

Council President and District 2 Council Member
NIKKI FORTUNATO BAS
#PeoplePoweredGovernment 勵琪



October 2023

Dear Neighbor,

I hope this letter finds you and your loved ones well after celebrating the Mid-Autumn and Autumn Moon festivals. Like you, I know and love the ways our Chinatown community came together during the pandemic through food and vaccine drives, outdoor activities, community patrols, and taking care of one another.

As we continue to recover from the pandemic, I too am concerned about the issues that many of us face in Chinatown, across Oakland, the Bay Area, and even the nation— **issues such as public safety, illegal dumping, and homelessness**. I remain committed to creating an Oakland where children can walk to school and play in our parks, neighbors gather in community and patronize our local businesses, seniors feel secure and respected, and we all experience love, joy and healing with the foundation of a thriving neighborhood, good jobs, affordable housing, quality education and accessible healthcare.

I'm sharing here some partnerships and activities in and around Chinatown with our neighbors, businesses, and other local leaders to help make our neighborhoods safe and healthy for everyone, especially our elders and children.

I'd also love to hear from you and am sharing my **upcoming office hours** and ways to get in touch with my team. I hope you'll find this information helpful, and I hope you'll get involved in some of these efforts. Our community needs everyone's voice and contributions, and I look forward to working with you to serve the people in our Oakland community.

Thank you for your time and commitment to our community.

Sincerely,



Nikki Fortunato Bas | 勵琪
Oakland City Council President & District 2
Councilmember

Newsletter alert! [In case you missed my August newsletter, click here](#) for much more on our **community safety work** including: increasing violence prevention, addressing the root causes of poverty and violence, and other important strategies. [Sign up for our District 2 newsletter here.](#)

Neighborhood Updates and Resources



- **Lincoln Recreation and Resilience Center Milestone — Unanimous Planning Commission Approval:** We're one step closer to breaking ground on a new Recreation and Resiliency Center at Lincoln Square Park! Congratulations to the Friends of Lincoln Square Park, the Asian Pacific Environmental Network, and all those who have envisioned a place where the community can come together to be resilient against the threats of climate change (above). I'm proud to support this project by dedicating City funds to its completion.
- **Meet our new OPD Chinatown Liaison Officer Wesley Huynh, and Welcome Back OPD Foot Patrol Officer Tony Chang:** Welcome to our new Chinatown Liaison Officer, Officer Wesley Huynh (left), and welcome back Chinatown Foot Patrol Officer Tony Chang (center), who returned to foot patrol assignment which he previously did for four years! Foot patrol hours are generally Tuesdays - Fridays 12pm to 10pm.



- **Chinatown Bank of the Orient Opening:** It was terrific to welcome the Bank of the Orient to the heart of Oakland Chinatown in September (right). The bank relocated to the Pacific Renaissance Plaza, and we're thrilled they will be serving our community and contributing to our local economy. Thanks to our partners, Oakland Chinatown Improvement Council and Oakland Chinatown Chamber of Commerce.

- **Leaders Retreat with the Asian Pacific Environmental Network (APEN):** I was honored to join leaders of APEN to map and envision their hopes and address their concerns in Chinatown in September (right). When we come together in community, we can build the community that we envision for ourselves, our families, our elders, and our neighborhoods. Photo credit: Joyce Xi Photography.



- **74th Anniversary of the People’s Republic of China:** Thank you to the Consulate General of the People’s Republic of China and the East Bay PRC National Day Celebration Committee for inviting the Mayor, Councilmembers, and I to participate in the celebration



and flag raising of the 74th anniversary of the People’s Republic of China at Frank Ogawa Plaza (left). We’re proud to stand with community organizations and Chinese Americans in preserving the cultural traditions in Chinatown and for the Oakland Chinese Community.

- **New Chinatown Mural:** I am proud to partner with Roy Chan of the Oakland Chinatown Oral History Project and artists Flo Oy Wong and Desi Mundo to implement the “Chinatown Kitchen Kids Mural Project.” The City Council will consider approving a \$28,000 grant from my office to the project on October 17. The mural, which will be on the top of 723 Webster, delves into different community

members’ oral histories and experiences as ‘kitchen kids’, highlights the deep history of Asian American Oaklanders, and weaves together a tapestry of images and stories that speak to the legacy and future of the Chinatown community.

Join these Events

- **OCA-East Bay Monthly Pick-it-Ups:** Help clean-up Chinatown with the Organization of Chinese Americans (OCA) East Bay Chapter, going on for seven years strong! Start from Wilma Chan Park on the second Sunday of each month, from 11am-2pm. [RSVP and Release Form \(filled out once per year\)](#). Contact jonathan.fong@ocaeastbay.org or Mike.lok@ocaeastbay.org for questions or more information.
- **Lincoln Summer Nights Fall Harvest and Gratitude Theme:** Come out for the last Lincoln Summer Nights of the season on Thursday, October 12, 5-7pm (note earlier end time!) at Lincoln Square Park. Contact Janie Chen, janchen@ahschc.org for details.

- **Lincoln Elementary Walkathon Fundraiser:** Walk, raise money, and build community at the same time at Lincoln Elementary School's 14th Annual Walkathon on Sunday, October 22. Registration starts at 9:15am, Walkathon is 10am-12pm. Contact gdp-president@lincolnschooloakland.org to donate or for more information.
- **Oakland Asian Cultural Center Events:** Check out upcoming exhibits and programs, including stories and portraits of Chinatown Legacy Businesses. <https://oacc.cc/>

Get Involved

- **Activate Oakland Events Grants:** Apply for a grant of up to \$10,000 for free community events in Oakland's commercial districts! Want to plan a music performance, walking tour, cooking demonstration, or outdoor karaoke? Portions of Chinatown are included in the priority commercial areas. Application deadline is **Thursday, October 12**, so apply soon! Details at <https://www.visitoakland.com/activate-oakland/>
- **Chinatown Complete Streets Project:** The East Bay Asian Local Development Corporation (EBALDC) is collaborating with the City of Oakland's Department of Transportation on a Complete Streets Plan to support safe streets use and mobility for everyone in Chinatown. The project will make improvements to these streets in Chinatown: 10th Street, 7th Street, 8th & 9th Streets, Webster & Harrison Streets. Find out more about the plan, and the process, and sign up for future engagement opportunities on the City of Oakland's project page: <https://www.oaklandca.gov/projects/chinatown-complete-streets-plan>
- **Talking Transitions Town Halls and Survey:** The City of Oakland, Mayor Sheng Thao, and Council President Nikki Fortunato Bas invite residents to share their thoughts on how to improve housing, community safety, and economic opportunity — three areas that the Administration has identified as priorities. Learn more about the survey and town halls here: <https://www.oaklandca.gov/news/2023/talking-transition>

Connect with Nikki and her team

- **Meet with Nikki during Office Hours:** Sign up for an appointment here: <https://bit.ly/OAKD2OH>. Our Office Hours are on Saturdays, from 10am to 12noon. The next Office Hours in Chinatown will be in November. Please contact our office for details and to arrange interpretation as necessary.
- **Contact Amaya Lin (林泓玉),** District 2 liaison for Chinatown: ajlin@oaklandca.gov.
- **Join a City Council meeting:** View our agendas and ways to share your comments at oakland.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx.