

### 2011 ANNUAL REPORT



Greenbelt Alliance is the champion of the places that make the Bay Area great. We bring people together to find innovative solutions to the region's growth challenges. We work both regionally and locally, blending expertise with on-the-ground action to make neighborhoods thrive and save treasured landscapes from sprawl. www.greenbelt.org

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# The Bay Area we love

One recent Saturday, I was reminded of what makes the Bay Area so special: morning in the park with my kids playing soccer in my hometown of Alameda followed by a walk to the bagel store; a quick midday trip into San Francisco; and a short hike in the Oakland Hills redwoods before dinner. **Great neighborhoods**, **great cities, the great outdoors** – it's this diversity of landscapes and opportunities that makes so many of us so passionate about living in the Bay Area.



Of course, our amazing region is facing some challenges. City budgets are tight and there are now fewer resources to revitalize downtowns and provide people with affordable homes. Funding for local, regional, and state parks is too limited, putting access to some of our region's great open spaces at risk. It continues to be hard for farmers and ranchers to make a go of it, and some could be compelled to give up their land when sprawl developers come calling.

Greenbelt Alliance is there to help tackle these challenges and make the Bay Area's future even better than it is today. **Our job is to make sure the right development happens in the right places.** From San Jose to Contra Costa County, Santa Rosa, and Mountain View, you'll find in these pages highlights of how we collaborated with people to strengthen places around the region.

Greenbelt Alliance is grateful to you, our supporters, for the time and financial support you have provided us. **Your generosity makes it possible** for Greenbelt Alliance to be a strong defender of our natural and agricultural lands and an equally strong proponent of finding ways to make our cities and towns thrive.

Sincerely,

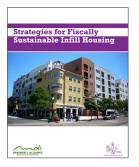
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Jeremy Madsen

## How we work

Greenbelt Alliance's work is as varied as the Bay Area's landscapes. We offer expert guidance, inspire new ideas, provide opportunities to explore the Bay Area, and advocate for a better future. Read about our top 2011 successes:

#### PROVIDING EXPERTISE



▶ Updating a general plan, a city's blueprint for future development, is one

of the best ways to address climate change, yet it can be confusing if you don't have a degree in urban planning. Our 2011 report *Green Your City's Blueprint* explains the basics of a general plan and describes specific strategies for cities to use.



### SPARKING INNOVATION



◀ What would it take to make the Bay Area's farms and ranches prosperous? *Sustaining Our Agricultural Bounty* – a collaborative report with Sustainable Agriculture Education and American Farmland Trust – explores the challenges farms face and launched a discussion about how to help. In November, Greenbelt Alliance and allies convened a group of 35 Bay Area leaders to hear Shelley Petrie of the Friends of Greenbelt Foundation in Ontario, Canada, and Todd Erling of the Hudson Valley AgriBusiness Development Corporation. The event inspired leaders to seek an economic development strategy that combines our love of local food, a passion for open spaces, and our entrepreneurial spirit.

#### EXPLORING THE BAY AREA



▲ In 2011, Greenbelt Alliance led more than 50 outings around the nine-county region. These popular treks range from visiting a dairy farm in Marin, birding in San Francisco, and exploring the East Bay's Tassajara Valley. ▼ To help leaders and local residents visualize smart growth, we led two urban outings in 2011. More than 40 people toured four affordable housing places in Marin County and met the people who live there. In the South Bay and East Bay, a group of leaders and residents saw many examples of good development near transportation choices.



#### ADVOCATING FOR A BETTER BAY AREA



▲ Five years ago, Greenbelt Alliance took legal action against the City of Oakley for approving a sprawl development on an island in the San Joaquin-Sacramento River Delta. The court ruled in our favor and negotiations began. In June, a final agreement was reached – if farmland is to be lost to development, similar lands must be permanently protected to preserve agriculture.

▼ In November, San Jose approved a bold general plan. Greenbelt Alliance led a diverse group to forge common ground to ensure San Jose's future is one with vibrant neighborhoods, walking and biking options, and protected hills and wildlife habitat.



# Our great volunteers

From Bluegrass for the Greenbelt to PARK(ing) Day, from interns to outing leaders, we couldn't have done it without volunteers. Thank you!

Judy Adler Urusa Alaan Scott Alonso Berta Alvarez Derek Anderson Steve Bakaley Sandra Beyaert Bruce Beyaert Bethalynn Black Tom Bold Joe Bonk Rob Bregoff Jennie Chang **Rob** Collins Sarah Cramer Wendee Crofoot Joe Dahl Alessandra Davidson Ben Dines Samantha Dolgoff Gael Erickson Paul Farrell Alexandra Fraser Jessica Garcia John Gilbert Todd Gilens Raj Hajela Kerri Hamilton Robert Hamilton Jordan Harrison Ben Harwood Sheila Hill Beverly Ingram Marcia Jensen Robert Joe Bob Johnson Kay Karchevski Ann Katz



Top: Steph Kawachi, left, helped transform a parking spot in Oakland, one of the four cities in which Greenbelt Alliance celebrated PARK(ing) Day in 2011. Above: Alex Chen kicks back with Senior Field Representative Michele Beasley in a re-imagined parking place in San Jose.

