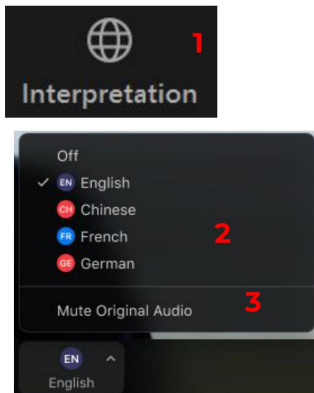

Housing and Environmental Justice Workshop

Deeply Rooted

April 2022

Windows | macOS



ZOOM – Select Language Channel

ENGLISH

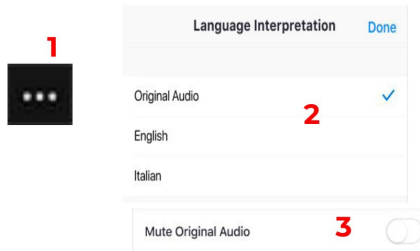
1. In your meeting/webinar controls, click Interpretation.
2. Select the language that you would like to hear: English.



SPANISH

1. En los controles de la reunión o el seminario web, haga clic en Interpretación.
2. Haga clic en el idioma que desee escuchar: español (Spanish).
3. (Opcional) Para escuchar solo el idioma interpretado, haga clic en Silenciar audio original

Android | iOS



CHINESE

1. 在會議/網路研討會控制項中，按一下口譯。
2. 按一下您想要聽的語言：中文 (Chinese)。
3. (非必要步驟) 若只想聽口譯內容，請按一下關閉原始音頻。

Agenda

Interpreters - (2 min)

Intro - Elena (3 min)

Q+A (5 min)

Environmental Justice - Ms. Margaret and Diana (20 min)

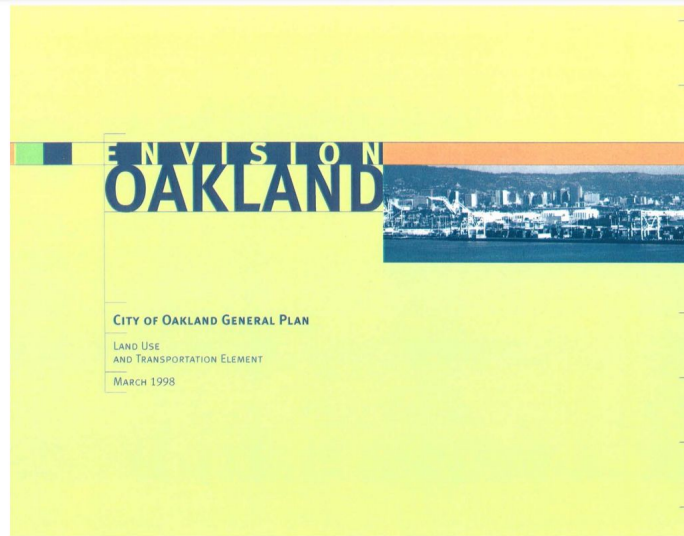
Housing - Margaretta (10 min)

Homelessness - Needa Bee (10 min)

Large Group Discussion - Elena (40 minutes)

What is the General Plan?

Last update in the 90's



Long-term LAND policy document

For example, could result in



Reducing
Collisions



Parks and
Recreation

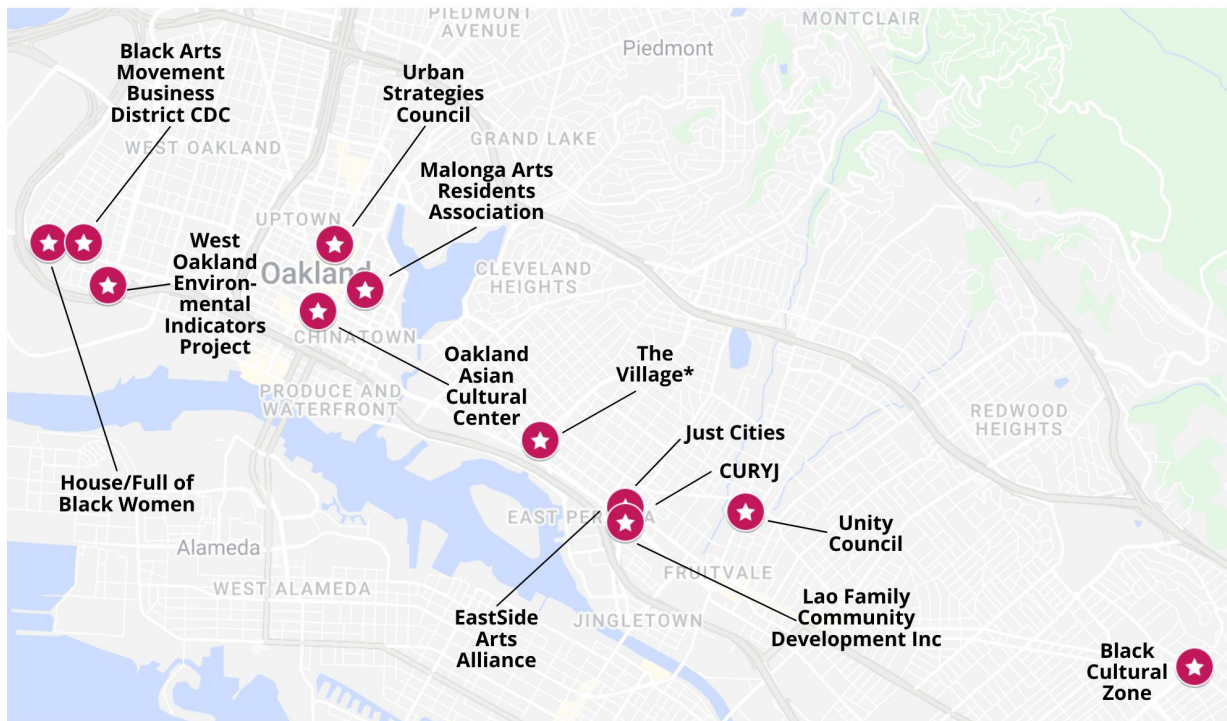


New housing and
affordability



Protecting from
flooding and sea
level rise

Deeply Rooted in Oakland Partnership



*The Village operates as a network of encampments across Oakland without one address.

HOW YOUR ENGAGEMENT MATTERS



A. "Karrem" Khan, @ak2webd3, and Jessica Lee, @jessicazylee, discuss their vision for Oakland's future @oaklandesance.



Your lived experiences, ideas and solutions on what Oakland is and what it should be will be reflected in this plan:

- Will help to create a **citywide vision**.
 - Inform elected officials on **community priorities and solutions**.
 - Drive policy on the use of land, environmental justice, housing, and transportation for the next **2-3 decades** that advances commitment to a **fair and just city, undo past harms, and addresses inequities**.
 - Building a **foundation for ongoing engagement** with the City and **holding the city accountable** beyond this general plan
-

Q+A

Environmental Justice

WHAT IS ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE?

Principles of Environmental Justice

Delegates to the First National People of Color Environmental Leadership Summit held on October 24-27, 1991, in Washington DC, drafted and adopted 17 principles of Environmental Justice. Since then, The Principles have served as a defining document for the growing grassroots movement for environmental justice.

WE, THE PEOPLE OF COLOR, gathered together at this multinational People of Color Environmental Leadership Summit, to begin to build a national and international movement of all peoples of color to fight the destruction and taking of our lands and communities, do hereby re-establish our spiritual interdependence to the sacredness of our Mother Earth; to respect and celebrate each of our cultures, languages and beliefs about the natural world and our roles in healing ourselves; to ensure environmental justice; to promote economic alternatives which would contribute to the development of environmentally safe livelihoods.....



