

January 8, 2021

Greetings Neighbor,

It's an understatement to say that 2020 has been a year like no other. A pandemic that has taken the lives of tens of thousands of people in our state and 350,000 nationwide and counting, and led to serious economic impacts throughout our city and across the country. The murder of George Floyd and so many others over the years and decades that has sparked and bolstered a nationwide movement to reform and rethink policing and violence prevention. The growing population of homeless residents whose needs are not yet fully being met to say the least. Not to mention a serious climate crisis that impacts and can impact all of us in Oakland and well beyond--most recently in the form of large wildfires up and down our state.

The new year is upon us. This past Monday, the new and returning city councilmembers were sworn into office, and I am honored to be among them. City Attorney Barbara Parker was also sworn in again. Congrats to Councilmember Nikki Fortunato Bas on being elected as our new City Council President.

And here's hoping that 2021 will foster positive change for everyone. Locally, we can't just hope for change. We have to make it happen. It likely will require lobbying and working closely with our federal, state and regional partners. In spite of the recent horrific sedition and rioting in the nation's capital, I am hopeful that the Biden-Harris Administration and Congress will look favorably toward funding additional assistance to local governments, residents and small businesses. I am also hopeful to see an infrastructure package come out of Washington D.C. this year that could benefit Oakland and the East Bay.



While I'm proud of our accomplishments on housing affordability, police oversight, climate justice, governmental ethics and more, there is more work to do. We must meet our challenges head-on and 'build' on our successes. This includes identifying and creating many more affordable housing units—especially for people in our city most in need. And as we come out of the pandemic emergency some time later this year, we must ensure that people are not displaced from our city. This includes protecting our renters from displacement as well as doing what it takes to stem off any potential foreclosure crisis.

We must not accept as 'normal' the serious crime rate that our residents had endured over the past year and-a-half. And however we may reimagine public safety and violence prevention, it must assist in and be consistent with reducing violent crime. That is critical.

We must do what we can to partner with our school district leaders—elected school board members, parents, teachers and students to help our students throughout every part of our city succeed. And we must do our part to stem the climate crisis and do it in a manner that incorporates equity as a centerpiece of our strategy and be a model for other cities across the country.

We have economic challenges as well to say the least—including our own city budget, but also the economic challenges people face due to the pandemic shelter-in-place emergency. The budget challenges will require very difficult choices, and seeking additional revenue to maintain and eventually strengthen city services must be on the table. But even with that, we will have difficult choices to make now and when our next two-year budget comes up for adoption later this year.

"We must meet the challenge rather than wish it were not before us."

—William J. Brennan, Jr., former Associate Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court

If you are able, please join me on Monday afternoon, Jan. 18th to donate blood at the Red Cross Blood Center (see below for details). Wishing everyone a Happy and Healthy New Year for 2021.

Staffing Changes! I want to take this opportunity to thank my hard-working staff—Deidra, Lisa, and Seth—for their great work over the past year. I am sorry to report that Lisa Jacobs will be leaving my staff this month, and I wish her good luck on her new adventures. Best wishes Lisa and thank you for your good work. I am happy to report that Olga Bolotina, my former chief of staff, will be coming back to my office full-time for at least the next six months. I also want to acknowledge and thank our entire City of Oakland staff in every city department for their work week-in and week-out for the people of Oakland--particularly during this challenging pandemic emergency.

-Dan

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Farewell message from Lisa Jacobs: This is my last newsletter for Councilmember Kalb. After 2-½ years serving the constituents of District 1 and managing the Councilmember's newsletter and website, I am leaving Dan's office to pursue new goals. I have really enjoyed keeping residents informed of City and District news, especially this past year. With my public health background, it has been an honor to help residents keep up to date on the serious challenges posed by Covid-19 and Alameda County's response.

Thanks to all who have appreciated this newsletter, and thank you to Councilmember Kalb for giving me this opportunity to work for the people of Oakland.

