



Greetings. This newsletter includes recent updates on wildfire prevention, gun violence, COVID, affordable housing, 10/9 community clean-up, and much more.

I want to take this opportunity to express my appreciation for my staff for all their work on behalf of North Oakland residents and the City of Oakland. Deidra Moss, Seth Steward, and Keara O'Doherty are my full-time staffers. Olga Bolotina, who has been on my staff since 2013, is going back to limited part-time status.

-Dan

# Wildfire Preparedness and '91 Firestorm Anniversary



Thousands of acres of California land have burnt or are on fire as the state is witnessing yet another devastating fire season. Climate change, which leads to record high temperatures and exacerbates severe drought, as well as extensive tree die-off, are among the factors that have aggravated this year's fire season.

A large portion of the East Bay region, including the East Bay Hills from Hercules to Fremont are a CalFire designated highrisk fire danger zone.

Oakland is participating in parallel efforts to prevent fire, mitigate potential impacts,

and educate residents on the importance of effective vegetation management, water conservation, conscientious parking on narrow roads, and other behaviors that could prevent disasters and save lives.

Some of the initiatives that are worth highlighting are the work of the Wildfire Prevention Working Group led by the City staff. This working group is concentrating on securing CalFire and other grants, fire hydrant maintenance, ADU regulations in the Hills, public pathways that require maintenance, tree die-off and other challenges. Councilmember Kalb continues to lead an effort to address parking in the hills in order to ensure our roads are passable for first responders and in the case of necessary evacuations.

One interagency initiative led by a group of residents and activists, including the Oakland Firesafe Council, is a possible regional Vegetation Management Joint Powers Authority (JPA). Councilmembers Kalb and Thao have authored a Resolution, scheduled for the Oct. 5 Council meeting, authorizing the City's participation in the formation process of a regional vegetation management JPA.

The problems that jurisdictions are consistently experiencing due to human induced climate change and other factors cannot be solved unilaterally and may require interjurisdictional collaboration and outside resources. Regional coordination of wildfire prevention and vegetation management may provide more effective and efficient implementation of best practices, as well as lead to more sharing of expertise and other resources. Marin County jurisdictions have done this recently with positive initial results.

More information that is consistently getting updated can be found here: <u>https://eastbaywildfirejpa.org.</u>

The North Hills Community Association (NHCA) members are actively involved in fire prevention efforts and are hosting a community picnic on October 17, 2021, an event open to everyone, celebrating community and holding tribute on the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Oakland/Berkeley Firestorm.

#### More info here: <u>https://northhillscommunity.org/picnic/</u>

This community day at the lake will include: Live music, food trucks, interactive activities for children, information from community groups about how to prepare for and stay safe during local emergencies.

A tribute will be paid to those who perished in the '91 firestorm. This community comeback picnic at Lake Temescal Park is an all ages, dog-friendly event and is free to attend.

#### Know Your Zone and Keep Safe During Fire Season:

Hotter, drier weather means fires are more common and more destructive. The <u>Oaklandside</u> has <u>created a guide</u> to help you prepare, stay informed and keep safe during fire season. Lots of good tips from the Oakland Fire Department have been included. Do you <u>Know Your Zone</u> in case an emergency evacuation order goes out via <u>AC</u> <u>Alert</u> in Alameda County?

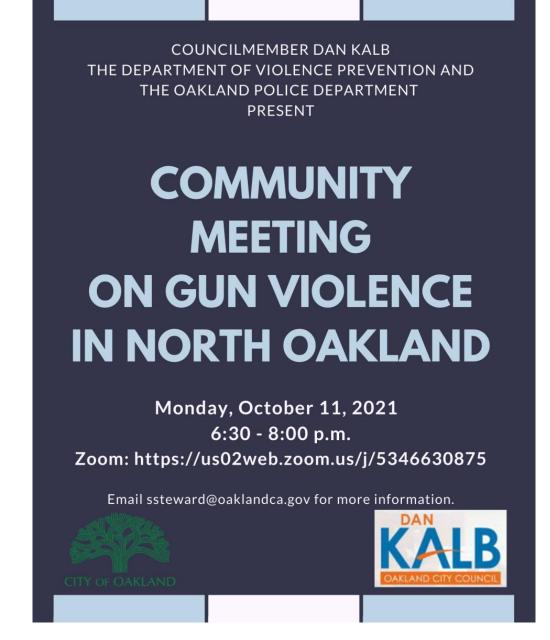
## **Recent Gun Violence in North Oakland and City Response**