POLLUTION AND LIFE EXPECTANCY

In Oakland, Local Pollution Sources pose Environmental Health challenges for Black, Asian American and Latinx Communities

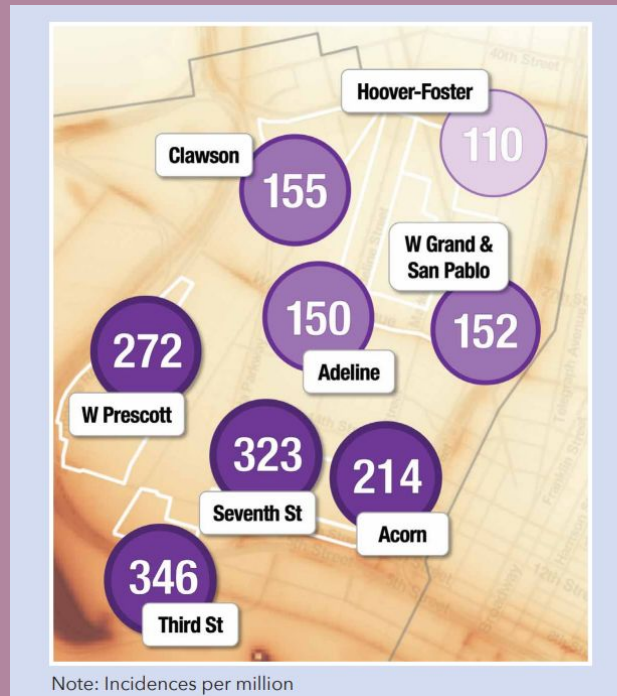
Local pollution sources: cars and trucks, port, rail, industry, old houses, contaminated sites and dirty water.

In Alameda County, pollution and health burdens cause Black people to live nearly a decade less than White people

Leads to health issues like asthma, cancer, cardiovascular disease and premature death.

Solution: Using most available science to develop policies.

Modeling and Monitoring: Cancer Risk and Local Pollution in West Oakland



SEA LEVEL RISE

Flatland Oakland neighborhoods are at risk of experiencing 5.5 – 9 feet of sea level rise by 2100.

With sea levels rising, groundwater will rise and will bring contaminated water to the surface and people who reside in flatlands areas with centuries of industrial businesses will be exposed.

Solution: Protecting flatlands from sea level rise

Sea level rise impact at Mandela Gateway



COLLISIONS

Flatland neighborhoods like West Oakland, Downtown, Chinatown, and East Oakland experience high rates of collisions

Problem: Streets with wider lanes, limited crosswalks or limited traffic lights bring faster cars and higher chances of collision.

Solutions: Traffic lights, crosswalks, speed bumps and other measures to slow down cars and provide pedestrian safety

Chinatown Crosswalk



Oakland Planning Efforts: Only **AB 617 specifies environmental justice as a criteria to analyze and mitigate policies**

- **1998:** Oakland General Plan Land Use and Transportation Element
 - **2016:** Resilient Oakland Playbook
 - **2017:** Oakland Walks Pedestrian Plan
 - **2018:** Healthy Development Guidelines
 - **2019:** Let's Bike Oakland
 - **2019 (Ongoing):** Oakland Urban Forest Master Plan
 - **2019: West Oakland Community Action Plan (AB 617)**
 - **2020:** Oakland Environmental Climate Action Plan 2030
 - **2021:** Safe Oakland Streets Initiative
 - **2021:** East Oakland Neighborhood Initiative Community Plan
 - **2022:** East Oakland Mobility Action Plan
 - **2022 (Ongoing): East Oakland (AB 617)**
 - **2022 (Ongoing):** Oakland General Plan Environmental Justice Element
-

POTENTIAL NEW EJ POLICIES

Proposed City/Agency Ideas

Industrial Lands Policy Update

- **Strengthen industrial land protections** with seaport/airport industrial lands boundary with only heavy industrial uses
- **Reduce emissions exposure** by regulating heavy industrial uses within 500 feet of houses

Eliminating Lead Paint Hazards in Oakland with Alameda County to prioritize at-risk communities, quickly remove lead hazards and bolster economic resilience

Reimagining the 980 Caltrans will be asking community what they would like to see happen to the 980 and analyzing potential changes

Community Ideas (in development)

Human Health/Socioeconomic Impacts Analysis (mentioned in Margaretta's talk)

Port of Oakland include EJ and Public Health policies, criteria, equity, update science, research and data apply to all levels of administration and operation for the residents of West Oakland and flatlands.

Traffic Safety Measures like speed bumps, cross walks, traffic lights, pothole repair, bike lanes and repaved sidewalks

Affordable Grocery Stores in East and West Oakland

Illegal Dumping Clean up in East and West Oakland

What is SB1000 and EJ Element?

Planning for Healthy Communities Act (SB1000) bill passed in 2006 and authored by Senator Connie Leyva, co-authored by California Environmental Justice Alliance (CEJA) and the Center for Community Action and Environmental Justice (CCA EJ).

Cities and counties **must adopt an EJ element or other related goals, policies and objectives** if they have “EJ communities”.

- Reduce pollution exposure
- Improve air quality
- Promote public facilities (community centers, recreation centers, schools, etc.)
- Promote food access
- Promote safe and sanitary homes
- Promote physical activity
- Promote civic engagement
- Prioritize investments

Ongoing Engagement



Identify neighborhood level issues and brainstorm solutions

Research



Developed by technical consultant

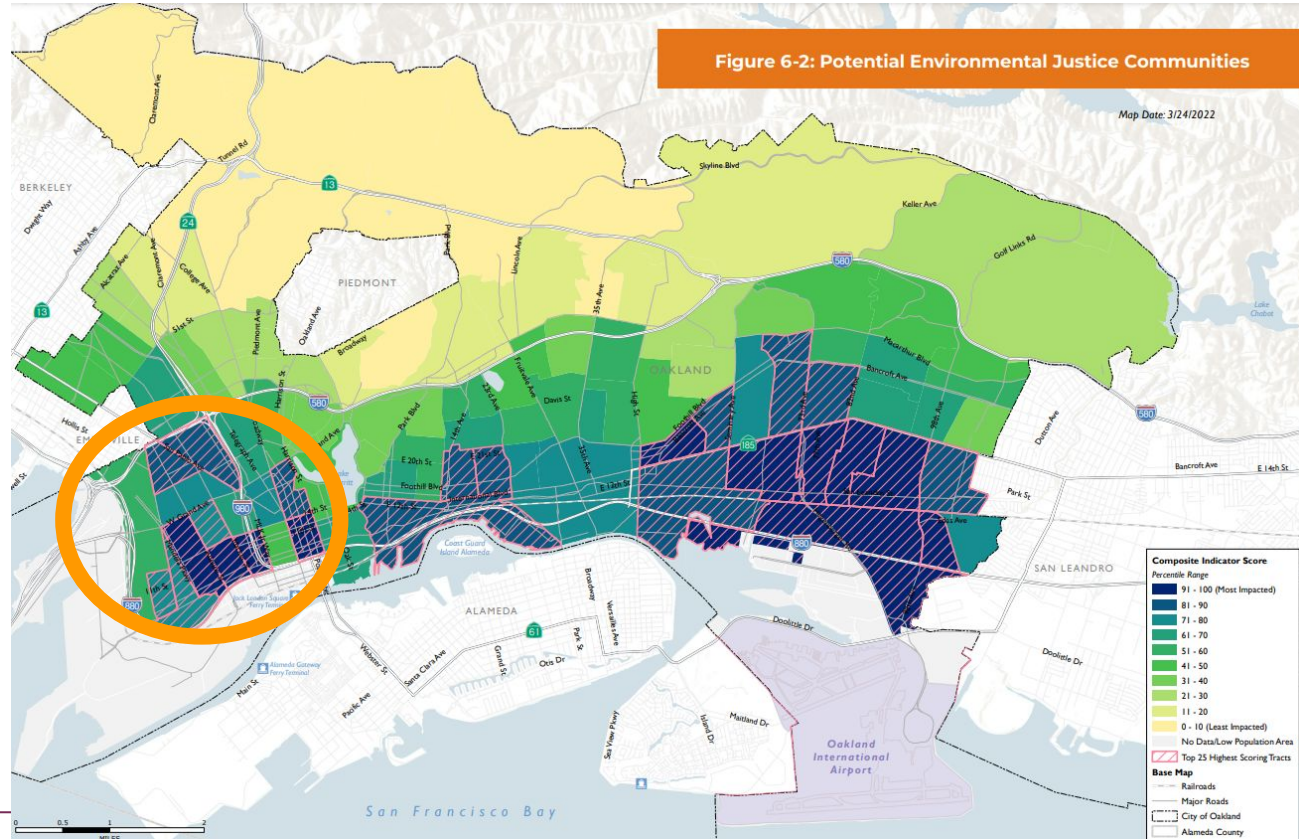
DRAFT Environmental Justice Community Map

