



Greetings Neighbor,

Happy holidays! Whether you celebrate Christmas, Hannukah, Kwanzaa, or none of the above, I hope you have a safe and fulfilling holiday season and a happy new year. With the Omicron COVID variant making its way into our communities, it's more important than ever to receive your

Covid booster. Visit your healthcare provider, CVS, Walgreens, or even visit the City of Oakland's walk-in site at 250 Frank Ogawa Plaza, across from City Hall! In this newsletter, you will find updates on COVID-19, local events, our Saturday (12/4) morning community clean-up, my local legislative efforts, and more.

In service,

-Dan

Covid-19 Update

While the Alameda County face mask order remains in effect, the County has implemented some changes outlined below. Please consider exploring the Alameda County COVID-19 page for additional information: <https://covid-19.acgov.org/index>. There are a few particular updates with which we want to make sure you are familiar:

Make Plans for a Healthy Holiday Season:

Alameda County has released recommendations for the holiday season including:

Get vaccinated, *including a booster* when eligible

Stay home if you are sick

Get tested before and after travel or gathering

Wear a mask when gathering indoors

If gathering with unvaccinated people, keep gatherings small, short and outdoors

Remember to get your flu shot.

Alameda County is fully aligned with California State COVID related

Recommendations including Recommendations for Fully Vaccinated People. Read more [here](#).

Proof of Vaccination Policy

In an effort to help stop the spread of COVID-19, I am introducing an emergency ordinance that will require patrons 12 years and older to show proof of vaccination to enter indoor food and beverage establishments, entertainment and recreational locations, gyms and fitness venues, senior adult care facilities and senior adult day programs, public libraries, dental offices, City Hall, the Oakland Convention Center, and at large indoor events. As a part of this legislation, the City will create downloadable flyers for businesses to post to make patrons aware of this new law. This policy would be enforced via Code Enforcement, not OPD; although other cities have found this to be a self-enforcing law with businesses happily complying.

City of Oakland is extending its free Vaccination and Testing Clinic:

In response to high demand, the City of Oakland is extending its free, walk-up COVID-19 vaccination and testing clinic through the end of December, and possibly through early 2022 if demand continues. The COVID Clinic operates 7 days/week and offers all three vaccines, booster shots, and COVID-19 testing.

No appointment is needed.

What: Free COVID testing *AND* vaccinations

Where: 250 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza (next to City Hall)

Days: 7 days/week, except holidays

Hours: Open from 9 am – 5 pm (through end of December)

Community Clean-Up - December 4th

COUNCILMEMBER DAN KALB'S DISTRICT 1 DECEMBER CLEANUP (THIS MONTH - UNDERPASS BORDERING LONGFELLOW AND TEMESCAL)



**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4TH, 2021
9:00 AM TO 11:00 AM
(MEET AT CORNER OF 45TH ST. & MLK JR.
WAY)**

All vaccinated volunteers are welcome · Masks/coverings
required to participate · Tools will be provided



For more information contact Seth at
[ssteward@oaklandca.gov](mailto:sseward@oaklandca.gov) | 510.238.7013



hope to see you on the 4th. Thank you!

Public Safety and Gun Violence

There have been numerous shootings in Oakland this year and more recently well-organized, armed caravans have engaged in burglaries and violent robberies in several East Bay cities including Oakland. The Oakland Police Department (OPD) has reiterated that it's committed to the full investigation of these violent incidents and they're working in close coordination with nearby jurisdictions also experiencing an upsurge in violence. Many of these violent acts are heart-wrenching and we have to work together to address this the best we can. Councilmember Gallo has joined with me in calling for recommendations from OPD, Department of Violence Prevention, our Measure Z Safety & Services Oversight Commission, CeaseFire, and the Community Policing Advisory Board on Reducing Gun Violence in Oakland. These presentations will occur at the City Council's long-planned Council meeting on public safety on Tuesday, Dec. 7 at 5:30PM.

While OPD is using overtime and strategic redeployment to address the potential for additional violent crime, our Department of Violence Prevention (DVP) and our Ceasefire partners also are working on how best to stop this serious upswing in gun violence.