As you know, over the past couple of months there have been several shootings in North Oakland. The Oakland Police Department (OPD) and our Department of Violence Prevention (DVP) are very aware of the increase of shootings in North Oakland and, while there is not a single trend or underlying reason associated with all these shootings, the City of Oakland is committed to the full investigation of these violent incidents and are pursuing strategies, including but not limited to Ceasefire, that in the past have resulted in declines in gun crimes. While gang or group activity is often a primary factor, OPD is also working on the difficult task of establishing motives for the shootings.

Acting Captain Rosin—a former homicide investigator—has informed us that Community Resource Officers (CROs) have been working in conjunction with OPD's Homicide section, Area patrol officers, and the community on obtaining investigative leads and evidence related to these violent crimes—each of which is still under active police investigation. DVP and our Ceasefire partners are working together on how best to stop this recent upswing in gun violence.

As available resources are often competing to address calls for service and other types of crime, OPD also has directed uniformed officers from non-patrol investigative or other units to spend time assisting with prioritized hotspots, visible patrols, investigative follow-up, etc. to increase the number of officers visible and working on the street.

DVP is focusing on gang and group conflicts that are likely contributing to the violent behavior, and our remaining CROs have partnered with OPD's Violent Crime Operations Center to focus in on intelligence-based investigations along with <u>Ceasefire</u> partners and officer engagement.



DVP has indeed delivered resources to address North Oakland specific conflicts and conduct interventions with individuals associated with these conflicts. Our Department of Violence Prevention is adding the following update:

• There are three members of the DVP direct service team, meaning they are City staff that are available to respond based on need. There also are Violence Interrupters contracted through Youth Alive that are able to cover West Oakland and North Oakland based on need.

• It is important to note that violence interrupters responses are primarily to incidents of shootings with serious injuries and homicides. The DVP provides mediation and de-escalation services to reduce potential retaliation associated with a particular incident.

• The DVP direct service staff in coordination with community-based organization contracted personnel currently respond 24/7 to all shootings with serious injuries including homicides throughout the city. This response includes activities designed to minimize retaliation as well as those designed to provide follow up services to victims.

DVP is aware of the recent escalation of violence in North Oakland, and has responded to several incidents in recent months. The goal of these responses has been to curtail further escalation of conflicts, which means preventing the process of back-and-forth retaliation.

For example, earlier this year there was a serious dispute between roommates, which turned into a homicide. Although OPD made an arrest on this matter, violence interrupters engaged with residents and community members to address potential subsequent violence from occurring. Their relationship from previous outreach helped to support this family. This matter highlighted the importance of relationships, while helping to connect needed support to the family in their time of need.

The recent shooting in the neighborhood near Destiny Arts was initially classified as a homicide; however, that was later retracted, although the victim was listed in grave condition. DVP responded to this scene and a connection to the family of the victim was made. On-going follow up by Violence Interrupters is happening, and DVP followed up with services designed to reduce retaliation. DVP staff is collaborating with CM Kalb's office and Destiny Arts Center on potential community follow up to this incident.

The outreach efforts by DVP staff and community-based contracted agencies in District One have addressed current conflicts and potentially prevented further violence. DVP and contracted organizations will continue to support efforts to reduce violence and de-escalate violence specific to North Oakland. One such nonprofit organization is <u>Youth Alive</u>. The increase in the City's budget for DVP strategies that the Council adopted in June will allow the city to expand its work to reduce violence before it happens and to de-escalate situations thereby reducing retaliatory behavior and overall gun violence.

According to DVP staff, in cases in which there is a need for Gender Based and Intimate Partner Violence services, the following agencies are available to receive referrals from Oakland residents.

