



Dan's December Newsletter

Greetings Neighbor,

I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday. This year has been a trying time for our city, but I am thankful for everyone who has been working tirelessly to make our city a better place.

This year my staff and I have worked on many pieces of legislation and related efforts to help Oakland get through the realities we are facing--not the least of which are the serious challenges we are having on crime and public safety.

I have recently introduced two new pieces of legislation, which will be voted on in City Council shortly.

In addition to my [public safety Resolution](#) adopted in September, I have been working on a firearm procurement ordinance (see below). I also have introduced a reusable foodware and plastic litter reduction ordinance to reduce litter and waste--particularly plastic foodware waste--in our city and waterways, and to reduce our carbon footprint as well. Both of these are slated to pass into law before the end of the year.

Best,
Dan

Dan's Reusable Foodware Ordinance

This year I have been working on a reusable foodware ordinance in conjunction with StopWaste and co-sponsored by Councilmember Noel Gallo. In 2020, The City of Oakland passed the 2030 Equitable Climate Action Plan (ECAP). This plan covers a wide range of climate issues and needs that must be addressed by 2030 as there is a worldwide consensus that we must act by then to avoid the most catastrophic impacts of climate change. As part of this plan, section MCW-3 called for the elimination of single-use plastics and prioritizing reuse in food preparation, distribution, and sales.

Single-use food ware items like plastic and lined paper cups, plastic to-go containers and plates, and plastic utensils are prevalent in daily life. They serve a very short useful life of just minutes, while their impact on human health and the environment is significant and long lasting. Single-use food ware items once used are a large contributor to local and global pollution. Single use plastics litter our streets, contaminate our recycling streams and stormwater system, pollute our Bay and oceans, and contribute to unnecessary waste. Replacing single-use food ware with durable reusable alternatives is essential to preventing the waste and litter that disposables create.

This ordinance would follow other municipalities' leads by: requiring reusables for on site dining, allow customers to bring their own cups or containers, require food vendors to only give out foodware accessories upon request, requiring reusable beverage cups at large venues and events, requiring reusable beverage cups at city facilities, prohibiting the city purchase or distribution of packaged water except in an emergency, encouraging the installation of accessible water bottle refill stations, and requiring compliant (fiber-based) disposable food service ware.

This would be phased in over about a year and a half to implement an outreach and education effort, and give restaurants time to adopt these solutions in an affordable manner. Temporary waivers can be provided by the city for food service vendors who could not implement these without undue harm to their business.

If you support this climate-friendly, anti-litter ordinance, please let other councilmembers know. Emails can be sent to Council@oaklandca.gov.

Dan's Firearm Procurement Ordinance

This ordinance, co-sponsored with me by Councilmember Rebecca Kaplan, will require the City of Oakland (OPD) to only purchase firearms from a manufacturer or dealer of firearms that complies with local, state, and federal law. A small number of gun dealers are disproportionately the source of trafficked firearms and firearms

recovered in crimes. Gun dealers with disproportionate numbers of crime gun traces are more likely to be found in non-compliance with federal firearms laws, including those intended to reduce gun trafficking and crime, and to assist law enforcement in solving gun violence crimes.

It is essential that firearms and ammunition vendors that do business with OPD be intensely vetted in a way that ensures that they are law-abiding and that they employ best practices shown to significantly reduce the likelihood that their guns will be illegally trafficked into communities such as Oakland and used in one or more crime. This legislation can support the reduction of illegal guns in Oakland.

This legislation is part of our continued effort on increasing public safety. Last year Councilmember Kalb, with Councilmembers Gallo and Kaplan, authored legislation prohibiting the possession, sale and manufacturing of unfinished frames or receivers that had not been imprinted with a serial number, commonly referred to as ghost guns and ghost gun kits.

This year Councilmember Kalb authored legislation prioritizing public safety that was approved by the City Council in September. Among other strategies, the legislation directed City Administrator to analyze the expansion of CeaseFire, our data-driven, gun violence intervention program. That legislation also directed the City Administrator to seek collaboration with federal law enforcement agencies stepping up coordinated operations to confiscate illegal guns.