-Lisa

January 18th - North Oakland Blood Drive

***Did you know that donating one pint of blood can save up to 3 lives?! I am once again sponsoring my annual local SAVE A LIFE **BLOOD DRIVE** on Dr. Martin Luther King, jr. Day of Service in partnership with the American Red Cross. If you are eligible, please join us for a great opportunity to contribute to your community and help save lives:

When: Monday, January 18th from 12:15–2:15pm and 3:30–5:15pm

Where: American Red Cross Center at 6230 Claremont Avenue in North Oakland

If you are available and able to donate, please send an e-mail to Deidra Moss at dmosso@oaklandca.gov or call **510-238-3557** to sign up in advance for a time slot and help save a life. We encourage those who are available to take a moment to [read helpful eligibility requirements information](#). Click here [for information about COVID precautions](#). All COVID safety protocols are adhered to at the Blood Center.



**Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service
Sponsored by City Councilmember Dan Kalb**

Save A Life BLOOD DRIVE

Monday, January 18, 2021

12:15 pm - 2:15 pm & 3:30 pm - 5:15 pm

**Location: American Red Cross Blood Donation Center
6230 Claremont Avenue, Oakland 94618**

***To schedule your appointment slot, contact Deidra Moss at (510) 238-3557 or dmosso@oaklandca.gov

For information on eligibility, including traveling outside the U.S. within the past 12 months, please call 1-800-733-2767 or go to <https://www.redcrossblood.org/donate-blood/how-to-donate/types-of-blood-donations/whole-blood-donation.html>

For information about COVID precautions, go to <https://www.redcrossblood.org/donate-blood/dlp/coronavirus-covid-19-and-blood-donation.html>



Congratulations to New Councilmembers; Committee Members appointed

Warm Congratulations to our two newly-elected City Councilmembers **Ms. Carroll Fife**, representing District 3 and **Ms. Treva Reid**, representing District 7. They were sworn in at a

special ceremony on Monday January 4, with returning Councilmembers: **Dan Kalb** (District 1), **Noel Gallo** (District 5) and **Rebecca Kaplan** (At-Large). Congratulations also to **Barbara Parker**, who was re-elected as our City Attorney.

In her first duty, Council President Bas announced Committee appointments as follows:

Committee	Leadership and Members
Finance and Management	Chairperson: Rebecca Kaplan Members: Nikki Fortunato Bas, Treva Reid, Sheng Thao
Public Works	Chairperson: Noel Gallo Members: Dan Kalb , Loren Taylor, Sheng Thao
Community and Economic Development (CED)	Chairperson: Dan Kalb Members: Carroll Fife, Noel Gallo, Loren Taylor
Life Enrichment	Chairperson: Loren Taylor Members: Nikki Fortunato Bas, Carroll Fife, Rebecca Kaplan
Public Safety	Chairperson: Carroll Fife Members: Noel Gallo, Rebecca Kaplan, Treva Reid
Rules and Legislation	Chairperson: Sheng Thao Members: Nikki Fortunato Bas, Carroll Fife, Dan Kalb
City Port Liaison	Chairperson: Rebecca Kaplan Members: Nikki Fortunato Bas, Carroll Fife, Treva Reid
Education Partnership	Chairperson: Treva Reid Members: Noel Gallo, Dan Kalb , Loren Taylor

