

Dear Neighbors,

Greetings. There is a lot going on in District One, City Hall and throughout our City. I and my district one team are working to make our neighborhoods safe from crime as well as safer for pedestrians and bicyclists to walk and bike without the fear of getting hit by a car.

While there is a lot we are doing here to reduce violence and bring the crime rate down, there is more we need to do. And I know that we can learn from best practices in other cities. That is why I have scheduled an actionable analysis and report on the violence intervention programs/services that have shown success in the City of Richmond. This will come to the Council's Public Safety Committee at 6:00pm on December 1<sup>st</sup>.

I hope you find this Newsletter update helpful and informative. As always, if you have any comments to share with me or my staff, please contact us at <u>510-238-7001</u>.

## Pedestrian and Bike Safety Planning

Pedestrian Safety is an important priority that we continue to work on with city staff and the community. I am pleased to announce some improvements to enhance pedestrian safety in North Oakland.

1. Upgrades to the crosswalk markings and pedestrian crossing signage to improve pedestrian safety along **Market Street** from the Berkeley border to San Pablo Avenue. About a year ago, I and city traffic engineering staff walked the length of Market Street from the Berkeley border to just below West MacArthur. From this came a cost-effective plan to improve the crossings along Market Street for the purposes of pedestrian safety. This work was recently completed in August 2015. Nevertheless, we need to continue to monitor Market street and consider additional pedestrian and bicyclist safety improvements in the future. I also intend to take a hard look at other corridors in North Oakland including but not limited to West Street, MLK jr. Way, and Adeline.





#### Market Street near 58<sup>th</sup>, before and after crosswalk upgrades.

2. There is now a white curb drop off & pick-up zone on Lawton Street adjacent to Emerson Elementary School in the Temescal neighborhood. This has eliminated most double-parking problems to make pick-ups safer. And plans are being approved for a drop-off & pick-up zone on the Shafter side as well. Thank you to the Emerson School community for alerting us to this important and much needed safety addition.

3. The Transportation Service Division of Public Works, responding to the safety concerns of local merchants and residents, will be providing several improvements in Temescal along Telegraph Avenue. At the signalized intersection entrance to the Temescal Plaza shopping center, a new crosswalk on the south side of the intersection will be added, including a new curb ramp, pedestrian countdown signals and marked crosswalk. An additional signal head on the south side, at the new crosswalk, also will be added so that northbound drivers will have an additional indication to stop in advance of the crosswalk. These safety improvements are expected to be completed by early 2016.

4. The city will be installing much-needed upgrades to the Telegraph Avenue and 61<sup>st</sup> street intersection. This will include improved signage, restriping a brighter crosswalk (done), and the installation of a pedestrian-actuated flashing light system to alert motorists to pedestrians crossing. The crosswalk upgrades (which will also include the other unsignalized intersections above Highway 24 to Alcatraz) are in progress as we are writing this article; the pedestrian flashing signal is under design and expected to be installed later in 2016.

We would be remiss to not give kudos to our Oakland Public Works department for its responsiveness and meticulous engineering in achieving these changes. We know there are many more streets and intersections that are in need of pedestrian safety improvements and traffic calming measures. There are many more changes to come and we thank you for your patience in getting to these improvements in place one by one.

<u>Pedestrian Master Plan Update</u>: Oakland has begun a process to update our city's **Pedestrian Master Plan**. I have scheduled a <u>community-wide meeting</u> on **Monday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>** for District One residents to hear from city staff and share with them your thoughts and suggestions for the Pedestrian Master Plan document.

## **Housing Affordability in Oakland**

It's an understatement to say that housing affordability in Oakland is a serious and growing problem. Oakland's Housing and Community Development Department recently released and the City Council adopted the framework of an Oakland **Housing Equity Roadmap** to help guide the city in programs and policies to address this very real crisis. This roadmap provides an overview of demographic and housing trends over the last 10 years and outlines recommended policy options and strategies for the City Council and City staff on which to move forward. Among the numerous legislative priorities the roadmap highlights are the need for **seismic safety retrofits** of residential apartment buildings and condominium conversion legislation to minimize displacement of residents. I am taking the lead role on the Council on the seismic safety ordinance and am jointly leading the effort on condo conversions with my colleagues, Councilmembers McElhaney and Campbell-Washington. Other policies to further protect renters and to create additional housing for lower and moderate income residents are needed and I intend to play a significant role in these efforts.