Dark blue and red lines has the worst pollution burden, disinvestment and higher number of sensitive populations and communities of color.

GROUND TRUTHING:

West Oakland areas are missing. **What other neighborhoods are missing?**

MAP WILL BE UPDATED



Oakland Housing Conditions, Causes & Potential Solutions

- What is the State required Housing Element & Why it matters
 - Highlights of current housing conditions & major causes
 - Potential solutions
 - How YOU can get your voice heard

For more information: Margaretta Lin, Just Cities,
margaretta@justcities.work

Oakland Housing Element

California State Requirements for Regional & Local Governments

- State deadlines constraints
- Housing Element/Plan required every 8 years
- Required to identify specific land available to build new housing units
- Required to identify what City zoning/land use changes would be needed to build the units
- Required to provide data on housing issues & list existing/proposed policies and programs
- NO CURRENT STATE REQUIREMENT THAT THE AFFORDABILITY LEVELS ARE MET

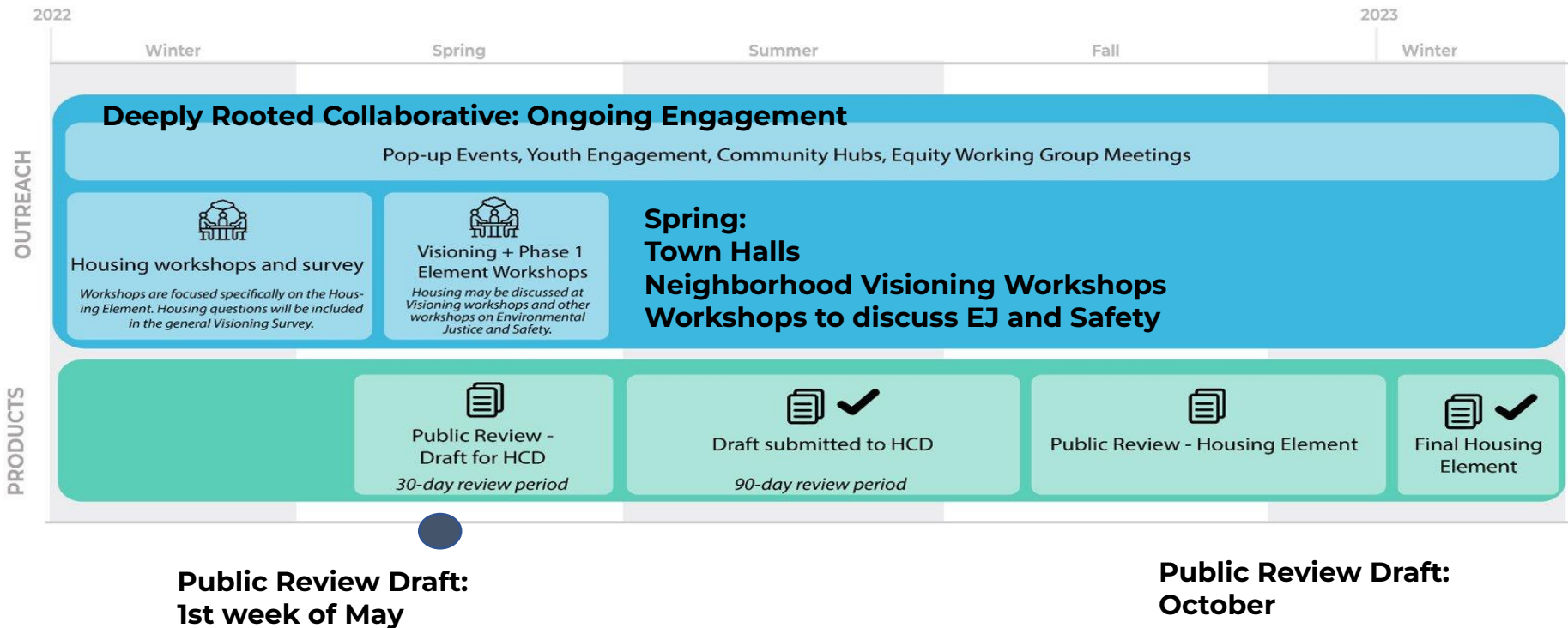
For more information:

<https://www.oaklandca.gov/topics/read-the-housing-element>

Opportunities for Change

1. Resident Education & Engagement
2. Integrate Oakland Housing Justice values & prior community efforts (i.e. Healthy Development Guidelines) into Housing Element
3. Defining Housing as a Human Right rather than commodity into City documents

State Required Housing Element Timeline (BUT community process doesn't stop with State deadline)



OAKLAND'S REGIONAL HOUSING NEEDS ALLOCATION (RHNA), 2015-2022/23

From 2015-2021, Oakland Overproduced Market Rate Housing Units and Underproduced Affordable Housing Units

- As of 2021, the City of Oakland permitted (approved to be built) **14,966** "above moderate" income (market rate) units, achieving **191.5%** of the goal (exceeding the goal by 91.5%).
- BUT the City has not met its goals for lower income affordable housing, permitting only **1,725** units, achieving only **42%** of the goal.

Income Affordability Categories	2015-2023 RHNA Goals	Permits Issued		Units Built		2023-2031 RHNA Goals
		Count	% of Goal Met*	Count	% of Goal Met*	
Very low (up to 50% AMI, or \$62,800)	2,059	1,079	52.4%	1019	49.5%	6,511
Low (51-80% AMI, or \$62,800-\$100,480)	2,075	646	31.1%	222	10.7%	3,750
Moderate (81%-120% AMI, or \$100,480-\$150,720)	2,815	78	2.8%	24	0.9%	4,457
Above moderate (>120% AMI, or >\$150,720)	7,816	14,966	191.5%	8,558	109.5%	11,533
Total	14,765	16,769	65.15%	9,823	61.50%	26,251

*Data for Permits issued and units built is only for 2015-2021.