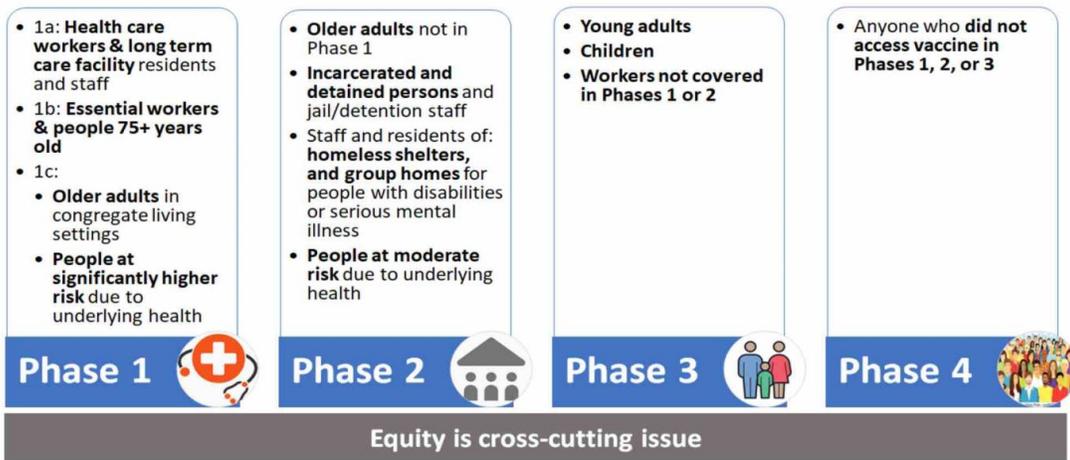
COVID-19 Update

According to the [Alameda County Health Care Services Office](#), as of January 6, Alameda County had 55,441 total cumulative COVID-19 cases, 681 total deaths and 424 current hospitalizations. From a peak of 48 cases/day per 100,000 residents on December 18, the county is currently averaging 35.5 cases/day per 100,000 residents. Health officials caution that the impact of holiday travel is not yet clear, and these numbers may rise. The County is currently has less than 19% adult ICU capacity. However, given that the Bay Area is at 7.4% capacity and Southern California counties are experiencing even greater shortages (they may be sending patients our way), County health officials expect the Governor to extend the current Bay Area Stay at Home Order and cannot predict at the current moment when it might be lifted. They anticipate more information will be available next week so the timeline may become clearer then.

Despite current COVID-19 circumstances, there is a sense of hope now that Alameda County has started vaccinations; the County has received over 60,000 vaccine doses to date. For the first round of doses, the County [prioritized first responders and hospital staff at the highest risk](#) of contracting COVID-19. The County is currently vaccinating Phase 1a / Tiers 1 & 2 populations (see below). **The County Vaccination plan can be [downloaded at this link](#)**; to see how the County will prioritize populations at risk, [download the full presentation](#).

Vaccine Prioritization Framework

- ❖ **Alameda County is following Federal and State recommendations, which change from time to time**
- ❖ Timing through each phase depends on vaccine supply and demand
- ❖ Local health depts. have *some* discretion within phases, but cannot skip phases or go out of order



Who's in Phase 1a?

The Public Health Department is reaching out to eligible health care workers as vaccine becomes available.

Tier 1 (vaccination started in mid-December):

- Acute care, psychiatric and correctional facility hospital staff
- Staff and residents of skilled nursing facilities, assisted living facilities, and similar settings for older or medically vulnerable individuals
- Paramedics, EMTs and others providing emergency medical services
- Dialysis centers

Tier 2 (vaccination started late December):

- Intermediate Care Facility staff & residents
- Home Health Care/In-Home Supportive Services
- Community Health Workers/Promotoras
- Public Health Field Staff (including Testing Site Staff)
- Primary Care Clinics, including Federally Qualified Health Centers, Rural Health Centers, Correctional Facility Clinics & Urgent Care Clinics

Tier 3 (vaccination not yet started):

- Specialty Clinics
- Laboratory Workers
- Dental/Oral Health Clinics
- Pharmacy Staff (non-Hospital)

While the City of Oakland does not have decision-making authority regarding vaccine distribution, City leadership is working very closely with County health officials, building upon the collaboration and lessons learned in setting up community testing sites. These systems and learnings will hopefully ensure the most efficient, safe and equitable distribution of COVID-19 vaccines for all populations in Oakland.

Vaccine Community Advisory Group

To solicit input from the community, the County has created a [Vaccine Community Advisory group](#) composed of residents and representatives from a variety of organizations across Alameda County to support safe, equitable vaccine distribution. This group is seeking input on: vaccine prioritization, how to build more trust, effective messaging and managing misinformation. All meetings are public and held via Zoom webinar and [Facebook Live](#) and open to the public as

listen-only attendees, with opportunity for public comment & written Q&A. See [this link](#) for minutes from the first meeting (December 21, 2020). The next meeting will be *Tuesday, January 12th, 2021 5-6:30pm* at: <https://zoom.us/j/95182370779>.

