

Community Education Workshop #1

Event: Community Education Workshop #1: Housing and Environmental Justice

Location: Virtual on Zoom

Date/Time: 4/8/2022 at 9:30AM to 11:00AM

Number of people reached: 70

- 70 attendees

Event Description: Members of Deeply facilitated one of two virtual community education workshops on housing and environmental justice to review the past and present policies that led to today's conditions. The workshop informed people what the General Plan is and grounded community members and City staff in current and historical issues related to housing. With this background information and space to share feedback on potential policies, we are working to ensure that residents, whose voices have not historically been part of the process, get to contribute to the development of the General Plan.

The workshop was a collaboration between Just Cities, EastSide Arts Alliance, West Oakland Environmental Indicators Project, and The Village. Elena Serrano of EastSide Arts Alliance provided grounding on what is the General Plan. Margaretta Lin of Just Cities presented on housing conditions and past policies, as well as potential new policies. Needa Bee of The Village presented on conditions and issues among the unhoused community and potential new policies. Open conversation among participants at the end of the workshop, as well as the chat function throughout offered space for residents to share feedback. Interpretation in Spanish and Cantonese was provided. Deeply Rooted staff pointed attendees to the City's [Oakland General Plan website](#) and [Just Cities website](#) for more information.

[Presentation slides](#) and Workshop recording ([English](#), [Spanish](#), and [Cantonese](#)) are available on the City's website.

Engagement Approach: 1) Pose questions to participants about their experiences living in Oakland, especially around housing and environmental justice, and what policies they would like to see.

Demographics: The Deeply Rooted in Oakland Partnership is committed to reaching people who have not traditionally been part of planning processes. To outreach for this workshop, Deeply Rooted members sent an event flyer to their networks and the City sent out the flyer to their OGP listserv and posted on the City website. Members of the Equity Working group also attended. Deeply Rooted did not collect demographic information for this particular workshop, but across events we hope to reach youth, older adults, LGBTQ+ persons, persons with disabilities, formerly incarcerated persons, unhoused folks,

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tenants/renters, homeowners, low-income persons, and people experiencing environmental injustices.

Engagement Summary

The following is a summary of the main points that community members brought up during the event. Points under each topic are ordered by most to least mentioned.

HOUSING

HOUSING AFFORDABILITY

Issues:

- City overproduction of market-rate housing and not producing enough low income housing

Solutions:

- **Affordable Housing**
 - Track RHNA goals for extremely low income (30% MHI and below)
 - Focus on building new housing only for those who need it
 - Focus on acquisition and rehab, rather than new construction
 - More incentives to build affordable housing
- **Market rate:**
 - Moratorium on market rate housing development
 - Update impact fees to cover construction of affordable housing units

DISPLACEMENT

Issues:

- **Racial displacement** of Black families in West Oakland while white population has significantly increased (411% from 2000 to 2018).

Solutions:

- **Reparations** to redress the City's history of eminent domain seizures and "urban renewal"

HOMELESSNESS

● **Issues:**

- Tow fees are cost-prohibitive and make unhoused conditions more severe/unsafe

CITY LEADERSHIP AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

"Sadly too often our leaders / politicians see \$\$\$ instead of people."

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CITY LEADERSHIP

- **Issues:**

- Prioritization of money over people from leaders and politicians.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- **Solutions:**

- Encouragement to advocate for future policies during the public comment period and at Planning Commission and City Council hearings.

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Appendix: Zoom Chat from Workshop Session