What we do as a city to protect our renters from displacement and to build more affordable housing for lower and moderate income residents will determine what our city looks like in the years to come. I am proud to have been the author of successful legislative proposals that set aside a portion of our property tax revenue for affordable housing, and created an ordinance to help protect tenants from unfair displacement. We can certainly invite new development—including housing for people at all income levels—but we must do so in a manner that ensures those residents who live in Oakland are not displaced and those who work here are able to live here as well. I look forward to working with stakeholders, the residents of North Oakland and beyond, and my colleagues on the Council to address this very real crisis.

The full text of the Oakland Housing Equity Roadmap can be found here.

## Parking Permits in the Neighborhood

For those of you who live in a Residential Parking Permit (RPP) zone, you probably have noticed that the RPP fees have recently increased. This occurred as part of the annual adjustments made to the Master Fee Schedule for our entire city. We discussed this at two public hearings at the Council's Finance Committee, and at a full City Council meeting back in June of this year.

The annual RPP fees had been \$35 or less for a long time. City staff proposed raising the residential parking permit fee to \$82 for new *and* renewal permits, based on a financial analysis of costs to the city to administer the RPP program. They determined that the cost was \$82, and they put that annual fee into the updated Master Fee Schedule and the new budget for our City. While the \$82 level would equate to a full cost-recovery so as not to be a burden on the city's tight budget, **I felt strongly that that amount was too high for people to be able to park on their own block**, so I proposed to reduce the proposed increase to **\$59** per year for *renewals*—a compromise fee amount—\$23 less than what was proposed for adoption. I subsequently convinced my colleagues on the Council to accept the reduced fee amount of \$59 as I proposed. This is in line with our neighboring city to the north (Berkeley is \$55).

My office has since received a lot of inquiries about the new *daily* visitor parking fee, which used to be a ridiculously low \$1 per day—even though it cost a lot more than that for the city to process. The new visitor fee is \$9 for one day, \$18 for two days, and effectively \$25 for 3-14 days. However, I realize that paying for parking for babysitters, home health aides, day laborers, etc. could add up. I therefore have proposed that the city reduce the one-day permit fee amount to \$5.00. This fee reduction will be heard at the City Council in November.

I hope the information above is helpful. For more information about parking—including information on how you can get a RPP zone on your block, go to <a href="http://www2.oaklandnet.com/Parking/index.htm#RPP">http://www2.oaklandnet.com/Parking/index.htm#RPP</a>

## **Scenic Streets and Hardy Dog Park**

Scenic Streets is looking for a new leader. Peter Lund, who successfully led **Scenic Streets** for the past five years, is leaving to pursue new opportunities. Under Peter's strong leadership, Scenic Streets completed numerous complex community projects, including beautification projects at the Claremont Highway 24 on-ramp and off-ramp as well as DaVita Dialysis center landscaping on the corner of Claremont and Clifton (for the full list of projects and to learn the history of Scenic Streets, please visit <u>www.scenicstreets.com</u>). I was thrilled to be one of the volunteers for the Hwy 24 on-ramp some four years ago.

Currently, Scenic Streets is working on completing the Hardy Dog Park project. With great help from City staff at Public Works Department it looks like this project will be able to break ground before the end of the year. The park's upkeep will transition to the newly formed Hardy Dog Park Patrons Group, which has stepped up to the challenge. We are looking forward to the completion of this project, on which my office has had the pleasure to work with Peter and city staff.

We applaud the good work that Peter has done for the North Oakland community on his volunteer time. It takes great interpersonal, organizational and navigational skills to pull projects through intense community engagement and government partnership processes. Peter was always able to do it with grace, positive attitude and never ending contagious enthusiasm. Thank you so much Peter for being an amazing activist and compassionate and passionate human being.

If you are interested in learning from Peter and getting involved in making a significant positive difference in your community you may contact Peter at <u>peter@scenicstreets.com</u>.

