

06/08/2023 The Village

Event: The Village

Location: Mosswood, Wood Street, West Oakland Encampments

Date/Time: 06/08/2023

Number of people reached: 13 people

Event Description:

The Deeply Rooted in Oakland Partnership conducted English outreach with The Village at several encampments throughout Oakland. The Village had one-on-one conversations with the residents of these encampments.

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.

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 and engage people to share their experiences and solutions 3) Share and connect residents to City of Oakland resources.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE THEMES

MINIMIZE LAND, AIR WATER, POLLUTION

● **Issues**

- Residents experience negative health impacts as a result of pollution, such as skin issues and migraines.
- Without access to clean water, people experience dehydration.
- People are forced to buy bottled water.
- Freeways and industries worsen the air quality.
- The soil is contaminated.
- There is no trash pick-up.

- **Solutions**

- Plant more trees around the city.

PROVIDE ACCESS TO HEALTHY FOOD

- **Issues**

- Residents do not have access to healthy food.
- There is an abundance of junk food access.

- **Solutions**

- Residents need more healthy food access.
- Residents need education on cooking food.
- Provide more free community fridges.
- Create more gardens in neighborhoods.

DEVELOP AREAS FOR EXERCISE SUCH AS PARKS

- **Issues**

- Residents do not have access to spaces for physical activity.
- Several parks have trash buildup.

- **Solutions**

- Provide unhoused residents free access to bikes.

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

- **Issues**

- Residents do not have access to cultural centers.
- Residents don't feel comfortable going to public facilities.
- Residents lack access to health and dental care facilities in their neighborhood.

- **Solutions**

- Ensure there are local clinics in all neighborhoods.
- Increase public transportation access.

SAFETY THEMES

BUILD INFRASTRUCTURE FOR EMERGENCY, EVACUATION, AND ALERTS.

- **Issues**

- Residents don't feel adequately trained and prepared to deal with emergencies.

- Residents don't have enough water supply or rations in case of an emergency.
- There are not enough fire hydrants and hoses in all neighborhoods, particularly around encampment sites.
- Not everyone has access to news.
- **Solutions**
 - Provide emergency supplies to all residents regularly.

PROTECT PEOPLE FROM POLLUTED AREAS SUCH AS INDUSTRIAL ZONES, FREEWAYS, LANDFILLS, AND TOXIC CLEANUP SITES

- **Issues**
 - Unhoused residents are pushed into toxic sites.
 - Residents' health is impacted by nearby metal smelting sites.

PUBLIC SAFETY

- **Issues**
 - Residents are distressed by theft.
- **Solutions**
 - Foster a sense of belongingness and community among all residents.
 - Ensure housing stability and a safe place to live for all residents.
 - Fix potholes and streets.
 - Provide public restrooms and cleaning stations.
 - Provide more mental health support and outreach.
 - Ensure all basic needs are being met.
 - Provide free self-defense classes.