- 09:18:37 From Liana Molina : I'm disconnecting from my phone and trying to hop on on my computer. Pls let me in. Thank you.
- 09:19:10 From Reinaldi Gilder : reinaldi gilder - community health worker - peer to peer specialists - Alameda County Care Connect- Oakland resident. district 1
- 09:19:37 From Melody Chang, EastSide Arts Alliance : If you just joined, welcome! Please go to the Interpretation icon at the bottom of your Zoom window and select a language
- 09:22:36 From Liana Molina : The black cultural zone serves more of the eastmont / seminary area, I suggest you all consider engaging roots community health center to help reach deep east, like 98th to the San Leandro border...
- 09:26:41 From David Peters, WOCAN : is there such a thing as a zoning/land use designation that = affordable/workforce housing?
- 09:29:41 From Melody Chang, EastSide Arts Alliance : Welcome! We have interpretation in Spanish and Cantonese for this meeting. If you just joined the meeting, please go to the Interpretation icon at the bottom of your Zoom window and select a language
- 09:29:53 From Janny Castillo : another population that needs to be identified is 30% and below - significant unique barriers to housing exits
- 09:30:23 From DONNA HumanGood : Good Morning Donna Griggs Murphy
- 09:30:35 From Janny Castillo : hi donna
- 09:30:41 From Melody Chang, EastSide Arts Alliance : Good morning Donna!
- 09:30:51 From David Peters, WOCAN : What is the household size associated with the AMI levels in the table? 4? 2?
- 09:31:34 From Emily Wheeler : We need a moratorium on market rate housing!
- 09:31:44 From Nora they/them : Agreed Emily!
- 09:32:10 From DONNA HumanGood : Yes Indeed Moratorium
- 09:33:01 From Tanya Boyce : Or maybe review and update in lieu fees to level that actual cover the construction of the affordable units
- 09:34:30 From SANDRA UE : will we have access to the slides after the meeting?
- 09:34:55 From Diana Benitez, Just Cities : Yes! You can access them right now at www.justcities.work/ogp
- 09:35:02 From Emily Wheeler : Hasn't the city already met its market-rate housing goals, even for this cycle?
- 09:35:17 From Tanya Boyce : inclusionary housing is an illusion without meaningful in-lieu fees
- 09:35:28 From Janny Castillo : the city is way over market rate goals. lets get deep into why we are not producing low income housing.
- 09:35:53 From DONNA HumanGood : Yes Janny!!!

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- 09:36:10 From Emily Wheeler : We are also in an environmental apocalypse — we should make sure that ANY new housing we are building is absolutely necessary to house people who need it. We should focus on acquisition and rehab.
- 09:36:46 From SANDRA UE : market rate housing = more \$\$ from taxing residents, residents who can afford higher price point in everything local (stores, restaurants, services, etc)... ultimately it attracts more / higher \$\$
- 09:37:20 From SANDRA UE : so it's always more profitable all around to increase market rate housing
- 09:38:14 From SANDRA UE : we need to figure out how to mitigate that
- 09:38:26 From Tanya Boyce : what would Oakland look like if every new development actually included the affordable housing units they were able to in-lieu their way out of?
- 09:38:48 From Needa Bee, The Village : are slides changing on screen for everyone? my screen is still on slide 12
- 09:39:03 From SANDRA UE : whether it's offering more incentives to build more affordable housing... but that alone won't cut it... too much pressure all around to keep attracting higher \$\$
- 09:39:08 From Janny Castillo : yes they are changing, needa
- 09:39:25 From Melody Chang, EastSide Arts Alliance : We are on the Racial Displacement slide now
- 09:39:32 From David Peters, WOCAN : Do we have that same racialized housing burden data for Black vs other home buyers?
- 09:39:39 From Needa Bee, The Village : thank you
- 09:40:22 From Janny Castillo : does that include the unsheltered AA who live outside?
- 09:41:24 From David Peters, WOCAN : 411% increase in WO White population.....
- 09:41:42 From Shamar Theus : 😊
- 09:47:45 From David Peters, WOCAN : When do we talk about municipal reparations to redress Oakland's history of eminent domain seizures and "urban renewal"?
- 09:48:57 From Beth Altshuler Munoz : @Needa - not sure if you're still having slide issues, but looks like you can see them here:
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1a90VklUS2wluTFvjYAptjUVGARCF85L-/view>
- 09:49:04 From Beth Altshuler Munoz : Or sign out and sign back in.
- 09:49:39 From Kathy Kojimoto : Sorry came in late, will the entire discussion be available later to view
- 09:50:51 From Diana Benitez, Just Cities : Yes, we will be sharing English, Spanish and Cantonese recordings on the City's website and we will email all who registered as well.
- 09:52:47 From TERI CARLYLE : We need those to reopen 😞
- 09:53:01 From Margaretta Lin, She/Her, Just Cities : Dear all—lots of great ideas and questions in the Chat! We don't have time today to address all of these, but will provide more information in the follow-up email to participants after this workshop.