Steph Kawachi Cristin Kenyon Patti Kenyon Arielle Kozin Flavia Krasilchik Dave Krzysik Bill Lenahan Laurie Lewis Jennifer Livermore Jonathan Marshall Virat Mehta Eileen Ong Norman Ong Bill Parker Amit Price Patel Cathy Petrick Chelsea Phlegar Alana Pinsler Chuck Polling Alex Powell Alexander Quinn Ramzey Rami Linda Rhine Nathan Rogers Lorena Roman Rachel Rose



Despite June rain showers, the musicians rocked at Bluegrass for the Greenbelt, our benefit festival. Right, children wait for a turn in the petting zoo.

Barbara Sacks David Schmidt Dick Schneider David Schonbrunn Rissa Shaw Karen Smulevitz Bob Solotar Jason Su Karen Synowiec Remi Tan Gayle Theard Nancy Topp **Catherine** Torres Rachel Traina-Gordon Cathy Trujillo Crissy Tsai Chris Ulrich Nancy Valente Valeria Velazquez Andy Waggoner Liz Watson Owen Watson Wade Wietgrefe Nancy Wilson



**Mike Melnyk Photography** 



Jesse White spreads the word about regional plans to fight climate change at Bay Area Moving Planet day in September.

# Thank you to our supporters

Many thanks to everyone who supported Greenbelt Alliance in 2011. Annual gifts of \$500 or more as well as monthly donors are recognized in this report.

#### COMMUNITY SUPPORTERS

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Zöe Chafe won first place in Greenbelt Alliance's "Bay Area places you love" photo contest with this shot at Fruitvale market in Oakland.

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The Annual Major Gifts list includes gifts made in 2011. Please contact Development Director Hillary Aiken at (415) 543-6771 x305 or haiken@greenbelt.org regarding any omissions or errors or if you'd like information about planned giving opportunities.

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Big Rock Ridge by Vernon Smith was our second place winner in Greenbelt Alliance's "Bay Area places you love" photo contest.

Dee & Peter Swanhuyser Mr. & Mrs. Edward C. Topham George Tuttle & Ben Cushman Grace Voss Wells Whitney & Anne W. Halsted Frank & Anna Yang \$500 to \$999 Anonymous (2) Teresa Alvarado & Jess Moreles Lalit Balchandani James & Joan Bates Alvin Baum Cassandra Benjamin Bob & Carol Berman\* Annette Billingsley & Terry Beramann Kimberly & Simon Blattner A. Richard Carter

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Executive Director Jeremy Madsen is introduced to guests by Bob Fisher, right, at a Greenbelt Alliance donor party hosted by the Fishers in October. Right, Randi Fisher greets guests, including Mimi Kingsley, right.



#### We remember

**Mort Fleishhacker**, a longtime Greenbelt Alliance supporter, died October 25, 2011 at 79. An active member of the fundraising committee, he played a major role in establishing Greenbelt Alliance's endowment in the 1990s. He joined the board in 2003 and he expected nothing but the best from staff and his fellow trustees.

Marin County Supervisor **Charles McGlashan** died March 27, 2011 at the age of 49. An environmental hero, he championed clean energy in Marin, a single-use plastic bag ban, and the Sonoma-Marin Area Rail transit line. Charles joined Greenbelt Alliance's board in 2007.

Ralph Warner Warren & Mrs. Janis Watkins Terry Watt & Mark Karwowski Beth Zelinski

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The following people give monthly to Greenbelt Alliance. Brian & Debbie Auerbach Nicholas Bonnell Janet Byron Anthony Chang Caroline Cooper Zach Cowan & Sarah Stadler Camille Cusumano Jim & Laura Dekloe V. Ann Dolyniuk Simms Duncan Dale Enale Arleen Feng Steve Greenberg Fric Hoos Rainer Hoenicke David Kadish Frances Kaplan George Kramm Nancv Kriel David I. Madson & Helen DeMichel Herbert Masters Karen & Scott Matsueda Hugh McDevitt Judy & Jerry Merrill Kristi Mortensen Elizabeth Nally Janet Noble Lopa Pal & Eric Sternberg Christopher Pederson Elizabeth Pigford

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#### JACK KENT, JR. LEGACY CIRCLE