- <u>Alameda County Family Justice Center</u> (ACFJC), Crisis intervention services for survivors of domestic/intimate partner violence, sexual violence, sexual exploitation, and trafficking
- <u>Family Violence Law Center</u>, crisis line, crisis intervention services, and free legal aid for domestic/intimate partner and sexual violence
- <u>A Safe Place</u>, shelter for adult survivors of domestic/intimate partner violence
- Bay Area Women Against Rape (BAWAR), crisis line and advocacy services
- <u>Dreamcatcher</u>, shelter for youth/transition-aged youth survivors of genderbased violence, select beds for survivors of trafficking.

Councilmember Kalb and the D-1 staff meet regularly with the OPD Area 2 and Area 1 captains and DVP senior staff to discuss recent crime trends in North Oakland, OPD response and investigation, and implementation of DVP short and long-term strategies.

We-CM Kalb, OPD and DVP-have put together a special community meeting set for Monday, October 11 (see flyer above) for the neighborhoods most impacted by the recent gun violence in North Oakland. We hope to create a space where we can discuss these acts of violence and city responses with community members and institutions, OPD, DVP and related community-based organizations.

# **COVID Update**

As you're presumably aware, the COVID Delta Variant is still the cause of serious health problems in our much of our state and country. The Alameda County face mask order remains in effect. Please consider exploring the Alameda County COVID-19 page for additional information: <u>https://covid-19.acgov.org/index.</u>

Please note that most COVID services in Oakland are administered by the Alameda County Health Care Services Agency. For details on County's masking policy, click here: <u>https://covid19.acgov.org/face-masks</u>. For information on COVID testing in Alameda County, please go here: <u>https://covid-19.acgov.org/testing</u>.



Alameda County residents can find a vaccine site using the new interactive map on the dedicated vaccine website: <u>covid-19.acgov.org/vaccines</u>.

There are a few additional particulars with which we want to make sure you are familiar.

### City of Oakland Employee Vaccination Mandate Policy:

The City Administration has drafted and circulated a policy mandating vaccination for City Employees. Under the Policy, employees will be required to be fully vaccinated by November 29<sup>th</sup>. The implementation details for the Policy are not yet final.

Councilmember Kalb has introduced a Council Resolution supporting the Policy with as few exceptions as possible. It is essential for the City of Oakland to provide a safe working environment for its employees and their families, protect the public, and reduce the spread of COVID-19. The Resolution is scheduled to be heard by the City

Council on October 5, 2021. For more information on Dan's Resolution, you can review it here: <u>shorturl.at/ciCFZ</u>.

### **OUSD Vote for Vaccine Mandate for Students:**

At a recent Oakland Unified School District (OUSD) Board meeting, the Board voted to support a Resolution by OUSD Director Sam Davis mandating vaccines for students ages 12 and up. OUSD Superintendent Kyla Johnson-Trammell indicated that strict guidelines surrounding the mandate will be implemented starting in January.

# **Housing for Homeless Residents**

### Oakland to Re-House 1,500 Unsheltered Residents:

The City of Oakland is proudly partnering with U.S. Housing and Urban Development Secretary Marcia Fudge to launch <u>House America</u>, a national effort to address homelessness that will re-house 1,500 Oaklanders and build 132 *new* units of permanent affordable housing in 16 months.

More info can be found <u>here</u>.



### Keep Oakland Housed:

The state's eviction moratorium ends on 9/30, but this does not impact Oakland residents due to our local residential eviction moratorium. Ask before you act, email <u>housingassistance@oaklandca.gov</u> for additional information.

Also, starting on Friday, October 1<sup>st</sup>, all eligible Oakland residents seeking emergency financial assistance for rent can apply here: <u>www.hpp.bayareacs.org</u>.

Councilmember Kalb is working with city staff and other entities on additional short- and long-term affordable housing solutions.

## **Community Clean-Up - October 9th**

COUNCILMEMBER DAN KALB'S DISTRICT 1 OCTOBER CLEANUP (THIS MONTH IN LONGFELLOW)



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9TH, 2021 9:00 AM TO 11:00 AM MEET AT GROVE SHAFTER PARK (CORNER OF 36TH 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 | 510.238.701



Hope to see you on the 9th. Thank you!