Getting Students Back to School?

As you may have heard, at the end of December Governor Newsom rolled out his Administration's plan to get students from kindergarten through sixth grade back in the classroom by early Spring. The Governor's plan seeks to use \$2 billion in one time funding (part of the unexpected surplus) to facilitate school districts to re-open while requiring a rigorous health and safety plan, including regular testing for students and teachers. The state would also provide surgical masks for staff and track each school's reopening status and level of available funding. The State Legislature will need to approve some iteration of this plan.

More information on the components of the plan can be found [here](#), the rationale [here](#), and the data [here](#).

New Grants for Small Businesses and Nonprofits

The [California Office of the Small Business Advocate \(CALOSBA\)](#) is managing the [new \\$500 million California Small Business COVID-19 Relief Grant program](#) for small businesses and non-profits to receive grant funding, ranging from \$5,000 to \$25,000, based on annual revenues.

Applications for Round One opened on Wednesday, December 30, 2020 and will close on **Wednesday, January 13, 2021**. Eligible small businesses and nonprofits may apply at www.CAReliefGrant.com through a [Grant Program Partner](#).

[Get your Test!!](#)

[Community testing sites](#) and [testing events](#) supported by Alameda County are free and open to anyone who needs to get tested. Some testing sites are experiencing increased demand for appointments. You can find a site that has walk-up or onsite registration capacity or contact your health care provider for a test.

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This Pandemic is still with us and each of us still needs to take precautions and respect the safety protocols to protect ourselves and your neighbors. Additional COVID Resources and information can be found here: <https://covid-19.acgov.org/help>.

North Oakland Streets Being Repaved Soon

Almost seven miles of beautiful new streets are coming to North Oakland! Here is a list of streets to be repaved **in the coming months** in D1 (additional streets included the current 3-year plan will be repaved in 2022 - [click here for map](#)).

On each of these streets, contractors will be improving curb ramps and performing sidewalk repairs – including damage caused by City trees (hooray!) as well as other damage. For damage that is not caused by a City tree, this is of course the private property owner's responsibility to address. For these locations, the city plans to send a letter to the property owner with a quote on what it would cost for the city's contractor to repair the sidewalk, which property owners can opt into or hire their

Street being paved	From – To (West–East South–North)
54 th Street	Adeline – Dover
59 th Street	San Pablo – Stanford & Occidental – MLK
60 th Street	Adeline – MLK & Telegraph – Claremont
61 st Street	Vallejo – Stanford & MLK - Telegraph
62 nd Street	Racine – Telegraph
63 rd Street	Vallejo – San Pablo
65 th Street	Telegraph – Dana
Alcatraz Avenue	San Pablo – City Limit (Essex)
Benvenue Avenue	Alcatraz – City Limit (Woolsey)
Canning Street	58 th – 63 rd
Colby Street	Alcatraz – City Limit (Woolsey)
College Avenue	Broadway – City Limit (Alcatraz)
Dana Street	63 rd – Alcatraz
Fairview Street	Shattuck – Wheeler
Genoa Street	Aileen – Adeline
Herzog Street	62 nd to North end (past 65 th)
Los Angeles Street	Aileen – Stanford
McAuley Street	Telegraph – Colby
Miles Avenue	Forest – Patton
North Street	Telegraph – Colby
Occidental Street	South end – 59 th
Peabody Lane	Vallejo – San Pablo
Poirier Street	Dover – Shattuck
Regent Street	Alcatraz – City Limit (Woolsey)
West Street	Grand – 52 nd

own contractor. Information about the program that waives the cost of sidewalk repair for low-income property owners will be included.

We know that many streets that need it are not being repaved – most of the residential streets included in the above list have a pavement condition index (PCI) of less than 7 (out of 100). To see the PCI of your street, [see this map](#) and please let us know about your street so that we may advocate for their inclusion in the next 3 year paving plan.

