



CITY OF OAKLAND

Youth Commission

Meeting Minutes

Monday November 18, 2024

6:00 PM

Please See the Agenda to Participate in the Meeting

General Meeting Minutes

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order at 6:09pm
- II. Roll Call Commissioners

Haniel Kebede (D1), Kayson Naik (D2), Quincy Russell (D3) Mevoh Ajayi (D4), Katie Liang (D5), Amber Johnson (D6) Ella Killingsworth (D7), At-Large Commissioners: Mia Hatfield, Bryce Hunt, Calupe Kaufusi, Nathan YuHeng Li, Ana Xu li, Steve Nguyen, Michelle Wong, Olivia Richardson Feldman, Tengis Temur, Ashley Tchanyoum, Sofia Castro, Diego Garcia

Absent: Quincy Russell, Katie Liang, Calupe Kaufusi, Steve Nguyen

Left Early: Olivia Richardson Feldman
- III. Welcome, Agenda Review, Agreements & Approve Minutes from 11/4
 - A. Minutes were unanimously approved
- IV. Public Comment/Open Forum
 - A. No public comment given
- V. Check-In
- VI. Item 1: Planning and Building Dept - General Plan Update and Feedback Session

Khaliliha Haynes and Lakshmi Rajagopalan from Planning and Building Dept gave overview of the General Plan for Oakland for the next 30 years, which is intended for completion in summer 2026. They presented on Phase 2 Elements: Transportation, Land Use, Employment, Parks and Rec, Noise and Infrastructure. We broke out into 4 groups to brainstorm future priorities and focus areas for the City in each of these arenas.
- VII. Item 2: Caltrans: Vision 980 Update and Survey

Becky Frank and Hunter Oatman-Stanford from Caltrans came to present on Vision 980 and survey the youth commissioners on their priorities and concerns with the project. Their presentation included an overview of the history of West Oakland, redlining in the 1980's, and urban removal due to the construction of the 980 freeway. Vision 980 seeks to repair harm from construction of interstate 980 because it has divided communities and is a barrier to opportunities and travel between communities. The goal is to develop an evaluation framework to ensure the vision meets equity performance measures or benchmarks. Commissioners were invited to share their preferences and ideas, and to take the formal survey to follow up. Some of the potential options of the project include:

 - *Convert to an at-grade boulevard: it would be more accessible, safe, and environmentally friendly*
 - *Add protected bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure: safer for pedestrians, prevent against accidents with pedestrians and crazy drivers. Disagree → protected bike infrastructure only benefits people who benefit from gentrification. Solution: Get insight from people who actually live in West Oakland so that they don't feel like they're being run out of their homes due to beautification as a result of gentrification.*
 - *Construct a "lid" or deck bridge on top of part of the freeway: cool idea but house prices would be really high. Maybe have small businesses under deck bridge. A lot of noise for*

houses and neighborhoods there.

- *Remove completely and fill with housing, open spaces, commercial spaces: space taken up by I-980 can be used for housing, businesses, etc.*

VIII. Announcements

- A. Next Commission Meeting is 12/2
- B. Oaklandside event on youth activism is Wed 11/20 featuring Co-Chair Amber Johnson, come support!
- C. This Friday is our Celebration for Oakland Youth Vote at Restore Oakland, 4:30
- D. Opportunity to partner with Youth Leadership Council, 4:30-6:30 Wed 1/15 - OYC decided to attend meeting and cancel our 1/13 meeting

IX. Closing

- X. Meeting Adjourned at 8:08pm