# **CloudKitchen Challenges**

As many of you know, CloudKitchen is in the process of opening a location in North Oakland on Adeline Street. Councilmember Kalb was very disappointed to learn of the approvals that were given to CloudKitchen at this location earlier this year without advance public notice and input. Some vendors have already moved into the North Oakland space.

Neighbors have banded together to push back on CloudKitchen at this location. Community leaders organized a community meeting with CloudKitchen earlier this year in April, and sent requests and questions to CloudKitchen officials with the hope of continuing the dialogue to ensure safety and livability in the neighborhood. Neighbors are pursuing other avenues as well to address their concerns about CloudKitchen.

Our goal is to do what we can to ensure that the residents of the nearby neighborhood experience as little impact as possible due to the anticipated increased traffic and business operations in this area. To that end, we have had several meetings with City Staff and one with a CloudKitchen representative and City Staff. I have written CloudKitchen representatives, and I have reached out to a handful of community members for their opinions.

We have provided a timeline of the actions CM Kalb and our office have taken related to CloudKitchen's North Oakland location. We are currently working on a follow-up letter to CloudKitchen's August 26th response letter back to Dan, which was in response to his August 17th letter to them. If you would like to see a copy of Dan's August 17th letter to CloudKitchen and their August 26th response, please email my staff at <u>dmoss@oaklandca.gov</u>. Councilmember Kalb feels that their response was mediocre at best and he is continuing to pursue strong neighborhood mitigation.

#### D-1 CloudKitchen selected timeline:

In late April, Deidra (CM Kalb's staff member) attended a neighborhood meeting with residents and CloudKitchen representatives at the CloudKitchen site. A couple weeks later, CM Kalb met w/Planning Dept. staff to discuss and share his serious concerns about the CloudKitchen approval process. Deidra then connected a CloudKitchen representative w/Michael Ford (OakDOT's Parking Manager) who offered his time to speak with CloudKitchen reps to help with possible mitigation.

Later in May, CM Kalb had a follow-up conversation with city staff while he visited the site (that was under construction at the time). This was followed by a meeting between CM Kalb and Daniel R. (from CloudKitchen). Michael Ford and Brenda Ivey (City Neighborhood Services representative) also were in this meeting, which focused on traffic mitigation needs and other important neighborhood concerns. CloudKitchen agreed to hire a transportation management consultant to help address neighbors' concerns.

In June, Deidra followed up several times with CloudKitchen. In early June, they provided a community contact email (<u>adelinecommunity@cloudkitchens.com</u>), which neighbors are encouraged to use to express their specific concerns and requests.

CM Kalb and Deidra have repeatedly inquired to see if the CK transportation consultant had made contact with OakDOT's Michael Ford, and we are continuing to push for mitigations and parameters including off-street parking, a passenger loading zone, and limits on nighttime hours.

Parallel to this, CM Kalb is working on legislation to alter the zoning in this neighborhood to make sure this problem doesn't happen again along this corridor.

## **Redistricting in Oakland and Alameda County**

Every 10 years, electoral districts are redrawn based on the latest census data in order to ensure elected officials represent about the same number of people. Redistricting is vital to our democratic process.

In Oakland an independent redistricting commission (created by ballot measure authored by Councilmember Kalb and then Councilmember Schaaf) of 15 residents is taking public testimony on October 13 and November 10. The commission must decide on new district boundaries by December 31st, 2021. More information can be found <u>here</u>. For additional information on the Oakland Redistricting Commission, visit <u>www.oaklandca.gov/redistricting</u>.

\*\*To provide input, please consider taking this survey.

Additionally, the Alameda County Board of Supervisors will draw the Supervisorial district boundaries through a public process. They don't have an independent commission, so county supervisors must approve their own boundaries by December 15, 2021. You can provide input and find more information <u>here</u>.

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### **Recycling and Waste Reduction**

Here are links to resources for your household from StopWaste that provide information on <u>composting</u> and <u>reducing food waste</u>, <u>disposing of household</u> <u>hazardous waste</u>, <u>recycling at home</u> and <u>at schools</u>, <u>reusable foodware</u>, and much more.