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- 09:53:12 From Sangeeta Sarkar, Save The Bay : Did the audio just cut out for anyone else?
- 09:53:25 From liana, she/her (build affordable faster) : Her audio is cutting in and out
- 09:53:32 From SANDRA UE : can't hear Needa
- 09:53:44 From liana, she/her (build affordable faster) : Can hear you now
- 09:54:08 From Shamar Theus : Start talkin about the feds and your audio gets cut 😂
typical, Big Brother...
- 09:55:39 From liana, she/her (build affordable faster) : That part ^^
- 09:56:20 From TERI CARLYLE : it's disrespectful 😞
- 10:10:43 From Shamar Theus : just look at the bulldozers and garbage trucks! smdh
- 10:11:28 From Shamar Theus : Auto Plus NEEDS TO GO! Biggest auto theft ring in Oakland...
- 10:11:56 From Shamar Theus : RIP my old pickup 🚗💔
- 10:11:57 From SANDRA UE : tow fees around \$200, plus storage fee of around \$100 per day... if the owner is unhoused where do they come up w/ that to get the car back
- 10:13:05 From SANDRA UE : the impound lot keeps the veh around for a few wks then they salvage / sell the car to make their \$\$
- 10:17:47 From liana, she/her (build affordable faster) : Couldn't we have housed people for \$12M?! Wtf?!
- 10:18:01 From TERI CARLYLE : right liana
- 10:24:51 From liana, she/her (build affordable faster) : Thanks so much for the presentations
- 10:25:16 From liana, she/her (build affordable faster) : I thought we were going until 11?
- 10:25:31 From Champ Green : very powerful and informative!!!
- 10:25:39 From Melody Chang, EastSide Arts Alliance : Until 10:30a
- 10:25:43 From Sangeeta Sarkar, Save The Bay : Will Miss Margaret's presentation tomorrow be recorded?
- 10:25:51 From Melody Chang, EastSide Arts Alliance : Yes @Sangeeta
- 10:25:52 From liana, she/her (build affordable faster) : Was this a 2 part workshop? I thought it was a repeat of the same session 😂
- 10:25:57 From Sangeeta Sarkar, Save The Bay : Thanks Melody!
- 10:26:14 From Reinaldi Gilder : great presentation
- 10:26:48 From Shamar Theus : Excellent presentation, hopefully the city planners who are actually leading this process listen and take heed...
- 10:26:50 From Allie Whitehurst : I agree that the homelessness segment should be a workshop.
- 10:27:04 From Naru Kwina : Will the link we used today, also work tomorrow?

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- 10:27:11 From Priscilla Hoang : Please send us a recording from tomorrow's session so we can review the EJ portion! :-)
- 10:27:18 From Melody Chang, EastSide Arts Alliance : @Liana, yes that is correct and was the plan, but today we ran out of time. Tomorrow we will change the order to ensure that Environmental Justice is discussed and recorded
- 10:27:29 From liana, she/her (build affordable faster) : Got it. Thanks!
- 10:27:34 From Diane Sanchez : Yes the homelessness presentation needs to be separate with them for questions etc
- 10:28:18 From SANDRA UE : yes, sadly too often our leaders / politicians see \$\$\$ instead of people
- 10:28:23 From Juan Diego Castro : <https://bit.ly/ogpdrw49>
- 10:28:26 From Juan Diego Castro : tomorrow's link
- 10:28:37 From Diana Benitez, Just Cities : <https://bit.ly/ogpdrw49>
- 10:28:52 From Allie Whitehurst : How does this information inform the general plan?
- 10:28:53 From Melody Chang, EastSide Arts Alliance : Register to receive the zoom link for tomorrow ^
- 10:30:52 From David Peters, WOCAN : Berkeley's criteria to score applicants for the housing under its Equity plan is interesting...
- 10:33:36 From Jeff Levin, EBHO : People should continue to advocate for the policies they want during the public comment period and at the Planning Commission and City Council hearings. The City has to respond to public comments..
- 10:34:14 From liana, she/her (build affordable faster) : Thank you, Bill, and I agree, Jeff.
- 10:34:23 From David Peters, WOCAN : ^^ Thanks, Jeff
- 10:34:29 From Melody Chang, EastSide Arts Alliance : Thank you all!
- 10:34:32 From Lakshmi Rajagopalan, She/Her, Oakland Planning and Building : Thank you!
- 10:34:39 From Lisa Evans : Thank you!
- 10:34:42 From Priscilla Hoang : Thank you!
- 10:34:48 From Sangeeta Sarkar, Save The Bay : Thank you all so much!
- 10:34:50 From Claire Pelley, She/Her, Cultural Affairs Commission : Thank you!
- 10:34:53 From Naru Kwina : Thank you, great information
- 10:34:53 From David Peters, WOCAN : Thanks for having this session, Deeply Rooted!
- 10:35:04 From Juan Diego Castro : Thank you all, I will see you tomorrow (missed some of the start)
- 10:35:07 From Nora they/them : Gotta run, thanks for everything!
- 10:35:09 From DONNA HumanGood : Thank you all
- 10:35:13 From TERI CARLYLE : yessssssssss Diana and Melody

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10:35:15 From liana, she/her (build affordable faster) : Yes, thanks to all who helped organize this learning session. Appreciate your work and all the info!

10:35:18 From David Harris - Urban Strategies Council : Thank you!