Thank you to the Brady Campaign for working closely with us on this procurement ordinance. The City of San Diego is also considering adopting a similar ordinance. The more jurisdictions that move this forward, the greater an impact this will have.

BART Not One More Girl



The groundbreaking, youth-driven Not One More Girl initiative that addresses sexual harassment and gender-based violence on BART expanded with the launch of Phase II in August 2023 with new strategies to build a culture of supporting girls* when riding transit. [Read about Phase I](#) of the campaign.

Not One More Girl is a BIPOC youth-led initiative in partnership with community-based organizations and BART to end gender-based violence. The second phase of the award-winning initiative places emphasis on enabling people to have a greater sense of empowerment in a harassment situation and exhibits tools that fellow riders can use to provide support when harassment occurs.

The new tools being offered to the public are the product of a partnership between BART, The Betti Ono Foundation, and The Unity Council's Latina Mentorship and Achievement Program, who worked together to engage local high school and college students about their experiences on transit and their ideas for action-based strategies to enhance safety and support people experiencing sexual harassment on transit.

[Link to Phase II can be found here.](#)

Bulky Block Party Update

Heads up!! Bulky Block Parties Resume in **January**



There will be **NO Bulky Block Parties**
in **November or December**



Next Bulky Block Party

Saturday
January 27th

More info at
bit.ly/BulkyBlockParty



CITY OF
OAKLAND

PUBLIC WORKS



📣 Heads up! Bulky Block Parties will NOT be held in November or December. The next Bulky Block Party will take place on **Saturday January 27th** at the Municipal Service Center at 7101 Edgewater Dr.

To get rid of bulky household items in the meantime, try one of these free options, available to both homeowners AND renters in Oakland:

🏠 Free annual curbside pick-up through Waste Management of Alameda Co. (WMAC)

🚗 Free annual drop-off at WMAC's Davis Street Transfer Station (2615 Davis Street, San Leandro)

Residents of single-family homes or buildings with four or less units can schedule up to two free pickups per year. All other units may schedule one per year. Call 1-888-WM-Bulky (1-888-962-8559) to schedule an appointment today!

Visit <https://bit.ly/BulkyBlockParty> to learn more about these events and alternative bulky disposal options.

City of Oakland Announces New Permanent Chief of Violence Prevention, Dr. Holly Joshi



The City Administrator Jestin Johnson and Mayor Thao announced recently that the new permanent Chief of the Department of Violence Prevention (DVP) will be **Dr. Holly Joshi**, a proven local leader with decades of experience serving and leading in Oakland. Councilmember Kalb and Councilmember Treva Reid joined in the announcement held in East Oakland at Esperanza Elementary School in East Oakland.

Chief Joshi will be the department's second permanent chief since it was established in 2017. The department applies a public health approach to violence prevention focused on community-led intervention strategies to realize sustained safety and stability of the families and communities most impacted by violence.

Her appointment also reflects a growing leadership team for the City's public safety departments. Chief Damon Covington was sworn in as the permanent Fire Chief on November 13.

Chief Joshi's first day at the Department of Violence Prevention will be December 11.

A copy of this announcement is online at <https://www.oaklandca.gov/news/city-of-oakland-announces-new-permanent-chief-of-violence-prevention-dr-holly-joshi>

Oakland Urban Forest Plan

*“i have known trees
they mark the trails I took
some i planted
others i cared for
some i dreamed upon
some pointed the way ”*

Excerpt from “i have known trees”
by Oakland Poet Laureate Dr. Ayodele Nzinga



The draft Urban Forest Plan is here! The Plan outlines strategies based on community desires, collected data, and industry best practices to support the long-term health and improvement of Oakland's urban forest. Your participation is needed to ensure that the Plan effectively represents the community's needs. The [six-week public comment period](#) runs through December 8. Visit OaklandCA.gov/TREES to learn more.

