



City of
OAKLAND
California

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The City of Oakland's Planning & Building Department Moves Forward with Downtown Oakland Specific Plan: Sets key dates for community engagement

For Immediate Release: January 18, 2019

As the next phase of developing the *Downtown Oakland Specific Plan*, the City is publishing a *Preliminary Draft Plan*, and inviting the public to attend and participate in upcoming events to provide input and feedback:

- **Planning Commission Meeting** (1st of three)- January 23, 2019
The Commission will receive an introduction to the Preliminary Draft Plan and key issues; provide initial feedback to the Planning Bureau; and hear public comment.
- **Landmarks Preservation Advisory Board** - February 4, 2019
Scoping Session: the Board will receive the Preliminary Draft Plan to review with consideration on how it addresses historic resources.
- **Planning Commission Meeting** (2nd of three)- February 6, 2019
The Commission will continue to hear public comment and provide feedback on the Preliminary Draft Plan and open the Scoping Session for the Plan Environment Impact Report (EIR).
- **Lunar New Year Celebration** - February 10, 2019
Planning Bureau staff will be present at a booth from 11am, during the festivities, to engage the community.
- **Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission (PRAC)** – February 13, 2019
The PRAC will review and provide feedback on the parks and outdoor-related recommendations in the plan.
- **Planning Commission Meeting** (3rd of three)- February 20, 2019
The Commission will conclude its hearings on the Preliminary Draft Plan and on the scoping for the Plan EIR.
- **Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission Meeting (BPAC)** - February 21, 2019
The BPAC will review and provide feedback on the recommendations for bicycles and Pedestrians.
- **Black Joy Parade** - February 24, 2019
Planning Bureau staff will be present at a booth from noon, during the festivities, to engage the community.

The Preliminary Draft of the Downtown Oakland Specific Plan is an initial version of the recommendations that will guide development and growth in the downtown area. The Preliminary Draft Plan identifies the potential goals, strategies, projects, and programs to transform downtown Oakland to achieve a new vision of inclusion, celebration and opportunity for the city's residents. It will be reviewed by the community and revised to create the Draft Specific Plan by Summer 2019.

The Preliminary Draft Plan is available, January 16, for public review and comment. Access the document here: www.oaklandca.gov/topics/plan-publications

Community participation is essential in developing the Plan that addresses opportunity and equity, as it prioritizes strategies for downtown's economic development, culture, housing, transportation, environment and infrastructure. Members of the public are invited to offer proposed changes to the Preliminary Draft Plan's recommendations by attending one of the community meetings cited above or by submitting their comments to plandowntownoakland@oaklandca.gov. These comments will be critical in advancing the next stage of the Draft Specific Plan, to be released in summer of 2019.