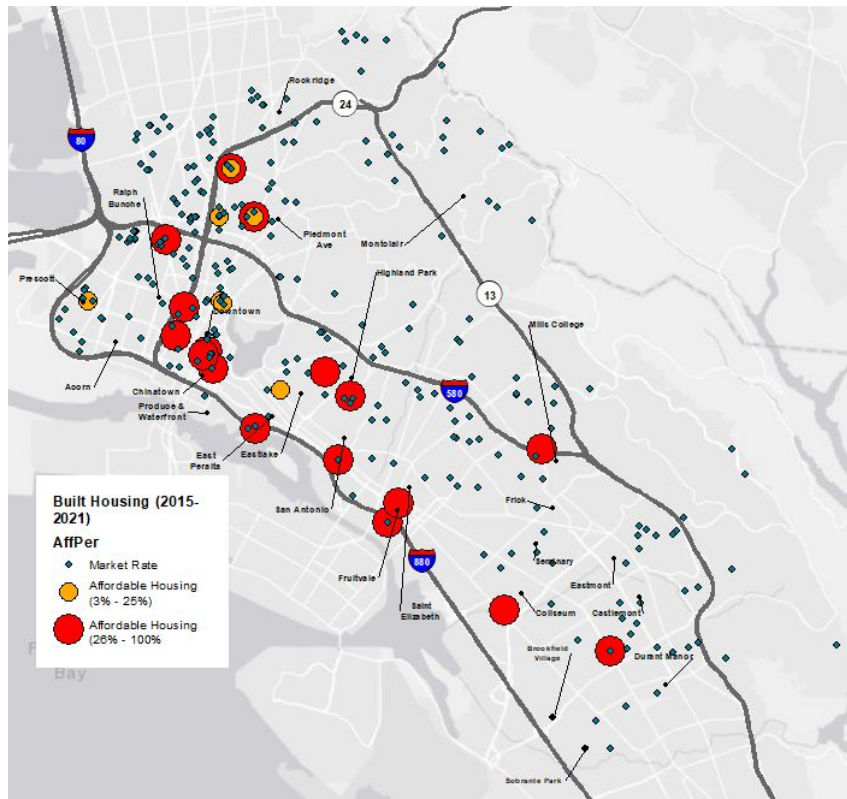
Sources: 2015-2023 RHNA Goals: City of Oakland Housing Element 2015-2023 Presentation to the Planning Commission, May 7, 2014. Permits Issued: City of Oakland 2020 Housing Element Annual Progress Report; HCD Annual Progress Reports Data Dashboard.

MAP OF PERMITTED/BUILT NEW HOUSING, 2015-2022

Large **affordable housing** developments were permitted and built in the flatlands, particularly around the 880 and 580.

- A majority of of **above-moderate units** built were also concentrated around Downtown between highway 24 and the lake (Downtown, Chinatown, Pill Hill, and Lakeside) and in East Oakland (South Kennedy and Coliseum).

Above info from Just Cities sampling of more than half of permitted (56%) and built (69%) housing units from 2015-2021.



OAKLAND REGIONAL HOUSING NEEDS ALLOCATION, 2023-2031

The City of Oakland has been tasked with permitting **26,251 units** between 2023-2031, a 78% increase from the last Housing Element Cycle.

- Oakland housing production goals for 2023-2031 have increased across all affordability levels since the 2015-2023 cycle.
- While the State is prioritizing extremely low income housing production for 2023-2031, actual #s are not prescribed. The City can and should come up with specific number goals for its own tracking and public accountability.

Income Level	5 th Cycle RHNA Units (2014-2022)	6 th Cycle RHNA Units (2023-2031)	% Increase
Very Low (<50% AMI)	2,059	6,511	216%
Low (50-80% AMI)	2,075	3,750	80%
Moderate (80-120% AMI)	2,815	4,457	58%
Above Moderate (>120% AMI)	7,816	11,533	48%
Total	14,765	26,251	78%

City Potential Housing Sites – Leftover from 2015–2022 Efforts (5,431 units)

Table C-12: Development Capacity of Available 5th Cycle RHNA Sites

Planning Area	Total Residential Capacity (units) ¹		
	Lower-Income	Moderate-Income	Above-Moderate-Income
Central East Oakland	0	754	0
Coliseum/Airport	124	0	0
Downtown	183	1,594	306
East Oakland Hills	4	10	0
Eastlake/Fruitvale	146	682	1
Glenview/Redwood Heights	54	0	0
North Oakland Hills	0	0	0
North Oakland/Adams Point	101	513	0
West Oakland	150	548	261
Total	762	4,101	568

1. Does not include 5th cycle RHNA sites included in a pipeline project.

Source: City of Oakland, 2022; Dyett & Bhatia, 2022

Deeply Rooted is recommending the inclusion of **more lower income housing.**

City Potential Housing Sites – New Opportunity Sites (16,973 units)

Table C-13: Development Capacity of New Opportunity Sites

Site Type ¹	Total Residential Capacity (units) ¹		
	Lower-Income	Moderate-Income	Above-Moderate-Income
Vacant	1,298	313	1,786
City-Owned	1,809	420	1,151
BART-Owned	839	0	0
West Oakland Specific Plan	31	157	600
Lake Merritt Station Area Plan	54	0	0
Broadway Valdez Specific Plan ²	-	-	-
Downtown Oakland Specific Plan	768	201	420
Local Initiatives Support Coalition (LISC) Faith-Based Projects	252	56	19
Potential Development Projects	1,745	331	4,758
Other	600	446	788
Total	6,912	1,580	8,481

1. Sites may be contained in multiple categories, therefore unit counts should not be summed. Does not include the capacity of 5th cycle RHNA sites or pipeline projects. Potential development projects are included in the totals.

2. Opportunity sites located in the BVSP were all included in the 5th cycle RHNA.

Source: City of Oakland, 2022; Dyett & Bhatia, 2022

Deeply Rooted is recommended that all city-owned land be considered for lower-income housing.

- **Vacant sites** are scattered throughout the flatlands.
- **City-owned** sites are in West Oakland, Downtown, Coliseum, Hawthorne and Oak Knoll.

Oakland's Major Housing Problems

Oakland Resident City & Community Surveys Over the Past Decade Have Identified the Following Housing Priorities:

1. Homelessness
2. Housing unaffordability
3. Racial displacement
4. Blighted housing conditions



HOUSING UNAFFORDABILITY

Housing Unaffordability is higher in West and Deep East Oakland, Fruitvale, and Chinatown than city-wide.

- Housing unaffordability is more severe in Deep East Oakland (**101.7%**), Chinatown (**101.0%**), Fruitvale (**88.7%**), and West Oakland (**88.1%**) than city-wide (**64.8%**).

Race Matters on Housing Affordability

- In 2018, **Oakland** renter households **citywide** spent **64.8%** of their income towards housing. However, **Black renter households** spent **76.8%** of their income on housing compared to only **28.8%** for **White renters**.

Housing Unaffordability By Race/Ethnicity	
Black	76.8%
City-wide	64.8%
Other Race	61.0%
Native American	58.4%
Hispanic/Latinx	57.1%
Asian American	56.8%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	50.8%
Two or More Races	40.9%
White	28.8%

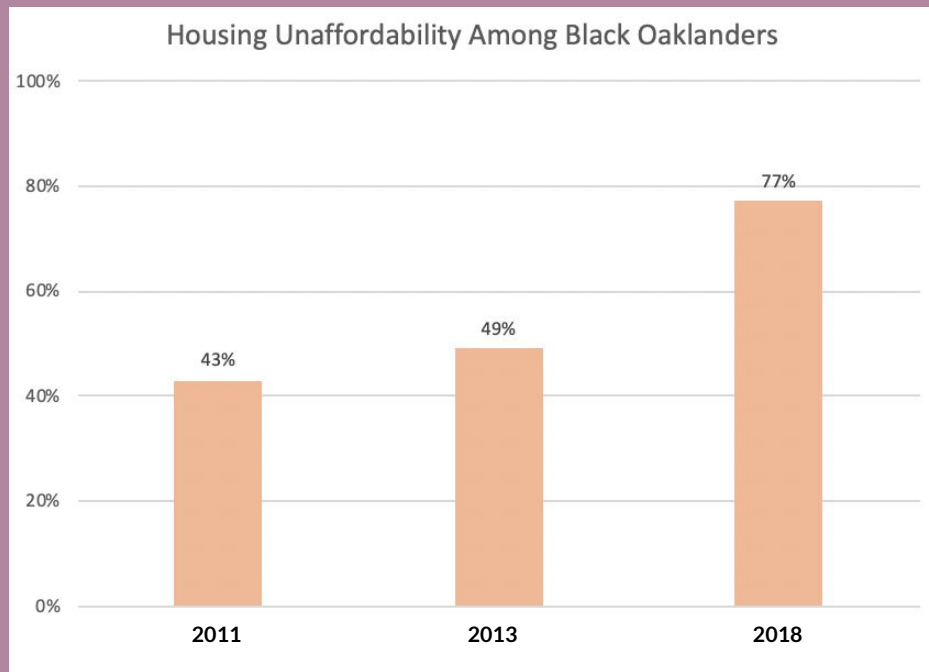
RACIAL DISPLACEMENT

As rents have escalated, many long-time residents of color can no longer afford to stay.

