



Greetings Neighbor,

Happy New Year one and all! With Omicron COVID fast on its way to becoming the dominant variant, it's more important than ever to receive your COVID booster. You can schedule your booster shot now through [MyTurn CA](#), [Alameda County Public Health](#), [Safeway](#) or [Walgreens](#) among other locations. Remember to get your flu shot as well.

This is also one of the times during the year for each of us to honor and recognize the words and deeds of the late Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. Whether you observed the MLK holiday as a [day of service in your community](#), attended a virtual event that honors local residents for their work to combat racism, or just had conversations with with your family and neighbors about what more you can do to bring true equity and equality to the East Bay and beyond, this is and can be a day of reflection and action for everyone.

In this newsletter, you will find updates on COVID-19, public safety, local redistricting, legislative efforts, Howard Terminal 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 explore the Alameda County COVID-19 page for additional information to answer your questions: <https://covid-19.acgov.org/index>. There are a few particular updates with which we want to make sure you are familiar:

Masks Required Indoors in Public Settings:

Masks are required indoors in public settings: given the current rise on cases, patrons at gyms and other facilities are once again required to wear masks. Please read more from Alameda County [here](#) and [here](#). Helpful information on masking needs at the state level can be found [here](#).

Several public health experts are recommending using snug-fitting N95, KN95, or KF94 masks if possible. If you don't have access to those high-grade masks, double-masking is recommended.

CDC Recommends Pfizer Booster at 5 months:

CDC Recommends Pfizer Booster at Five Months: On Jan. 4th, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) released updated recommendations regarding when people can receive a booster shot. The CDC shortened the interval from six months to five months for people who received the Pfizer vaccine. The booster interval for the Johnson and Johnson vaccine (two months) and the Moderna vaccine (six months) have not changed. Read more [here](#).

COVID Testing

Information about testing can be found [here \(County\)](#) and [here \(State\)](#). The City has contracted to have two testing sites--one at 250 Frank Ogawa Plaza (directly across from City Hall) and one in the Fruitvale neighborhood. More info here: <https://www.oaklandca.gov/news/2021/covid-clinic-re-opens-site-in-downtown-oakland>.

Proof of Vaccination Policy

On December 21st, the Oakland City Council unanimously adopted the emergency ordinance I authored requiring (effective Feb. 1st) patrons 12 years and over to show proof of vaccination at certain indoor locations including food and drink establishments, gyms, theaters and at large indoor events. Locations include:

- 1 Establishments or events where food or drink is served including restaurants, bars, coffee houses, clubs, and banquet halls;
- 2 Entertainment venues, theaters, concert venues, museums, and recreation facilities;
- 3 Gyms, fitness centers and yoga studios;
- 4 Visitors to senior adult care (assisted living) facilities and City Senior Center programs;

5 City Hall; and

6 Large indoor events at City- and privately-owned facilities.

Vaccination proof can be an original, copy or picture of your vaccination card from the CDC, a healthcare provider, or a government agency, or a digital COVID-19 vaccine record issued by the State of California. If the patron is 18 and over, the proof of vaccination proof should be cross-checked with a valid Photo ID.

By January 15, affected businesses are required to post notification posters advising patrons of this new ordinance. These are available online [here](#).

Answers to frequently asked questions (FAQs) and other details on the Ordinance can be found at www.oaklandca.gov/VaxOrdinance.

Ghost Gun Legislation

I have introduced, along with Vice Mayor Kaplan and Councilmember Gallo, legislation banning the possession, sale, purchasing, receiving or manufacturing of an unfinished firearm frame or receiver--the parts that are used to make privately manufactured firearms commonly referred to as “ghost guns.” The Public Safety Committee forwarded this legislation to the full Council which is expected to vote on its adoption on Tuesday Jan. 18th. Go to Oakland.legistar.com to view the legislation and report [here](#).

186th Police Academy



On December 22nd, The 186th Basic Recruit Academy of the Oakland Police Department graduated at the Scottish Rite Center. The 186th Academy Class comprised 25 new officers including six female officers. The new officers speak several languages including Spanish, Cantonese, and Tagalog. Brandon Moss is the Valedictorian of the class.

Gov. Newsom Invests in Public Safety

In late December, Governor Newsom unveiled his "Real Public Safety Plan" to help address crime in California. The Plan focuses on three core areas: bolstering local law enforcement, increasing the resources for prosecutors and removing guns and drugs from our streets. The Plan will dedicate \$225 million in grants to local law enforcement to combat organized retail theft. The Plan will provide an additional \$30 million in grants for local prosecutors and \$18 million for a dedicated state team to address organized theft crime rings. Finally, Governor Newsom's Plan will create a new statewide gun buyback program, create additional funding for the gun violence research center at UC Davis and add \$20 million to support the National Guard's drug interdiction efforts.

***While these efforts may help reduce serious crime in our cities, they must be matched with meaningful investments in violence prevention strategies, rehabilitation programs and re-entry services.

