

06/30/23 Town Nights

Event: Town Nights

Location: Josie de la Cruz Park - 1637 Fruitvale Ave, Oakland

Date/Time: Friday, June 30 @ 5:00 – 9:00 pm

Number of people reached: 34 people through flyers and signups

- 34 people engaged through the interactive Tree Activity



Image: Town Nights event flyer

Event Description:

The Deeply Rooted in Oakland Partnership conducted English and Spanish outreach at the CURYJ Town Nights event. This event featured free food, live entertainment, prizes, a kids' zone, and more! Town Nights occur every Friday throughout the summer.

The team shared an informational flyer on the Oakland General Plan; a 2-pager on housing and environmental justice conditions impacting Oakland residents; and resources for Emergency Rapid Assistance Program (ERAP), library, and maintenance. The 2-pager on housing and environmental justice conditions presented racial displacement, housing affordability, pollution burden, past and future housing production in Oakland, and a call to action.

The team displayed a tree that community members could engage with by responding to prompts related to topics in the Environmental Justice and Safety element. Community members filled the tree up with their answers. Deeply Rooted Collaborative outreach team members referred community members to direct service organizations or City Department

to address their current needs and gathered questions regarding the General Plan and City services.

Engagement Approaches:

1) Approach people to have a conversation rather than extracting information from them 2) Inform people about the Environmental Justice and Safety Element, 3) Engage people to share their experiences and solutions through an interactive tree activity, 4) Share and connect residents to City of Oakland resources.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE THEMES

ENSURE SAFE AND SECURE HOUSING

- **Solutions**
 - Provide more affordable housing options.

MINIMIZE LAND, AIR WATER, POLLUTION

- **Solutions**
 - Clean the streets and ensure regular maintenance.
 - Regulate cars to limit their pollution.
 - Support residents through funding and assistance in acquiring solar panels.

DEVELOP AREAS FOR EXERCISE SUCH AS PARKS

- **Solutions**
 - Provide residents with free gym memberships.
 - Fix and upgrade parks that have been poorly maintained.
 - Increase opportunities for residents to get involved in sports activities.
 - Increase all residents' access to parks and waterfronts.
 - Protect and maintain bike lanes.
 - Make public transportation safe and free for all.

INCREASE ACCESS TO CULTURAL CENTERS, LIBRARIES, CHILD CARE CENTERS, FACILITATES, AND OTHER BASIC AMENITIES

- **Issues**
 - Gentrification makes communities unsafe.
 - Gentrification concentrates resources all people need in more white and affluent neighborhoods.
- **Solutions**

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- Create a free movie theater.
- Create more public places for residents to be comfortable in.
- Invest in more service programs for unhoused residents.
- Organize more free community events.

ENGAGE PEOPLE IN CITY PLANNING EFFORTS, INCLUDING THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN INCARCERATED IN THE PAST, THOSE WHO ARE UNHOUSED, LGBTQ+, YOUTH, AND ELDERS

- **Solutions**

- Organize community and outreach events in areas with a lot of youth, such as schools.
- Organize neighborhood clean-up teams made up of residents.

SAFETY THEMES

PUBLIC SAFETY

- **Issues**

- There is over-policing in neighborhoods where predominantly people of color live.

- **Solutions**

- Increase police and security presence.
- Prioritize community input on public safety decision making.
- Organize free self-defense classes.