## <u>City Council Endorses SCA 5 for Reform of</u> <u>Prop 13 Commercial Loophole</u>

Back on June 17<sup>th</sup>, the Oakland City Council unanimously passed the Resolution I authored in support of Senate Constitutional Amendment (SCA) 5, adding Oakland to the growing chorus of support for placing meaningful Proposition 13 reform on the 2016 state ballot. Authored by State Senators Loni Hancock and Holly Mitchell, SCA 5 would amend 1978's Prop 13 to allow regular reassessment of commercial property, while continuing to exempt homeowners, farmers, and some small businesses from regular reassessments.

Over the past 35 years, Proposition 13 has shifted a tax burden onto residential property owners and away from commercial property owners. Corporations and large commercial landholders have been able to exploit ownership complexities to avoid the tax reassessment that would occur when properties change hands. This has led local governments to put greater reliance on other revenue sources as well as led to greater challenges for local jurisdictions' ability to provide services the public, especially our public schools.

SCA 5 faces a tough hurdle to get on the state ballot due to the required two-thirds vote of the State Legislature for approval, but it is an important step towards inevitable reform of Prop 13.

The Constitutional Amendment will be voted on as early as January, 2016. Please tell your friends and family around the state to call their state legislators in support of SCA 5.

## **Government Ethics Update:**

#### Councilmember Kalb Pushes for Greater Transparency for City Boards & Commissions

Oakland's Sunshine Ordinance and key state laws mandate transparency and advance notice for meetings of the Council or any Oakland Board, Commission, Task Force or Advisory Committee. These requirements include (1) providing meeting agendas in advance of their meetings, (2) maintaining an agenda subscribers list, (3) an audio or video recording of each meeting, and (4) creating minutes of each meeting. However, it has become apparent that some of Oakland's boards and commissions are not consistent in their compliance with such requirements. For example, some bodies regularly archive all of their agendas, meeting materials, and minutes online, while others do not. Some bodies alert their agenda subscribers about meetings via email, while others send still only hardcopies of their agenda packet. Some bodies do not even have a web page.

Because of the importance having robust, reliable transparency for our governmental bodies, I have been working on achieving consistent and improved agenda notice and meeting archiving procedures for Oakland's boards and commissions. Our City Administrator is now reviewing the assignments and responsibilities of staff assigned to boards and commissions and, after seeking public review, I will introduce any necessary enhancements to the Sunshine Ordinance later this year.

The improved agenda notice and meeting archiving procedures for Boards and Commissions are part of series of government ethics reforms that I am seeking to achieve in 2015-2016 to improve public confidence in City government. Following last year's success with the Charter Amendment to strengthen the Public Ethics Commission and passage of the Governmental Ethics Act, my Ethics & Good Government Working Group will publish further blueprint reports calling for much-needed reforms. The reforms include improvements to the Sunshine Ordinance as well as Oakland's laws on election campaign finance, lobbying disclosure, and protection of whistleblowers.

## High Fire Danger and FEMA Grant Funding for Oakland Fact Sheet

The Valley Fire reminded us that we are still at high risk for wildfire here in Oakland. Things to do today:

- Review your disaster plan or create one. Scan important documents and photos and keep a copy at your office and/or upload to a cloud account.
- Create or update inventory of household contents—photos or video uploaded to the cloud is easy! Home Inventory App can be found at <u>uphelp.org</u>
- Be sure to park in your garage or driveway. If you must park on the street, leave at least 11 feet between you and other side of the street.
- Clean out debris from rain gutters and sweep sidewalks, driveways.
- Remove tree limbs within 10 feet of any chimneys or stovepipes; Remove pine needles and leaves from roofs, eaves, and rain gutters; Clear flammable vegetation to a minimum of 100 feet

or to the property line; Clear pathways to allow firefighters easy access to your house; And always be alert!

• Remove flammable items from on or below decks.

Additional resources:

www.oaklandfiresafecouncil.org www.oaklandnet.com/wildfireprevention www.uphelp.org www.wildfireprevention.info

Recently Oakland released a fact sheet to provide accurate information regarding **FEMA Grant Funding** for the Oakland Hills. The Fact Sheet and other materials can be found <u>here</u>.

## Temescal and Rockridge are Named Among the Top Seven Shopping Areas

The Chronicle's recent Style section identified the Temescal and Rockridge neighborhoods as among the top seven 2015 shopping areas throughout the entire Bay Area: <u>http://www.sfchronicle.com/style/article/Insider-s-guide-to-Rockridge-Temescal-6509351.php</u>

## City Council INTERNSHIP ANNOUNCEMENT

Dear Students, Recent Graduates and Oakland Residents,

Councilmember Dan Kalb's office is seeking interns for fall/winter 2015-16. We are looking for an organized self-starter with excellent interpersonal and research skills and who excels in written and oral communication. Public affairs experience is a plus but not required.

Please share this announcement with anyone who you think might be interested. We encourage anyone you know who wants to get a real time experience in a dynamic office of a local elected official to apply. For more information, please call <u>510-238-7001</u>.

## **Upcoming District One Events**

#### Dan's Community Office Hours:

Councilmember Kalb has Community Office Hours each month at rotating North Oakland cafés. District One resident can sign up for a 20-minute slot by emailing Monica Harris at <u>mmharris@oaklandnet.com</u>, <u>510-238-7014</u>. Feel free to include the topic of your inquiry or issue when you reserve a spot. Thank you!

#### Saturday, November 7, 2015

10:00 am-12:30 pm Peet's Coffee & Tea, 5095 Telegraph Ave. Saturday, December 5, 2015 10:00 am-12:30 pm Old Brooklyn Bagels & Deli, 6000 College Ave.

**January 9, 2016** 10:00 am-12:30 pm Nomad Café, 6500 Shattuck Ave.

Dan also holds drop-in Community Officer Hours at the **Temescal Farmers Market on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month**, 10:30am-12:30pm.

#### Saturday, October 24 - Disaster Preparedness

Hosted by Supervisor Keith Carson

When: Saturday, October 24, **10AM - 2PM** Where: Claremont Middle School, 5750 College Ave.

This free community event will include presentations, from first responders and non-profit service providers that will include information on how to prepare a disaster kit for your home and care, basic first aid, how to care for your pets and many other comprehensive steps so you are adequately prepared when that unfortunate time comes. Register at https:goo.gl/m3Haxc

For more information please contact Rodney Brooks at <a href="mailto:rodney.brooks@acgov.org">rodney.brooks@acgov.org</a>

#### Saturday, October 24 - Bay Area Urban Debates League TED Talk

When: Saturday, October 24, **2PM - 4PM** Where: Rockridge Library, 5366 College Ave.

This event is modeled after TED Talks. Six BAUDL students will give presentations; as an expert observer, you will offer them feedback on the workability or presentation skills of their talk. Your advice will help shape their skills in persuading stakeholders to commit to student solutions. The talks can and will span a wide range of ideas.

For more information, visit: http://www.baudl.org/

#### Sunday, October 25 - Longfellow Community Association Block Party

**When:** Sunday, October 25<sup>th</sup>, **1PM - 6PM Where:** 45<sup>th</sup> Street and Martin Luther King Jr. Way (intersection)

This event provides a chance to meet and mingle with neighbors! There will be a BBQ potluck, DJs, Youth Hip-Hop performances, and fun for kids including a bouncy house. LCA is partnering with North Oakland Restorative Justice.

#### Wednesday, October 28 - Roundtable Discussion on Affordable Housing and Legislative Solutions

When: Wednesday, October 28<sup>th</sup>, **2:30PM - 4PM** Where: California State Building, 1515 Clay Street, Oakland, Room 7

Hosted by Assemblymember Tony Thurmond

#### Wednesday, October 28 - Downtown Oakland Specific Plan Work-in-Progress Presentation

When: Wednesday, October 28<sup>th</sup>, **6PM** Where: The Paramount Theatre, 2025 Broadway

The City launched the **SpeakUp Oakland!** platform to engage a broad range of community members. Join the online conversation and take a short <u>survey</u>.

For details or to sign up for project announcements visit the project webpage.