For more information on Oakland’s paving [see this page](#).

Oakland Restaurant Week - January 7 - 18



In 2021, Oakland Restaurant Week gets upgraded to Oakland Restaurant (and More) Week to celebrate all the businesses and people that have been nourishing Oakland’s communities. During this week, Visit Oakland will be promoting amazing specials from local restaurants, breweries, wineries, food trucks, cafes, pop-ups, dessert spots, caterers, and more!

To participate in Restaurant (and More) Week: Send an email to partnerships@visitoakland.com with your restaurant information, including: if you are doing a special, takeout, delivery, (outdoor dining pending Stay-At-Home restrictions).

There are many great restaurants throughout our city. Please continue to order takeout from Oakland restaurants during the shelter-at-home emergency.

Oakland Trees Are Precious and Protected!



Oakland's urban forest consists of hundreds of thousands of trees including over 200,000 that grow in parks and along streets. An **inventory** of street and park trees is currently underway to count Oakland's trees, funded by a CALFIRE grant. Using this data and community feedback, Oakland will develop its first ever 50 Year Urban Forest Master Plan; estimated completion is March 2022.

Trees growing in the urban landscape provide a variety of benefits in addition to adding beauty to our streets, parks, and open spaces. Trees capture greenhouse gases reducing the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. Trees enhance the environment by absorbing other pollutants, improving air quality, reducing stormwater runoff, preventing erosion, and providing habitat for wildlife. Studies show that trees can provide health benefits for people, such as reducing stress and shortening recovery periods after surgery. Street trees also provide social benefits by slowing traffic and improving walkability.

The City of Oakland has been protecting certain species of trees since 1932 when the first tree protection ordinance was passed. A protected tree is defined as:

- Any coast live oak (*Quercus agrifolia*) 4 inches or larger in diameter, measured 4.5 feet above the ground, on public or private land.
- Any other species of tree 9 inches or larger in diameter, measured 4.5 feet above the ground, on public or private land -- *excluding* Eucalyptus (*Eucalyptus spp.*) and Monterey pines (*Pinus radiata*). Eucalyptus trees, (*Eucalyptus spp.*), widely known to be highly flammable and a fire hazard, are not protected and no permit is required for removal. More info about the challenges with Eucalyptus trees can be found [here](#). Monterey Pines (*Pinus radiata*) are also not protected but the species must be verified by Tree Services prior to removal.
- Redwood trees are also afforded specific protections in Oakland.



The Protected Tree Ordinance requires that a permit be applied for and approved before removing a protected tree. A permit is also required if work might damage or destroy a protected tree. Visit [this page](#) for more information and to [view and print the Non-Development Related Tree Removal Permit Application](#).

Oakland Opens 17 New Homes for Unsheltered Residents

The City of Oakland, in partnership with Bay Area Community Services (BACS), have announced an innovative program that has resulted in the purchase of 17 residential homes for unsheltered residents. Assisted by Project Homekey funds, the City contracted with BACS to purchase and convert 17 homes throughout Oakland to provide new interim housing for more than 100 previously unsheltered residents, the first of whom began moving in this month! [Click here](#) for more information.

And Clifton Hall, adjacent to the California College of the Arts, is now owned by the City of Oakland and has begun to move in homeless families and seniors. More information can be found here: <https://www.oaklandca.gov/news/2020/city-of-oakland-opens-clifton-hall-to-unsheltered-seniors-begins-moving-in-families>.

Contacts:

Dan's [COVID Resources](#) page.

Oakland SeeClickFix - Call 311 - <https://www.oaklandca.gov/services/oak311>

Alameda County Social Services and Referral - Call 211
- <http://211alamedacounty.org/2-1-1-alameda-county-resource-finder/>

Dan Kalb's Council Office - 510-238-7001

OPD Emergencies - 911 (or 510-777-3211)

OPD non-emergencies - 510-777-3333



Oakland Recycling/Waste Collection Hotline - (510) 238-7283 (recycling@oaklandca.gov)

DAN KALB

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