Waterfront Ballpark District at Howard Terminal

Final Environmental Impact Report Published

The City of Oakland published the Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) for the proposed Waterfront Ballpark District at Howard Terminal on December 17. The City received more than 400 comments after the Draft EIR was published in February 2021. This Final EIR, totaling 3,500 pages, includes a response to each of those comments. You can read the document [here](#).



The Oakland Planning Commission will hold a [Public Hearing](#) on the FEIR on Wednesday, January 19 at 3pm. The Oakland City Council will consider certification of the Final EIR at a future hearing.

Oakland Redistricting Process

The Oakland Redistricting Commission is tasked with setting new district boundaries for the City Council and School Board. Oakland's independent Redistricting Commission is seeking public review and final comments on Draft Map F3, the only map still under consideration for final adoption.

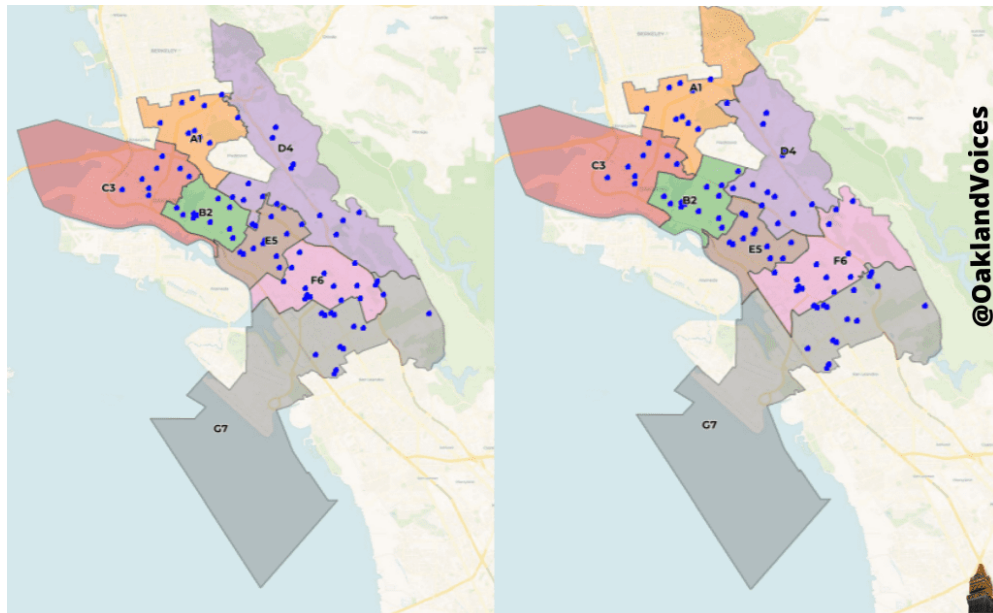
The Commission will consider and make adjustments to this map and then adopt the final map later this month. The proposed final district map and data is available on the Commission's [website](#).

If you are concerned about the District 1 borders, please make your voice heard right away. The public is encouraged to submit comments on the proposed final district map during the public review period now. The preferred deadline to submit written comments is January 18 at 5pm. Public comment will also be accepted during the Commission's meeting on **January 19, 2022 at 4pm**.

Email/written comments may be submitted to: calvin@oaklandca.gov

Surveys can be completed via the Commission's

website: www.surveymonkey.com/r/oaklandredistricting



The Oakland Redistricting Commission will adopt the final map between K3 (left) and F3 (right) at its December 30, 2021 meeting. The maps show boundaries for the City Council and the Oakland Unified School District (OUSD) board.

As of January 5, 2022, only versions of Map F3 are being considered for final adoption by the Redistricting Commission.

Homelessness/Housing Update

Oakland is applying for \$47.7 million in Project HomeKey funds

These funds will be used to acquire four properties. If we're successful, this will result in 217 new homes for unhoused and low-income Oaklanders.

City Volunteers to Support Warming Center Operations

This activation is in response to the prolonged cold weather and near freezing temperatures anticipated this winter, which will put the city's most vulnerable populations at risk.

For additional information on the winter emergency services being offered at SVDP and others local facilities, please click this [link](#).

The City of Oakland is also still seeking landlords to lease to the **515 Oaklanders** who are new Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher holders. [Learn more here](#).



Additionally, low and moderate income Rental Property Owners can access state mortgage assistance here: <https://camortgagerelief.org>.

County Arts Grants

The Alameda County Arts Commission provides financial support to Alameda County nonprofit arts organizations each year through the ARTSFUND Grants Program. The Grants Program supports all art forms--dance, literature, media arts, music, theater, visual arts, traditional arts and crafts, multidisciplinary programs, etc. More [info can be found here](#).

Reducing FoodWaste - StopWaste

FOOD WASTE AND CLIMATE CHANGE

(AND WHAT YOU CAN DO ABOUT IT.)



IF FOOD WASTE WERE A
COUNTRY...

IT WOULD BE THE THIRD LARGEST
EMITTER OF GREENHOUSE GAS.

THAT'S FOUR TIMES AS MUCH
ANNUAL GREENHOUSE GAS
EMISSIONS AS AVIATION.