- **31% decline in the Black population** citywide from 2000 (140,139) to 2018 (97,053).
- **26% increase in the white population** city-wide from 2000-2018. In selected neighborhoods: West Oakland (411%), Deep East (69%), Eastlake (39%), and Fruitvale (24%).
- **6 to 31% decrease in low income Asian American households** from 2000-2019 in parts of Chinatown, Downtown, Eastlake, Ivy Hill and San Antonio.
- Although the **Hispanic/Latinx** population has increased city-wide (29%), **research shows that many Hispanic/Latinx residents are overcrowding into existing households.**

Source: American Community Survey (ACS) (2014-2018); U.S. Census 2000, 2010; Urban Displacement Project, 2021.

*Note: "Sampled Deep East Oakland neighborhoods" = Frick, Coliseum, Eastmont, Durant, Brookfield, and Sobrante.

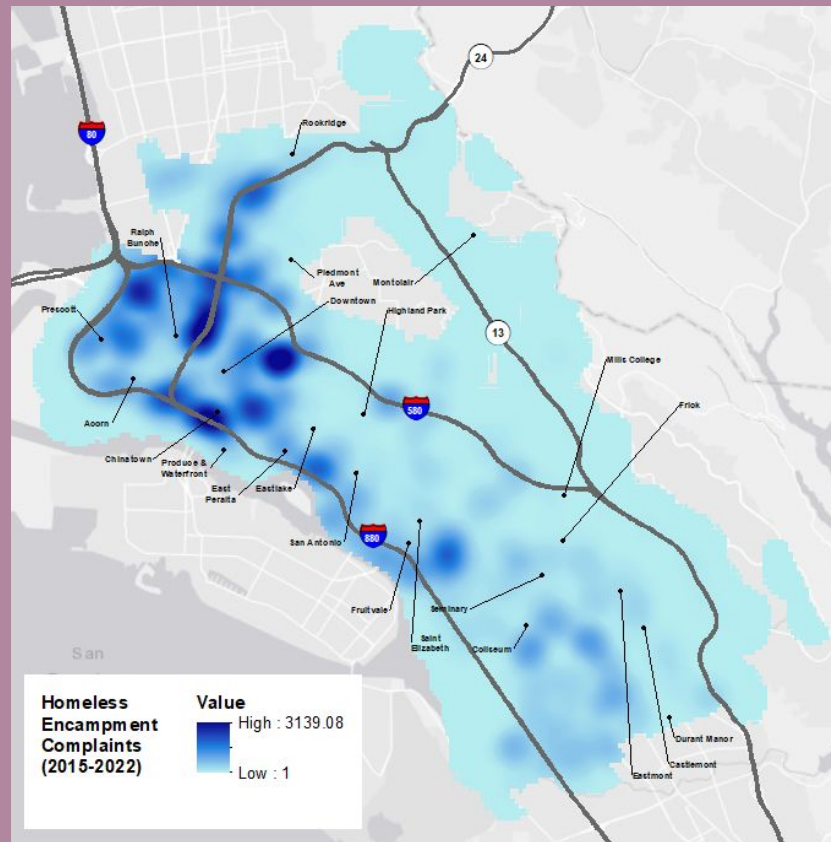


For Black/African American Oakland residents, the % of median renter household income spent on housing costs

Racially Disparate Homelessness

The unhoused population in Oakland, who are disproportionately Black, has steadily increased since 2013.

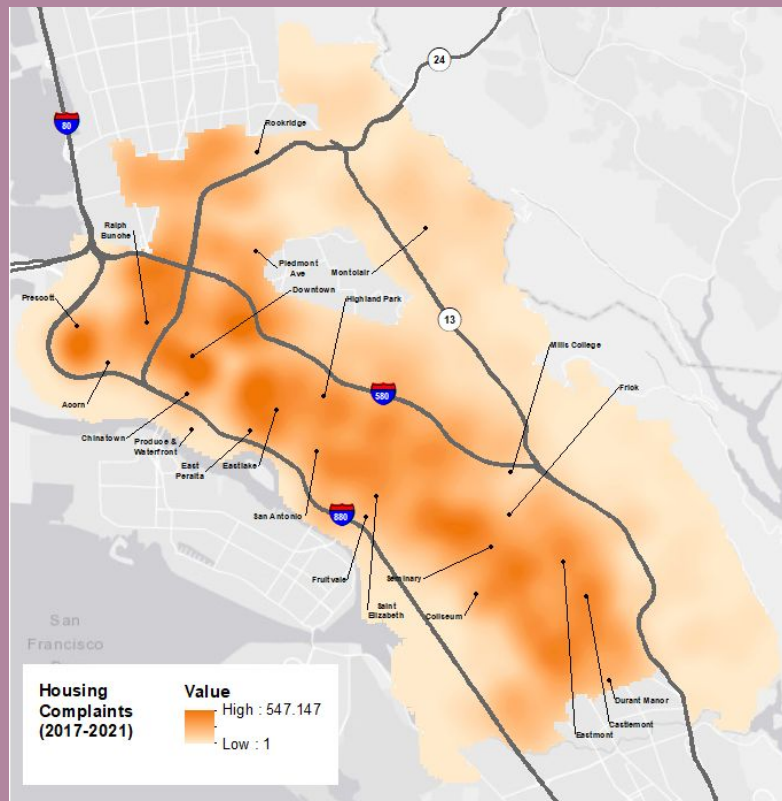
- From 2013–2019, **unhoused individuals** counted by the Point in Time **increased by 91%** (2,132 people in 2013 and 4,071 in 2019).
- In 2019, **70%** of unhoused individuals counted by the Point In Time were disproportionately **Black** who comprise only **24%** of the overall population.



BLIGHTED & OVERCROWDED HOUSING CONDITIONS

Lower income residents in West and East Oakland are facing unhealthy housing conditions.

- **From 2017-2021, there were 7,300 housing complaints to City Code Enforcement.** Examples of unhealthy housing complaints are no heat, electrical issues, and faulty plumbing.
- **Housing complaints were concentrated in the flatlands of West and East Oakland.**
- **8% of Oakland households experience overcrowding.**
 - **I.e. Asian American households are disproportionately overcrowded.** **Overcrowding ranges from 20-42%** in these renter Asian American communities: Saint Elizabeth, San Antonio, and East Peralta. **Lower income Latinx** household are also disproportionately overcrowded.