#### Saturday, October 31 - Youth Leadership Conference

When: Saturday, October 31, 8AM - 3PM Where: Waterfront Hotel, 10 Washington St. in Oakland

Civic Pride, Inc. is offering a free all day Youth Leadership Conference. Youth ages 12 to 21 are encouraged to attend and can learn about college and career success, receive information and apply for various scholarships, apply for internships and other career options, interact with guest speakers, and participate in youth-led civic engagement activities and workshops.

Students under the age of 17 must be accompanied by an adult.

For more information or to register, please click here.

#### Monday, November 2 - Pedestrian Master Plan update

As some of you know, Oakland is currently going through the process of updating its <u>Pedestrian</u> <u>Master Plan</u>. We would like to hear your thoughts and suggestions on how to make our city more attractive, safe and convenient for walking.

Please join us at **North Oakland Senior Center on Monday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30 pm** for a brief presentation of the process to develop the plan and open forum discussion about the future of Oakland's pedestrian infrastructure. The presentation will be given by the City staff and the consultant.

Please contact Olga Bolotina at <u>obolotina@oaklandnet.com</u> or 510-238-7240 with any questions regarding this event.

Looking forward to seeing you there!



# ~ North Oakland Town Hall ~ OAKLAND PEDESTRIAN MASTER PLAN

We are seeking your input!

## Monday, November 2, 2015 6:30 pm — 8:00 pm North Oakland Senior Center 5714 Martin Luther King Jr. Way • Oakland

Join us to share your ideas for improvements and policies that can be implemented to make traveling on foot safer and more convenient in Oakland

City Councilmember Dan Kalb and City of Oakland staff invite you to learn more about the process underway to develop an updated **Oakland Pedestrian Master Plan**. Following the presentation by City of Oakland Staff and the project consultant, we welcome and encourage your feedback, questions and recommendations.

> Please contact Olga Bolotina, office of Councilmember Kalb obolotina@oaklandnet.com or 510-238-7240 with any questions.

#### Wednesday, November 4 - Longfellow Community Association General Meeting

When: Wednesday, November 4, **7PM – 8:30PM** Where: The Birdland Jazzista social club, 4318 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Oakland,

Longfellow will host Mayor Libby Schaaf & Oakland Police Chief Whent

#### Wednesday, November 11 - Santa Fe CAN November General Meeting

When: Wednesday, November 11, 6:30PM - 8PM Where: Children's Hospital Oakland Research Institute (CHORI), 5700 M.L.K. Jr Way, Oakland

With BART Directors Zakhary Mallett and Robert Raburn and Councilmember Dan Kalb

#### Thursday, November 12 - Biketopia

When: Thursday, November 12, 6:30PM - 10:00PM Where: Impact Hub, 2323 Broadway, Oakland

For more information, please visit www.bikeeastbay.org/biketopia

#### Sunday, November 15 - Oakland Public Library Advocates Holiday Mixer

When: Sunday, November 15, **1PM - 3PM** Where: African American Museum and Library (AAMLO), 659 14th St, Oakland, CA

Come hear Oakland librarians speak about the programs and plans that inspire them the most! For more information, visit: <u>http://www.oaklandlibrary.org/</u>

#### **Ongoing - Destiny Arts Center - Fall Enrollment**

When: Ongoing Where: Destiny Arts Center, 970 Grace Ave.

Hip Hop dance, West African dance classes and Martial Arts classes for youth ages 3-18. For more information or to register for classes, visit: destinyarts.org

### **Dan in the Community**



Dan at Soldiers Against Violence Everywhere



Afternoon at the Rockridge Out and About



Dan is reading to kids at Chabot Elementary during First Latino Literature Celebration throughout OUSD.



Dan at neighborhood Empty Bowls fundraiser for the Alameda County Community Food Bank

In addition to receiving my periodic e-newsletter, I invite you to follow me on <u>Facebook</u> and/or <u>Twitter</u>. And to read <u>past newsletters, click here</u>.

Yours truly,

Dan Kalb

Oakland City Councilmember

**District One** 

http://www2.oaklandnet.com/Government/o/CityCouncil/o/District1/index.htm