Councilmember Kalb is the City of Oakland's representative on the Alameda County Stop Waste Board of Directors joint powers authority. Dan has been and continues to be a passionate advocate for strengthening state and county laws that reduce plastic pollution, protect our waterways, promote composting, and facilitate recycling.

See the StopWaste brochure for more info!

## Inaugural Address by Oakland's First Poet Laureate

The City of Oakland's first Poet Laureate, **Dr. Ayodele Nzinga**, will deliver her inaugural address on Thursday, October 7, at 6 p.m. This celebration of Dr. Nzinga's new role will include performances by Bay Area artists and poets.

Dr. Nzinga is a poet, playwright and community advocate. In addition to this inaugural address, Dr. Nzinga will partner with the <u>Oakland Public Library's Oakland Youth Poet</u> <u>Laureate</u> on a collaborative reading series, deliver four readings at City-owned locations throughout Oakland.

Dr. Nzinga is author of *SorrrowLand Oracle* and *The Horse Eaters*, both books of poetry. She is also the founding producing director of the Lower Bottom Playaz, Inc., a theater company in West Oakland. Ayodele is a founding director of the Black Arts Movement Business District (BAMBD) Community Development Corporation, where she produces BAMBDFEST, an annual international month-long arts and cultural festival celebrating the Black Arts.

"I aspire to be a reliable narrator, an astute interlocutor, in the service of storying, 'The Town', Oakland," said Dr. Ayodele Nzinga. Dr. Nzinga holds an MFA in Writing and Consciousness from the New College of California and a Ph.D. in Transformative Education & Change from the California Institute of Integral Studies in San Francisco.

To join the 10/7 event via Zoom (or phone), visit: <u>https://www.oaklandca.gov/events/first-oakland-poet-inaugural-address</u>.

### **Grants for Small Businesses - Comcast RISE**

Comcast is offering grants to independent small businesses in Oakland owned by people of color as part of a commitment to help those small businesses that have been the hardest hit due to the pandemic.

More information can be found <u>here</u> and <u>here</u>.

## **Clean Air and Clean Air Day**



Wednesday, October 6th is Clean Air Day in California. Please check out more information (local events, Clean Air pledge, etc.) at <u>https://www.cleanairday.org</u>. As part of the statewide effort, Councilmember Kalb is sponsoring a Council Resolution to declare

Oct. 6th as Clean Air Day in Oakland. Of course, every day should be a clean air day and CM Kalb continues to be passionate about reducing air pollution in Oakland and our nearby East Bay communities.

Additionally, you can keep tabs on Bay Area Spare the Air day alerts at this link: <u>https://www.sparetheair.org</u>.

## **City Administrator Updates**

Update on 3-year Paving Plan Implementation

Oakland's 2021-22 Economic Recovery Planning

### Dan in the Community





Dan at (upper left and upper right) the East Bay Transit rally in downtown Oakland; Dan with other elected leaders at (lower left) the ribbon-cutting of UCSF Children's Hospital Oakland new Pediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU); Dan presenting a proclamation to Ahmed Mohammed, the most recent Oakland Tech senior class valedictorian, who just started his freshman year at Stanford University.

### **Contacts:**

Dan's <u>COVID Resources</u> page. Oakland SeeClickFix -Call 311 - <u>https://seeclickfix.com/web\_portal/wTMihVsatbiDau5Fw66m6HFD/report/location</u> Alameda County Social Services and Referral - Call 211 - <u>http://211alamedacounty.org/2-</u> <u>1-1-alameda-county-resource-finder/https://www.oaklandca.gov/services/oak311</u> Dan Kalb's Council Office - 510-238-7001 (contact <u>DMoss@oaklandca.gov</u> 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: <u>https://www.oaklandanimalservices.org</u> Oakland's Planning & Building On-line Permit Center - <u>https://aca-</u> prod.accela.com/oakland/customization/common/launchpad.aspx

# DAN KALB

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Dan's list of Good Books worth Reading