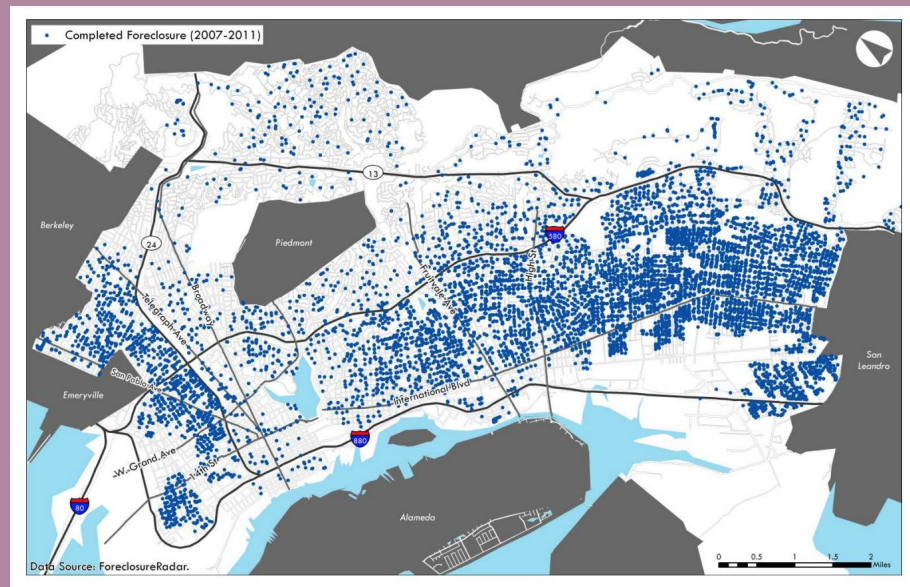


STRUCTURAL ROOTS OF CURRENT HOUSING PROBLEMS

HISTORIC & CURRENT RACISM = INTENTIONAL PUBLIC POLICY CHOICES

For example:

- Generational economic & housing discrimination
- Housing treated as a commodity rather than public right
- Ethnic enclaves created by racial housing covenants (Chinatown, West & East Oakland) destabilized by redlining, predatory lending, foreclosures (over 11,000 in Oakland) & market rents
- California legislature's Costa Hawkins law
- Regional economic trends, aka tech boom, coupled with Mayor Brown's 10k market rate housing plan to make Oakland safe for SF tech workers
- Failure to build enough units that are affordable to Oakland longtime residents
- Market force displacement from lack of sufficient tenant protections



Source: Urban Strategies Council, *Who Owns Your Neighborhood? The Role of Investors in Post-Foreclosure Oakland*.

Just Cities' Analysis of East Oakland Neighborhoods—Racial Targeting for Predatory Lending Major Factor in Today's Displacement

Current racialized displacement and housing unaffordability in East Oakland are directly linked to **predatory lending and foreclosures that removed the safety net of homeownership** stability and equity.

- **Predatory lending** practices and the following foreclosure crisis **disproportionately affected the Black/ African American & Asian/American populations**, causing major declines of this population in ethnic enclaves. **By 2013**, while populations of other racial groups increased, **the long-time East Oakland Black/African American ethnic enclaves were no longer majority Black/ African American.**
- Across East Oakland, investors flipped foreclosed properties and marketed them to new higher income households From 2000–2018, **White residents increased across East Oakland, with the greatest increases in Black/ African American ethnic enclaves that had double digit foreclosure rates.**

Racial Displacement in East Oakland Ethnic Enclaves

	2000	2018	% Change (2000 - 2018)
Asian Population in Asian Enclaves	44.6% (5,094)	39.1% (4,172)	-18.1%
Black Population in Black Enclaves	55.3% (22,462)	35.5% (15,841)	-29.5%
Latinx Population in Latinx Enclave	63.2% (2,720)	57.9% (2,696)	-0.9%
White Population in White Enclave	30.2% (875)	32.5% (797)	-8.9%

Sources: American Community Survey (2014 - 2018); U.S. Census 2000; U.S. Census 2000 on 2010 Geographies.

Notes: Asian Enclaves include Clinton and East Peralta; Black Enclaves include Brookfield, Coliseum, Durant, Eastmont, Frick, Reservoir Hill, and Sobrante; Latinx Enclave includes Fruitvale; White Enclave includes Merritt

Just Cities' Analysis conducted for the Oakland Dept of Transportation's East Oakland Mobility Action Plan

Highlights of Major Housing Policies Enacted, 2014–2022

Tenant Anti-Displacement			
2015	Housing Equity Roadmap	Housing action plan and policy framework.	Housing Justice Coalition & Oakland City Council
2016	Measure JJ	Expanded Just Cause eviction protections	Tenant Rights Coalition & Voters
2018	Measure W	Established a tax on vacant property to raise \$10 million a year for housing, homeless services and blight abatement.	Oakland voters
2018	Anti-Displacement Program	“Oakland Housing Secure,” legal, outreach, counseling, and emergency financial assistance to low-income tenants & homeowners.	BCAN Coalition & City Housing
2019	Equal Access to Housing Ordinance	Prohibited property owners from discriminating against tenants receiving government-issued housing assistance (e.g., Section 8).	Coalition & Oakland City Council
2020	Fair Chance to Housing Ordinance	Prohibited property owners from considering an applicant’s criminal history when seeking housing.	Just Cities, AUON, FCH Coalition & Oakland City Council
2020	Amendments to Rent Adjustment, Tenant Protection, and Just Cause for Eviction Ordinances	Adopted various amendments to existing ordinances to strengthen protections for renters, including adjusting maximum rent increases to be consistent with state law and prohibiting property owners from unreasonably refusing requests by tenants to add roommates.	ACCE, APEN, CJC, OTU, EBHO, Oakland Rising, SEIU 1021, Oakland City Council

Major Housing Policies Enacted, 2014-2022

Low-Income Homeowners Anti-Displacement

2016	Oaklander preferences	Updated housing preferences policy to give Oakland residents (existing and recently displaced) and employees first priority in the City's First-Time Homebuyer Mortgage Assistance Program and in City-funded affordable housing.	Oakland City Council
2018	Measure X	Direct financial support land purchases for Affordable homeownership opportunities-	Oakland voters.
2022	Protect Affordable Homeownership via Single family preservation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Single family preservation- about two dozen low-income homeowners helped each year with home repairs, accessibility improvements and lead safety work. Oakland also administers a program to help 2-5-unit buildings with seismic safety work. 	

Increase Affordable Housing Funding

2016	Measure A1 & KK	County \$580 million & Oakland \$100 million for affordable housing.	Electeds & voters
2016	Affordable Housing Impact Fee	Development impact fee on market-rate housing to generate funding for affordable housing. Expected to raise \$65 million over 10 years.	Oakland City Council
2021	NOFA for Housing Preservation (Acquisition and Conversion to Affordable Housing)	\$10.6 million in 2021. This included a \$4.2 million carveout for land trusts and limited equity cooperatives.	

Major Housing Policies Enacted, 2014-2022

Zoning			
2016	Zoning for Transitional and Supportive Housing	Zoning code changes to allow Transitional and Supportive Housing in all zones where residential activities are allowed. (State law mandated.)	Oakland City Council
2020	Condo Conversion Ordinance updated	Expanded the Condo Conversion Ordinance to cover 2-4 unit buildings citywide.	Oakland City Council
2020	Recreational Vehicle (RV) Pilot Program	Created a pilot program to allow residential occupancy of no more than one recreational vehicle on private, vacant land as an alternative low-cost housing solution.	Oakland City Council

POTENTIAL NEW HOUSING POLICIES

City Ideas in Development

Tenant Opportunity to Purchase Act (TOPA) (to require landlords selling property to provide tenants with first right of purchase)

Inclusionary Zoning Policy (to require market rate housing to include about 10-15% of units to be affordable)

Public Land for Affordable Housing Policy (City owned vacant land to be prioritized for affordable housing)

Proactive Rental Inspection Policy (to improve blighted homes through annual code enforcement inspections)

Community Ideas (in development)

Human Health/Socioeconomic Impacts Analysis (require public analysis of displacement/homelessness impacts of market rate projects prior to City providing permits or any zoning changes)

Housing Affordability Requirement (prioritize City permitting of housing projects that are affordable to neighborhood residents)

Zoning Equity Policy (only provide zoning changes for developers in exchange for housing affordability)

Increase Housing Impact Fees (increase the current fees charged to market rate development projects that are then used for affordable housing projects)

Housing Commission & Neighborhood Planning Councils (Structure for ongoing resident leadership on what housing gets developed)



Crash Course on The City of Oakland Homeless Industrial Complex

*An overview of the homeless crisis in Oakland,
City interventions, and what is actually needed*

By The Village In Oakland

How did we get here? What are the systemic drivers of the homelessness crisis?