Tis' the Season to Think Oakland First



Oakland, CA – The *Think Oakland First* holiday campaign encourages Oakland residents and visitors to support local businesses as they celebrate the season. Known as a diverse city filled with creative energy, Oakland is home to numerous small businesses and shops that are signature to The Town. These hidden gems are found in each of Oakland’s distinctive neighborhoods. From artisan baked goods to hand crafted maker creations, local fashion designs, vintage treasures, foodie finds, and eclectic shops filled with unique gifts – Oakland is the place to find the perfect present for someone special.

“Shop local and tap into the independent spirit and soul of Oakland’s artisans, makers, and merchants. By spending your dollars in the Town’s unique shops, eclectic culinary attractions, and vibrant nightlife, you support the people who contribute to Oakland’s rich character and drive the city’s economic engine,” said Mayor Sheng Thao.

The benefits of shopping locally are widespread. By supporting local establishments, this increases revenue for farmers, suppliers, accountants, cleaners, and uniform manufacturers. Local businesses generate sales tax revenue for the city that is reinvested into the community to further growth and redevelopment.

On November 30th, Mayor Thao, OPD commanders, Phillipa Roberts, President of the Piedmont Avenue Merchants Association, City Economic Development staff and myself announced stepped up presence of OPD along commercial corridors during the holiday shopping season.

[Learn more here!](#)

Dan's Native American Heritage Month Honoree



NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH DISTRICT 1 HONOREE

JACKIE KELIAA

I am proud to honor and recognize Jackie Keliiaa for her work in the arts and comedy to feature the Native American Community. Originally from Hayward and based out of Oakland, she is unapologetically Bay and proud of her Yerington Paiute and Washoe roots. During the pandemic she took a step forward to launch Good Medicine Comedy, which put on virtual comedy shows to fundraise for indigenous communities hurt by the pandemic. Jackie's ability to raise everyone up and highlight so many voices is what makes her stand out in our community and The City of Oakland is proud this is where she calls home.



I am proud to honor and recognize **Jackie Keliiaa** for her work in the arts and comedy to feature the Native American community. Originally from Hayward and based now out of Oakland, she is unapologetically Bay and proud of her Yerington Paiute and Washoe roots. During the pandemic she took a step forward to launch Good Medicine Comedy, which put on virtual comedy shows to fundraise for indigenous communities hurt by the pandemic. Jackie's ability to raise everyone up and highlight so many voices is what makes her stand out in our community. The Oakland City Council is proud this is where she calls home.

Cannabis Equity Grants

The online application portal for the [Cannabis Equity Grants Program](#) is open now! Are you ready to submit your application by the December 14th deadline and start driving equity in the cannabis industry in your community?

With over 80% of our team coming from the public sector, our team understands the unique challenges government leaders face. **We partner with leaders like you to**
—

Strategize and secure new funding opportunities

Design accessible and equitable programming

Increase your back office capacity

Amplify community partnerships

Meet funding requirements through reporting and live dashboards

FORWARD is already partnering with the City of Long Beach to support their Cannabis Equity Grants Program that enables equitable opportunities in the local cannabis industry by making legal cannabis business ownership and employment opportunities more accessible to individuals.

Oakland Heritage Alliance Partners in Preservation Award

I am happy to share that the **Oakland Field of Dreams** (OFOD) is the recipient of the Oakland Heritage Alliance Partners in Preservation Award. The Oakland Field of Dreams is focused on the promotion of Youth Baseball in Oakland by maintaining Rickey Henderson Field (RHF) as a pristine, inner city baseball complex. OFOD manages, maintains, and improves Rickey Henderson Field for Oakland Tech and for OUSD. Located adjacent to Oakland International High School in the Temescal neighborhood.

Certificates were awarded to: Rickey Henderson Field (Oakland Field of Dreams), Philip Williams (President-OFOD), Paul Mankin (Chairman-OFOD), Erik Housh (Secretary-OFOD), Francisco Navarro (OUSD), Leonardo Valle (Grounds Expert-OFOD), Patricia Williams (Cheerleader-OFOD).