Over the holiday season, in order to keep residents and visitors safe, OPD will deploy tactical teams to support the patrol officers who are responding to the armed caravans, dangerous sideshows, and various violent crimes. The teams are highly skilled in de-escalation and using less-lethal options. OPD already had directed uniformed officers from non-patrol units to spend time assisting with prioritized hotspots and patrols to increase the number of officers visible and working on the street.

My staff and I meet regularly with the OPD Area Captain for North Oakland as well as DVP senior staff to discuss recent crime trends in North Oakland, OPD response and investigation, and implementation of DVP short and long-term strategies.

I am continuing to advocate for robust staffing for OPD's Criminal Investigations Division and for our well-regarded Cease Fire program, filling budgeted vacancies including from possible lateral hiring of experienced law enforcement officers, an increased focus on intelligence gathering and greater emphasis on what is known as problem-oriented policing. At the same time, I will continue to support meaningful investments in violence prevention, rehabilitation and job readiness.

Ghost Gun Legislation

I am working on legislation that will prohibit the possession, sale, purchasing, receiving or manufacturing of an unfinished firearm frame or firearm receiver, the parts that are used to make privately manufactured firearms commonly referred to as “ghost guns.” Councilmember Gallo and vice-mayor Kaplan are co-sponsoring this legislation with me. This is an important effort to remove these untraceable, dangerous firearms from our streets in order to help fight the scourge of gun violence that is ripping apart the fabric of our communities.

Town for All

The City of Oakland is making plans to transform our waterfront neighborhoods to provide safer, more sustainable and more equitable access to the waterfront for all Oaklanders. Learn more about the City's plans [here](#).

TOWN
for All



Transforming
Oakland's
Waterfront
Neighborhoods



The City of Oakland is seeking funds to implement a comprehensive package of infrastructure improvements that will provide safer, more sustainable and more equitable access to the waterfront for all Oaklanders.

>**\$155**
million

Active Transportation & Transit

1.4 miles of new transit-only lanes and **10 miles** of new sidewalks, bike lanes and trails connecting the greater downtown and West Oakland to the waterfront to encourage walking, biking and transit.



>**\$320**
million

Rail Safety & Goods Movement

Rail corridor and roadway improvements to help move trucks and cargo in and out of the Port of Oakland efficiently, reduce traffic congestion and truck idling, and improve traffic safety for all.



>**\$25**
million

Parking & Traffic Management

Comprehensive suite of parking system upgrades and intersection improvements to manage on- and off-street parking and traffic.



55 acres of new LEED Gold development on Oakland's waterfront will result in:



A More Connected Oakland

Stronger, safer, and more pedestrian-, cyclist-, and transit-friendly connections are needed to overcome the barriers that have historically separated Oaklanders from their waterfront. A network of new and improved complete streets will provide equitable, sustainable access to new waterfront amenities, while protecting and enhancing goods movement in and out of the nearby Port of Oakland.



7,100
Full Time Jobs



18.3 acres
New Parks
& Open Space



1,000+ units
Affordable
Housing

Sea Level Rise
Protection through
2100



0 Net New
Greenhouse
Gas Emissions



20% Fewer
Vehicle Trips



25,000 Union
Construction Jobs



Thank You Shifra!



Shifra de Benedictis-Kessner, Executive Director of the Temescal Telegraph Business Improvement District (BID), is leaving her role after six years.

Shifra has been an essential community partner who has substantially improved the Temescal Telegraph community by among other things, managing the Temescal Street Fair, expanding the annual Taste of Temescal, and pioneered the 40th St. Block Party, pushing for the creating the

bottom of Shattuck Ave. as a pedestrian plaza, and helping to bring back the

Freedom Farmers Market. Shifra was also instrumental in expanding the BID's Maintenance and Community Engagement programs including Ambassadors led by Joey Harrison who focus on working with the unsheltered community. While we will miss her, we wish her well as she moves to her new role as Small Business and Workforce Director at the Oakland Metro Chamber of Commerce. Katie Larson, the BID Marketing & Program Associate, will be taking on the role as Interim Executive Director. Welcome Katie!