Systematically houslessness is woven into the fabric of this county from its inception.

For the colonies and the rest of the U.S to be created, the Native Americans, were forced into homelessness thru colonization and land theft. Native Americans are the first unhoused population in the U.S.

The systematic creation of homelessness continued thru the creation and implementation slavery and then the Jim Crowe law that made any and all things Black folks do a crime. It is maintained and based on a false and inhumane notion that profits and property are more important that human life, especially Black lives. Whether that be redlining, predatory loans, predatory foreclosures, or gentrification.



There is a stereotype created during the former U.S. President Ronald Reagan's reign that to this day persists. When Reagan de-funded and shut down all public mental health facilities in the 1980's, millions of people living in those facilities were forced on the streets. During this time Reagan also defunded all veterans outreach programs, leaving veterans returning from the Vietnam War with limited access to housing, mental health support and other direct services. This is where the stereotype that all unhoused people are struggling with mental health issues originates.

The Reagan administration also flooded the urban areas with crack cocaine and declared a war on drugs, but it was really a war to make sure Black and Brown communities did not continue to organize for self-determination and justice. One of the impacts of the crack epidemic was the destabilization of the family and home, which lead to homelessness. This is where the stereotype that all unhoused people are drug addicts emerged from.

In the 2000s, blight ordinances and new public housing laws took away housing options for entire multi-generational families. School closures forced families to leave Oakland. Gang injunctions prevented residents from living in the neighborhoods they grew up in. Predatory loans and foreclosures found homeowners suddenly homeless.

Mental health matters. People matter. YOU matter. I can't fight my battle alone, and you don't have to either. Reach out!



Fast forward to 2022 - Every night, more than 150,000 people go to sleep homeless in California. **An estimated 30,000 of them are in the San Francisco Bay Area. According to the latest point in time count, more than 4,000 people are unhoused in Oakland.**

We estimate that number is closer to 14,000. At this point, people from coast to coast know that the Bay Area is in the midst of a housing crisis.

Unhoused residents of the millennium are gentrification's economic & racial refugees.

- Exceedingly 70% of Oakland's unhoused are Black adults ages 24-75, (as compared with 24% of all Oaklanders are African American). A majority are no-income seniors. A significant population is Native American, Central American and South American.
- Women & children fleeing domestic violence become unhoused. LGBTQ youth rejected by family become homeless.
- Hundreds of undocumented folks and refugees, veterans, formerly incarcerated, or sick cannot secure housing & end up curbside. Many struggle with mental-health issues, including addiction.

None of us can afford "New Oakland" housing. Our demographic is vulnerable, criminalized, neglected, traumatized by our city; but resilient.





Oakland has shanty towns and slums, tent cities, vehicle communities. Another very public community of unhoused folks live in the city's tuff shed/palette homes/rv communities. Although these are the most visible of oakland's unhoused residents they do not make up a majority. A majority of oakland unhoused live isolated in vehicles, in hidden areas along the freeways, are nomadic during the day and sleep on buses and couch surf, live in shelters.

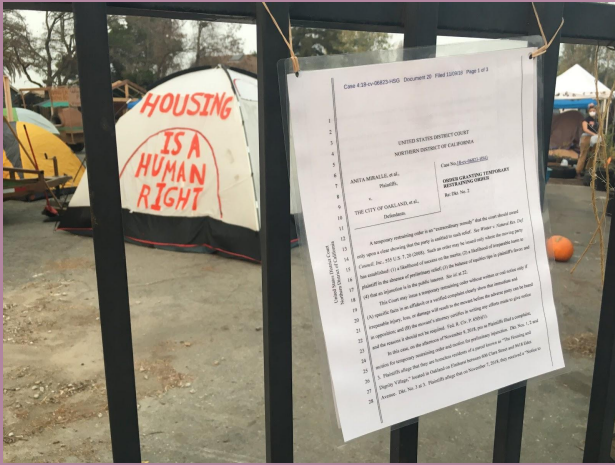
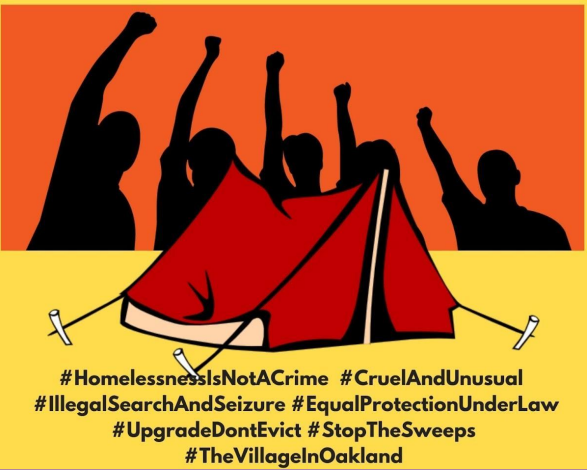
Most folks living in the streets **do not have access to clean water, power, sanitation, safety, stability.**

Illegal dumping, housed predators exploiting the unhoused for illegal capitalism, and **violence** plague the visible communities.

Access to **permanent housing, mental health services, medical health services, job training and job opportunities, mail services, laundry services, advocacy** and **support navigating thru systems** are what folks are in high need of



I AM PROTECTED BY
THE 4TH, 8TH & 14TH AMENDMENTS!
I CANNOT BE MOVED,
STOLEN FROM OR CITED!



As we fight for unhoused people's civil rights and human rights, it is important that we understand the current practices and policies that government use are discriminatory.

Discrimination is what is motivating the violations of our rights. It makes the approaches legally and morally wrong. And it means that the politicians and their agents are using their positions of power to harm the population they are discriminating against. This is systemic abuse.



Criminalizing the unhoused and approaching us with the attitude that we are disposable, informs what interventions are and how they are carried out.



What does the approach of criminalization do?

- Already criminalized population
- Trauma
- Informs the policies and practices
- Informs the treatment of the unhoused
- Informs the quality of the interventions
- Mired with corruption and mismanagement



The Encampment Management Policy

Oakland's approach to homelessness starts and is grounded in the false assertion that evictions of curbside communities is inevitable. Curbside communities are classified as illegal. Police are part of every clean-up and eviction operation. Evictions and clean and clears are undignified, unnecessarily violent and traumatic. The Police Department is tasked with ensuring and maintaining a safe work zone for staff from Public Works who perform cleaning and clearing operations at encampments.

Critical gear for survival, important documents, irreplaceable items, things needed for employment or work are thrown away.