The following people have remembered Greenbelt Alliance in their estate plans. Faith Allen 7ach Cowan & Sara Stadler Tina Duona John Frskine Maraaret Hand & John Hartog Bud and Fran Johns Robert Johnson Jeffrev Jue Patricia Kaspar Marv Kent Bonnie Killip Virainia Rawson Bob & Caprice Solotar Celia Thompson Taupin Georae Tuttle & Ben Cushman Paul & Dorothy Wachter

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**BiRite Grocery** (9 California Canoe & Kayak The Desk Set Drakes Brewing E. Cee Productions Hardly Strictly Bluegrass Iron Works Laughing Lotus Yoga Center Marley's Ghost Mendocino Wine Company Northern California Bluegrass Society Patagonia Purusha Yoga RFI Slim's Sports Basement



Greenbelt Alliance members, in a members-only outing, practice yoga in Tilden park.

#### A HISTORY OF SERVICE



"Future generations will want access to open space and more trains, more buses, more apartments."

William Evers Sr., center, with his sons Will and Elliot. Each has served on Greenbelt Alliance's Board.

For more than five generations, the Evers family's love of the Bay Area has led them to deep involvement with Greenbelt Alliance, beginning with the organization's founding in 1958.

William (Bill) Evers, Sr., and his sons Elliot Evers and William (Will) Evers, Jr. have all served on Greenbelt Alliance's Board of Directors. They come from a family of leaders, from Sepha Evers, the founding president of the Marin Conservation League, back to Fredrick W. Dohrmann who in the early 1900s was one of first people to try to organize a Bay Area regional government.

A family friend of Greenbelt Alliance's founder Dorothy Erskine, Bill said yes when she called him to join her crusade to protect the Bay from landfill and development. He became one of our founding Board members.

Will, who served from 2004 to 2011, has shared his keen business sense and fundraising skills. "Since I joined the Board eight years ago, the organization has evolved from open space protection and simple smart growth into how to make healthier cities," Will says. "This is a smart, natural evolution."

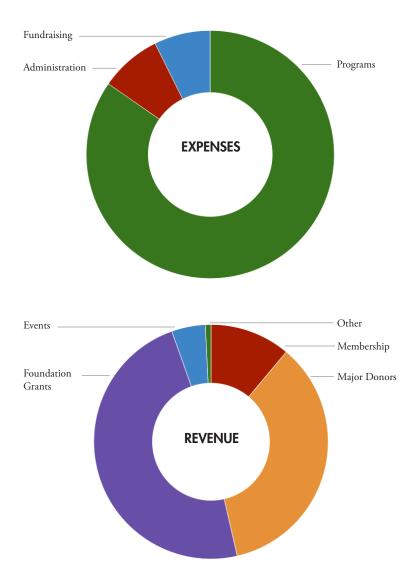
Elliot, whose tenure began in 2011, believes the Bay Area's strength lies in the interweaving of the outdoor life and urban life. "I hope we never see any diminution of the open space," says Elliot. "I want to see continued improvement of our quality of life."

Father and sons agree that the landscape is more than a pleasant diversion. "Open space is the economic base of the Bay Area," says Bill. "We have a brain economy. You have to have a place where people want to live if you want to keep the brains."

By supporting Greenbelt Alliance through their volunteer time and gifts, the Evers are investing in making the Bay Area special for future generations. The family knows it is backing the right group. Adds Bill, "Greenbelt Alliance is a 'gets-it-done' agency."

## 2011 revenue and expenses

Nearly 85 cents of every dollar donated to Greenbelt Alliance is spent directly on supporting our critical campaigns to make sure the right development happens in the right places – not on our farms and hillsides.



#### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

Assets	
Current Assets	\$1,271,488
Endowment	\$1,175,353
Other Assets	\$23,905
Total Assets	\$2,470,746
Liabilities	\$116,733
Net Assets Beginning of Year	\$2,795,930
Net Assets End of Year	\$2,354,013

### FISCAL YEAR 2011 STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

Support and Revenue	
Membership	\$203,109
Workplace Giving	\$17,306
Major Donors	\$648,722
Business Contributions	\$1,745
Foundation Grants	\$955,438
Endowment Donations	\$50,000
Dedicated Donations	\$6,089
Educational Events	\$92,407
Contracts & Fees	\$21,367
Investment Income	\$(12,980)
Miscellaneous	\$993
Total Support and Revenue	\$1,984,196
Expenses	
Policy & Field	\$1,377,737
Communications & Education	\$179,788
Membership	\$316,906
Greenbelt Alliance Initiative Fund	\$30,297
SF Housing Action Coalition	\$148,933
Administration/Management & General	\$194,202
Fundraising	\$178,250
Total Expenses	\$2,426,113









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