City Boards and Commissions

There are periodic vacancies among the City's numerous boards and commissions. To fill these vacancies quickly, we need a pool of applicants that can be vetted for these seats as they become available. Most positions are filled by the Mayor, but some are filled directly by each Councilmember.

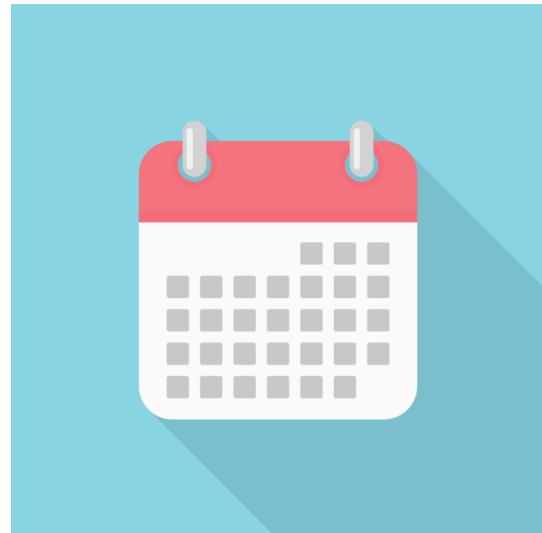
Please visit this website for information about the City's boards and commission and their vacancies: <https://oakland.granicus.com/boards/w/8552f8c4c0e15460/boards/6681>.

Please feel free to let us know if you have any questions regarding these opportunities. If you are a District 1 resident and decide to apply for a city board/commission, please let Councilmember Kalb know. He may be able to provide a recommendation on your behalf.

Dan's Community Office Hours

Dan continues to hold monthly **Community Office Hours** to hear directly from residents about their neighborhood or citywide concerns. He enjoys connecting with District 1 residents -- currently via phone due to Covid safety protocols -- and looks forward to doing these in person in the near future.

Please contact Keara O'Doherty (kodoherty@oaklandca.gov or 510.238.7014) if you'd like to sign up to speak directly with Dan. Usually the 1st Saturday of the month -- next ones are October 7th and November 4th.



City of Oakland is Hiring!

While some city positions are being frozen at many city departments to help balance the budget, there is still hiring going on to fill certain vacancies. From Parks and Recreation to Economic Workforce Development, the City of Oakland has selected job opportunities available. [Learn more and apply here.](#)

Apply to be a 911 dispatcher. This person must have excellent communication skills and work well in a high-stress and fast-paced environment. More [here](#). This is a key public safety position in our city. **Please spread the word that we are training and hiring 911 dispatchers.**

Apply to work on our Community Homeless Services Team. This person will **lead and** design the implementation of emergency crisis response strategies and support program implementation. More [here](#).

Dan in the Community





Top Left: Dan along with councilmembers Ramachandran and Gallo, at Visit Oakland's "100 Faces of Oakland" Event **Top Right:** Dan joining with human service and workforce development service providers at a Building Opportunities for Self Sufficiency (BOSS) gathering outside of City Hall **Bottom Left:** Dan and his wife Valarie at Town Business: An Evening of Cultural Power **Bottom Right:** Dan helping pass out Thanksgiving turkeys at Mistah F.A.B's annual Turkey Giveaway. **Bottom:** Dan at a mural unveiling with artist Debbie Koppman and Studio Naga business owner Louise Rafkin

Contacts

Oakland

SeeClickFix Call 311- https://seeclickfix.com/web_portal/wTMihVsatbiDau5Fw66m6HFD/report/location; <https://www.oaklandca.gov/services/oak311>

Alameda County Social Services and Referral - Call 211 - <http://211alamedacounty.org/2-1-1-alameda-county-resource-finder/>

Dan Kalb's D1 Council Office - 510-238-7001

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>; <https://www.oaklandca.gov/news/2022/oakland-launches-in-person-one-stop-permit-center-2>