And a huge police presence is used that intimidates residents from speaking up and detaining residents who protest the evictions. Detained residents are released without charges when the eviction is complete



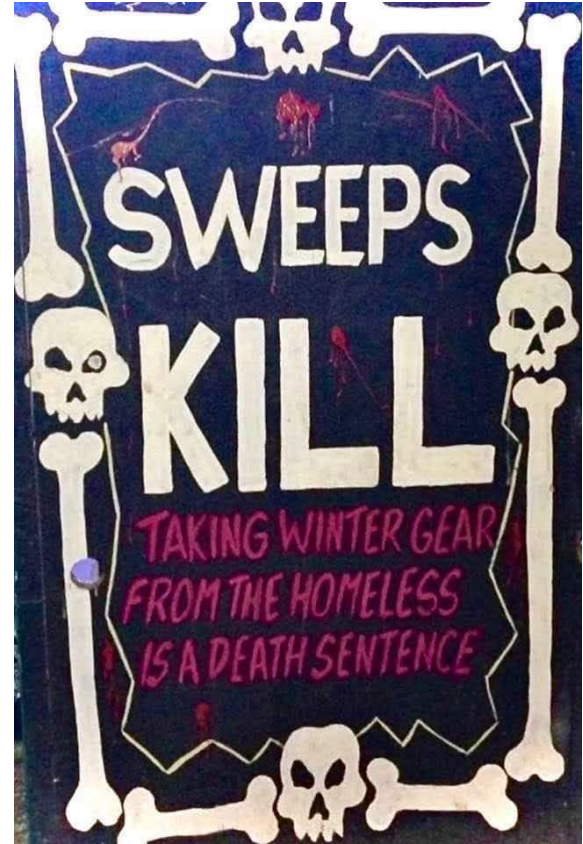
Using police means a large percentage of residents on parole or probation do not have the right to protest the eviction. And undocumented folks are also fearful of ICE and deportation.

The city's tactic is to herd people onto remote lands where residents are out of sight out of mind, or onto lands where there are existing curbside communities that are asserting their rights. This dismantles and causes so much chaos that all organizing efforts are sabotaged.

Also, the city DOES issue citations for vehicle dwellers, and – with a few exceptions – the city does not address vehicle dwellers and vehicle settlements as “unhoused” but as vehicular offenses.

Evictions and tows have led to at least 7 deaths we have documented.

As standard practice is people are left on the side of the road with nothing, many freezing to death. One resident after having receiving an eviction notice for the fourth tiny home he built himself declared if the city bulldozed this last home he would kill himself. The city bulldozed his home and he indeed killed himself. The evictions and town cause all sorts of health and safety issues, including increased drug use. In december 2022, Village Interim Executive Director Needa Bee suffered a heart attack when the city towed our vehicles. And during COVID, evictions help increase the spread of covid. Tho the city claims there was moratorium on all evictions and tows this is not true. We have documented hundreds of vehicles towed and several encampments have been evicted and then re-evicted during the pandemic.



ACCORDING TO AN AUDIT DONE OF THE ENCAMPMENT MANAGEMENT TEAM, BY THE CITY OF OAKLAND AUDITOR:

The audit (released in 2021) estimates that the City incurred approximately **\$12.6 million in direct costs associated with encampment activities** in FY 2018-19 and FY 2019-20.

These interventions included a total of approximately **500 closures, re-closures, and cleanings.**

Most of these millions were unbudgeted and most of these costs were not tracked.

From what was tracked, \$1,500 per hour is spent on evictions in Oakland. Evictions include massive police presence.



Other City Interventions (2017–2022)

- 5 Tuff Shed Sites
- 1 safe park site
- 1 RV park site
- Hotel voucher program
- Porta Potties and hand washing stations
- 2 palette home sites
- Shelter beds
- 2 Navigation centers
- New ordinance allows landowners to rent driveways/backyards for RVs and tiny homes
- Alternative Dwelling Units
- The new intervention is the proposed ordinance to ban “oversized vehicles”

These interventions are not working well, or mismanaged, are nowhere close to scale, and all temporary.

There is no permanent housing built into Oakland unhoused interventions.



What is something that policy makers and others don't understand about the perspectives or experiences of unhoused people?

We are **experts in our own survival** and what we need to get out of this situation.

We are **not inherently criminal**. We are **not inherently helpless**.

Those of us who know our rights, and still **maintain our dignity** only become the enemy because we threaten political careers and economic and political agendas and egos.

The unhoused are **not a monolithic group** that there are many reasons why people ended up on the streets and as many paths off the streets as there are people.

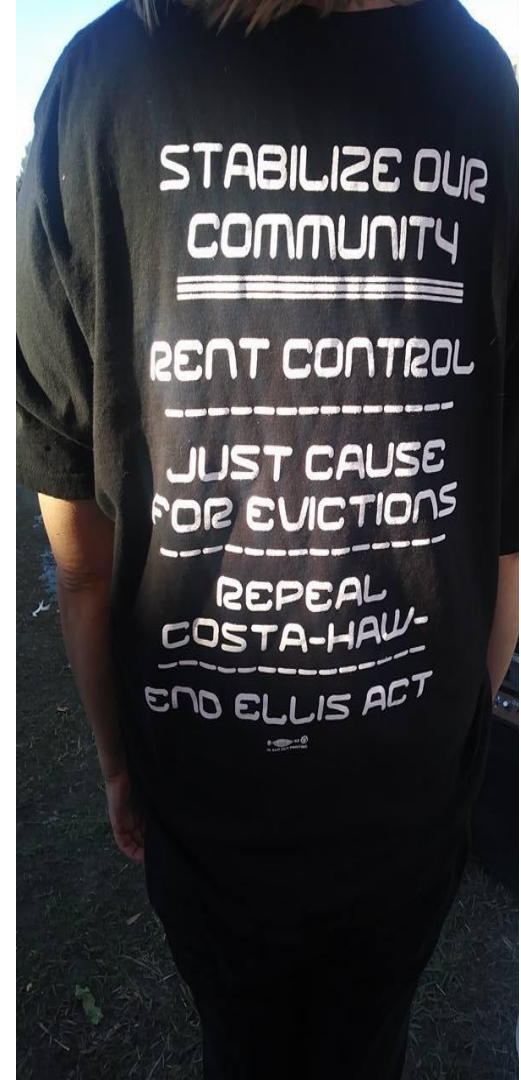
Homelessness is not a crime. A society that does not thing while the government creates homelessness are the criminals.
Drug addiction is not a crime, it's a mental health crisis.

The only reason organizations like the village exist is because the **government has failed to meet the basic needs of its most marginalized communities**.



We know that homelessness is solvable.
What are key policy solutions we need to be pursuing?

- **Moratorium on gentrification** & adopt a new development model not rooted in displacement and grounded in investing in marginalized communities.
- **Mandate percentages in inclusionary clauses** and do not allow developers to opt out
- **Revamp the HUD “affordability” formula;** Reinvest and expand public and subsidize housing; free up or build housing below 30% market rate.
- **Adopt an “Accommodation Now Policy” & “Co-Governed Settlement Guidelines”**
- **Upgrade and fix the shelter bed system.**
- **Treat vehicle dwellers and vehicle communities as unhoused residents,** not vehicle offenders.
- **Create and enforce public land policies that serve the greatest needs of the most marginalized** rather than sell to highest bidder.



Q+A and Discussion

Breakout Group Discussion Questions

Here's the link to the powerpoint: www.justcities.work/ogp

Housing and Homelessness

1. What questions do you have for us?
2. What are your housing priorities for the City to address?
3. What solutions have you pushed for/what would you like to see? You can refer to the ones on **Slide 25 and 40**.

Environmental Justice

1. What questions do you have for us?
2. What EJ issues are you experiencing & what do you think is causing it?
3. Is there an area that should be marked as an EJ community (red cross hatch) that isn't? See **Slide 49**.
4. What solutions have you pushed for/what would you like to see? Any from the list of proposed policy ideas we shared earlier? You can refer to the ones on **Slide 47**.