Village of Love

Raising Funds and Providing Services for Oakland's Unsheltered Residents

On Saturday, November 13 the [Village of Love](#) - a nonprofit organization that provides services and support to North Oakland's and the City of Alameda's unsheltered population - celebrated its second anniversary and launched an effort to raise funds for a homeless day center in Oakland. A homeless day, or drop-in, center would provide a safe, sanitary, secure and welcoming place for homeless individuals to relax, get information, meals, showers, computers, connect to services, and be supported by staff and peers.

Village of Love Founder and Executive Director **Joey Harrison** brings vital perspective to this work: Seven years ago, Joey himself was living on the streets of Oakland. Then, with the support of local organizations such as [Options Recovery Services](#), he moved into transitional housing and began independent living four years ago. It was then he got a job as operations manager of the [Temescal Telegraph Business Improvement District](#). In that role, he saw a need to build bridges between residents, businesses, mental health and unsheltered communities. So he launched a successful [homeless outreach effort](#) in Temescal and developed quarterly training sessions for Temescal merchants, their employees and nearby residents on how to de-escalate tense interactions with homeless people or those having a mental crisis or substance abuse problems.

‘My personal experience taught me what helped and what didn't help. And the people who helped are part of Village of Love today,’ said Joey.

Joey's efforts in North Oakland made such a difference in the community that the organization was tapped to open a day center and safe parking site in Alameda in Spring of 2020, and is in discussions with Berkeley to open a homeless drop-in center next year at the People's Park site. At the VOL [Alameda Day Center](#), unsheltered residents have a friendly place to rest safely, use the

bathroom, get clothes, hygiene kits, PPE, breakfast, lunch, and snacks. Importantly, VOL staff build relationships with their clients, potentially breaking down barriers and connect them to support services, assistance with housing, healthcare, career development and job placement.

‘The aim is to get to know the people coming in and better understand what they are going through to build trust,’ said Joey. “Not because it’s my job, but because I care about you. That’s what we’re about here.”

Given that Oakland has the largest homeless population in Alameda County, but has no day center for unsheltered residents, VOL is looking to open a day center somewhere between downtown and North Oakland.

Please consider supporting Village of Love in its efforts to bring more services to improve the lives of Oakland’s unsheltered and build understanding and compassion regarding their needs. Checks can be sent to Village of Love, 490 13rd Street, Oakland, CA 94609.



'Neighborhood Voices' Grant Program

Grant Applications Open December 1

The Neighborhood Voices for Festivals grant program seeks to bring Oaklanders together to create and support a sense of belonging through festival culture. The program will distribute \$234,500 in grants of up to \$20,000 to help nurture festival culture. Applicants must be Oakland-based and all festival activities must be presented in Oakland between January 1, 2022 and June 30, 2022.

Interested nonprofit organizations may access the grant guidelines and application at <https://bit.ly/3ovx1W4>. The application portal will open at 10 a.m. Wednesday December 1, 2021 and the submission deadline is Thursday, January 13, 2022, at 5 p.m.

To assist applicants, a **How-To-Apply webinar** is scheduled for Wednesday, December 8, 2021. Details on the webinar will be posted on <https://bit.ly/3ovx1W4>. All grant applicants are strongly encouraged to attend the free webinar. Email riglesias@oaklandca.gov to R.S.V.P.

The Neighborhood Voices for Festivals grant program aims to bring Oaklanders together to create and support a sense of belonging within a community, foster social connections that lift our spirits, feed our community well-being and offer visions for our collective future through festival culture. The program will award grants of up to \$20,000 to Oakland-based non-profits organizing festivals in Oakland. Grantees must demonstrate a funding match of 1:1 for the City funding.

“This grant opportunity seeks to affirm the expression, recognition and understanding of the array of diverse communities that make Oakland unique and vibrant,” said Alexa Jeffress, Director of the Economic & Workforce Development Department.

Festivals are defined as in-person events that are free and open to the public, including small-scale and first-time events to large-scale and established festivals. Events to be supported may include, but are not limited to cultural heritage practices, performances in dance, music or theater, visual art and public arts exhibitions/events, and literary presentations that are rooted in a sense of place.