SURPRISINGLY, 43% OF
WASTED FOOD IN THE U.S.
COMES FROM HOUSEHOLDS.

WHICH MEANS THERE'S
SOMETHING WE CAN ALL DO
ABOUT IT!



PLAN, STORE, EAT

BY MAKING SMALL CHANGES IN HOW YOU PLAN,
STORE, AND EAT YOUR FOOD, YOU CAN WASTE
LESS, SAVE MONEY, AND FIGHT CLIMATE CHANGE.

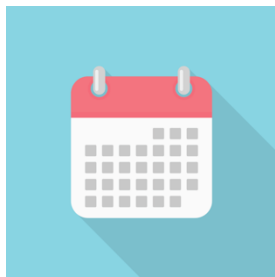
Did you know that reducing food waste is one of the leading solutions to climate change?

Right now is the perfect time to take climate action in your kitchen. Not only will making the most of your food save you money and keep your cupboard organized, but reducing food waste is one of the leading solutions to climate change.

For more information on why this matters, go to <https://stopfoodwaste.org/food-and-climate>, and for helpful tips, click here: <https://stopfoodwaste.org/tips>.

Additionally, StopWaste--Alameda County's Recycling and Waste authority, is offering waste prevention grants. More info can be found [here](#).

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 (dmosso@oaklandca.gov or

510.238.3557) if you'd like to sign up to speak with Dan. Usually the 1st Saturday of the month.

Winter Preparedness

Oakland's recent and upcoming rainy weather is a helpful reminder that winter is arriving, and could bring with it rainy or stormy weather that City workers, residents and business owners can all prepare for now. Please go to <https://www.oaklandca.gov/topics/winter-storms> for more information.

What to Expect

Every year, Oakland prepares for winter storms. City crews are in the process of:

- Cleaning storm drains, inlets, culverts and drainage structures
- Laying down plastic tarp and sandbags in areas that have seen previous mudslides or flooding
- Coordinating planning efforts with other agencies in the region

Volunteer with Adopt-a-Drain to Help Minimize Flooding

Residents and businesses can help minimize flooding in their neighborhood by volunteering with the City's Adopt-A-Drain program to keep a storm drain near their home or business free of debris. About 1,100 storm drains are currently adopted by Oaklanders, but many thousands more are waiting to be adopted. By signing up, you will receive storm notification emails before large storm events, and the City can provide rakes, brooms, dust pans, bags and other supplies. Remember: "Clear the drain before the rain." To sign up, visit <https://www.oaklandca.gov/services/sign-up-for-adopt-a-drain> or call (510) 238-7630.

Preparedness Tips for Residents and Businesses

Simple preparation steps taken now can go a long way toward lessening the impact of weather-related and other emergencies. Members of the public should review their emergency plans and prepare their families, homes, and vehicles. Here are some suggested simple steps:

- Clear your gutters and downspouts; ensure downspouts are working and pointing away from your house
- Keep your curbs and sidewalk gutters clear of leaves and debris (and please dispose of in your green bins - not sweep them into the gutter)
- Check the storm drain near your house and use a rake to keep it clear of debris
- Check that backflow prevention devices on sewer laterals/cleanouts are functioning properly--or consult a plumber to have one installed
- Trim trees on your property to help them handle wind and rain; call a certified arborist to inspect your trees if you observe unusual leaning or dead branches
- Check out your local hardware store for flood prevention tools and techniques such as using sandbags to divert water away from your property or prevent it from coming in through doors and basement windows

How to Report Flood-Related or Storm-Related Problems

Please keep these numbers handy for emergencies, and share them with neighbors:

For storm-related emergency issues on public property and in the public right-of-way (such as flooding, mudslides, landslides, and manholes overflowing onto streets and sidewalks), contact OAK 311. Dial 311 from any phone within Oakland or call 510-615-5566.

For non-emergencies, OAK 311 can also be contacted in other ways:

Email: OAK311@oaklandca.gov

Online: <http://311.oaklandca.gov/>

Mobile App: [SeeClickFix](#) or OAK 311

For downed power lines or if you smell natural gas, leave the area immediately and then call 9-1-1 or PG&E at 1-800-743-5000.

For power outage alerts go online to pge.com/outage alerts.

For water service emergencies (e.g., no water service, broken hydrants, broken water main pipes), contact EBMUD at 1-866-403-2683.

For life-threatening emergencies, call 9-1-1 from a land line or (510) 777-3211 from a cell phone.

Stay up to Date on Emergencies and Public Safety

The public is encouraged to subscribe to AC Alert to receive emails and text messages. The system allows subscribers to provide up to five locations, such as a school, home, work and an elder dependent's address. That way, subscribers will receive updates when an emergency alert impacts one of their self-identified locations. For more information about this system and to find out how to participate, please visit www.acalert.org.





Dan at the January 6th Resistance Action East Bay & Indivisible Rally/Vigil in support of respecting Democracy and protecting voting rights in our country.

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

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Follow Dan on [Instagram here](#) and [Facebook here](#)
Dan's list of Good Books worth Reading