llame a su médico o veterinario si usted o su mascota se enferman después de contacto con esta agua.
Para más información visita a



mywaterquality.ca.gov/habs

<https://www.oaklandca.gov/Government/Oakland-Improvement-Projects/Lake-Merritt-Water-Quality>

Lake Merritt Healthy Lake Initiative Project

Capital Improvement Program Project #2

Objective: Develop and implement additional effective strategies to address excessive algae growth and low dissolved oxygen concentrations in Lake Merritt to protect aquatic life and prevent fish kills.

- Congressionally directed funding, \$959,757
 - Thanks Barbara Lee!
- Grant executed through EPA
- Implementation to begin fall 2026
- **Water Board's Technical Advisory Committee recommendations will help guide**



Lake Merritt Healthy Lake Initiative

Scope of Work

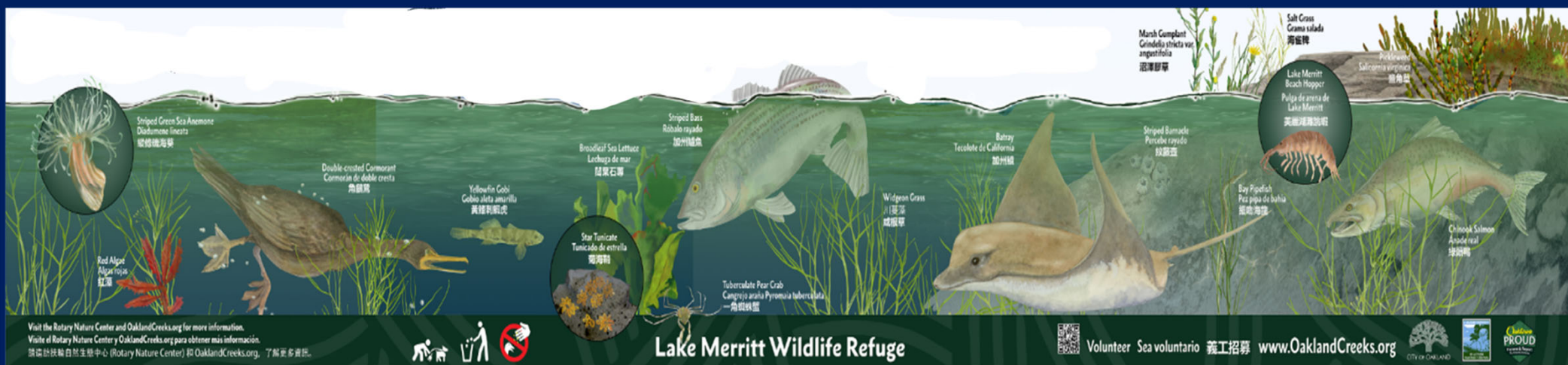
Task 1

1. Develop and Implement a monitoring plan
2. Evaluate monitoring and other data



Task 2 – City is considering performing:

Aquatic life assemblage - to determine what DO levels are needed to support life in Lake Merritt.



City will consider Water Board's and TAC's recommendations on whether to implement this study

Lake Merritt Healthy Lake Initiative

Scope of Work

Task 3

1. Evaluate potential Dissolved Oxygen management actions
2. Develop installation plan and install aeration/oxygenation devices and/or other management actions **if recommended by TAC and feasible**
3. Post-installation inspection and effectiveness assessment



Thank you