The Cultural Funding Program relies on a competitive panel to determine award

recipients and funding allocations. Among the criteria reviewed by the panel is a racial equity category that seeks to direct these grants to Oakland events that leverage cultural opportunities for and support programming led by and including communities impacted by racial disparities.

For more information, please visit www.oaklandculturalarts.org or contact Raquel Iglesias at (510) 238-2212 or riglesias@oaklandca.gov.

Help Bring Joy to Oakland Children



Imagine the joy when a child receives a special, unexpected present. The 42nd Annual Community Toy Drive makes the holidays joyful for Oakland children whose families can't afford gifts.

The Office of Mayor Schaaf and nearly 300 volunteers, tear up every year to distribute toys, books, and sports equipment to nearly 9,000 children from low-income families.

Each year, demand exceeds what we have. To help us meet our needs, **please make a tax-deductible monetary donation.**

Visit <https://posweb.oaklandnet.com/POSWeb/toydrive.aspx>

Donate Gift Cards, Cash or Checks - To keep our vulnerable families and volunteers and donors safe during the pandemic and to adhere to the physical distancing guidelines, we are going to provide the safer option of **gift cards instead of toys**. Families can use these gift cards at local toy stores which helps our local businesses. Each family will receive two gift cards max depending on donations received for the Toy Drive.

Checks should be made payable to:

“The City of Oakland Community Toy Drive” c/o Office of the Mayor, 1 Frank Ogawa Plaza - Third Floor Oakland, CA 94612. **Or, make your donation securely online at the following**

link: <https://posweb.oaklandnet.com/POSWeb/toydrive.aspx>. Note: Your contribution will be tax-deductible.

The Mayor's Community Toy Drive has partnered with community organizations for donations at upcoming special events. Thank you for supporting Oakland's

children this holiday season! Your support is greatly appreciated. For more information, including details on how Oakland's low-income families can register for toys, please call (510) 777-TOYS, visit oaklandnet.com/toydrive, email mayortoydrive@gmail.com, or contact the following google voice number: (510) 671-5990

Shopping? Think Oakland First

Think Oakland First Holiday Campaign encourages Oakland residents and visitors to put their money where their hearts are by shopping locally. This theme aims to capture the immense pride and affinity residents have for Oakland. To inspire shoppers, ThinkOaklandFirst.com has small business directories, holiday contests, fun community events, and more.

Merchants from across the city are creating festive displays for the **Holiday Window Decorating Contest**. Shoppers can find a roster of participating merchants linked at ThinkOaklandFirst.com and cast their vote for the merchant with the best decorations through Wednesday, December 15. The merchant with the most votes will receive the People's Choice Award - a vacation package including overnight accommodations at an Oakland hotel and dinner for two courtesy of [Visit Oakland](http://VisitOakland.com).

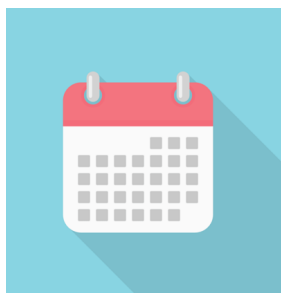
To help spread the word about the unique shopping experiences found in Oakland, the holiday campaign includes a **Shopping Selfie Contest**. Snap a photo as you shop, savor, sip and share the holiday season and post it on Facebook, Instagram or Twitter using the hashtag #ThinkOaklandFirst. All entries submitted after 9 a.m. Wednesday, December 1 and before 5 p.m. Monday, December 27, 2021, will be entered into a drawing for a grand prize of four Southwest Airlines tickets, courtesy of the [Oakland Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce](http://OaklandMetropolitanChamberofCommerce.com). Details and contest rules will be linked to ThinkOaklandFirst.com.

Why Shopping Locally is Important:

Many Oakland merchants have been severely impacted by state and county shelter-in-place orders. By choosing to shop at local businesses, whether online or in-person, you will enjoy a more distinctive experience and support the small, independent businesses that contribute to Oakland's unique character.

Shopping locally also helps provide jobs for your neighbors and generates sales tax revenue for the City. Consider the many social and economic benefits of shopping local as you complete your holiday gift purchases.

Dan's Community Office Hours



Dan continues to hold monthly Community Office Hours to hear directly from residents about their neighborhood and citywide concerns. He enjoys connecting with District 1 residents--currently via phone due to covid safety protocols--and looks forward to eventually doing these in person once again. Please contact Deidra Moss (dmoss@oaklandca.gov or 510.238.3557) if you'd like to sign up to speak with Dan. Usually the 1st Saturday of the month.

Community Events:

ROCKRIDGE BART PLAZA ENTERTAINMENT LINEUP:

Fri Dec 3 - John Vicino (1-4pm) **Sat Dec 4** - Kevin Patrick Radley (11am-1pm); John Rybak Friends (1:30-3:30pm) **Sun Dec 5** - Catia Machado & the Brazil East/Bay Ensemble (1-4pm) **Fri Dec 10** - Baycoin Beats (1-4pm) **Sat Dec 11** - Aidan Moore (11am-1pm); 300 Club (1-4pm) **Sun Dec 12** - Bob and Lenny Show (1-4pm) **Fri Dec 17** - Frances Ancheta (11am-1pm), Jason Movrich (1-3pm) **Sat Dec 18** - Drumming Magic (1-4pm) **Sun Dec 19** - The Marchmen (1-4pm)

Piedmont Avenue Tree Lighting

We are kicking off the holiday season with the annual Piedmont Avenue Holiday Tree Lighting. This lovely community event is attended and enjoyed each year by many of our neighbors and customers. [Get in the spirit](#) with holiday music, the tree lighting, and photos w/Santa and Mrs. Claus.

This is the perfect ending to a day of local [shopping on the Avenue](#). So, bundle the kids up and let them stay out a little past bedtime. We hope you can join us for this long-standing tradition that counts down the days to the holidays!

Saturday, Dec. 4th - 5:00pm - Key Route Plaza (41st street and Piedmont Ave.)

Santa in person--directly from the North Pole--at 5:30pm

Music by the Pacific Boy Choir - Salane and her accordion.

Bulky Waste Pick Up

Effective November 15, all Oakland residents can choose to manage the disposal of their bulky items with new or improved resources and services:

All Oakland residents may now schedule appointments with WMAC to drop off their bulky items at no charge at WMAC's Davis Street Resource

Recovery Complex and Transfer Station (located at 2615 Davis Street in San Leandro).

Residents in Multi-Family Dwellings (buildings more than four residential units) can now schedule a curbside appointment once a year directly with WMAC instead of requesting appointments through their landlords as they formerly had to.

Residents in Single-Family Dwellings (buildings with up to four residential units) can schedule an appointment for bulky items collection at the curbside, increased from once per year to twice per year.

Residents can now set out 4 cubic yards of items, plus recyclable items including mattresses, tires, TVs and computers, up from 3 cubic yards for Single-Family and 1.5 cubic yards for Multi-Family.

Contacts:

Dan's [COVID Resources](#) page.

Oakland SeeClickFix - Call **311**

- https://seeclickfix.com/web_portal/wTMihVsatbiDau5Fw66m6HFD/report/location

Alameda County Social Services and Referral - Call **211** - <http://211alamedacounty.org/2-1-1-alameda-county-resource-finder/https://www.oaklandca.gov/services/oak311>



Dan Kalb's Council Office - 510-238-7001 (contact DMoss@oaklandca.gov to sign up for Dan's monthly Community Office Hours)

OPD Emergencies - 911 (or 510-777-3211)

OPD non-emergencies - 510-777-3333

Oakland Recycling/Waste Collection Hotline - (510) 238-7283

(recycling@oaklandca.gov)

Oakland Animal Services: <https://www.oaklandanimalservices.org>

Oakland's Planning & Building On-line Permit Center - <https://aca-prod.accela.com/oakland/customization/common/launchpad.aspx>

DAN KALB

Oakland City Councilmember - District 1

1 Frank Ogawa Plaza • Oakland, CA • 510-238-7001

Follow Dan on [Instagram here](#) and [Facebook here](#)

[Dan's list of Good Books worth Reading](#)