

June 16, 2020

Greetings Neighbor,

Thank you to all who reached out to my office to share your valuable opinions about how the City of Oakland should allocate funding as it relates to crime prevention, public safety and human services.

I have heard from many neighbors who want to reallocate funding from the Oakland Police Department (OPD) to other public service needs. The recent killings of George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor and tragically many others, have reminded many that black men and women are at risk of being killed or abused by law enforcement at an exponentially higher rate than people who are white. It also has led many who have been silently aware of these injustices to use their voices to demand that this rightfully end.

For some, operational and policy reforms within or imposed upon police departments appear to be inadequate to fully address this long-standing problem. Our own police department is not immune to this criticism. While progress certainly has been made over the past several years and OPD is further along in some police reform areas than many other police departments, OPD has yet to achieve full compliance under terms of the federal Negotiated Settlement Agreement (NSA) that requires them to institute major reforms to its internal operations and tangibly affirm its commitment to constitutional policing. As such, I will continue to be a leader in the effort for reforms relating to OPD's use of force policies and the police discipline oversight process.

Importantly, I am strongly supporting allocating funds of over \$1 Million in the upcoming fiscal year to pilot a creative solution that encompasses a civilian mobile crisis unit modeled after Eugene, Oregon's <u>CAHOOTS</u> program. In fact, there is already a draft proposal being floated to create a robust pilot program (called MACRO) in Oakland that would be a civilian alternative to OPD for circumstances relating to mental health. I am fully committed to supporting the initial funding necessary to establish this program in Oakland and to supporting it beyond just this first year.

Additionally, the City of Oakland has certain programs to help reduce violent crime in our city:

- Oakland Unite– Voter-approved Measure Z (2014), for example, funds Oakland Unite, which focuses on interrupting violence and preventing future violence by working with our highest risk community members and neighborhoods to achieve community healing, reductions in gun and genderbased violence, and teenage youth diversion. While Oakland Unite has had success stories, I would support additional funding to expand its presence.
- **Ceasefire** Our <u>Ceasefire</u> program, which coordinates law enforcement, social services, and the community to develop data-driven violence-reduction strategies continues to be a cornerstone of our overall violent crime reduction effort. I would support a reallocation of funds to expand the services side of this very effective program.
- **Dept. of Violence Prevention** Our recently-created Department of Violence Prevention is developing a multi-faceted violence prevention strategy that likely will need brand new funding.

We are in a serious recession and our revenue projections require us to freeze some budgeted positions. Since all departments must share in resolving this challenge, I am calling for a thorough examination of OPD's line-item budget by the City Council and Administration to determine what line-item cuts could be made to OPD's budget that also will (a) preserve OPD's Criminal Investigations Division's capacity to investigate serious and violent crimes, and (b) ensure that 911 response times are <u>not</u> lengthened.

At the same time, it is important that the City Council and Oakland Police Commission move ahead with meaningful reform efforts now. I am pushing forward on the following:

- Ban the use of Carotid Restraints and chokeholds;
- Prohibition on the lateral hiring of sworn officers who have records of serious misconduct;
- Instituting a duty for sworn officers to intervene and for officers and commanders to report serious misconduct by other officers to their superiors.
- Requirement of a verbal warning before shooting.

I am also calling for an independent 360 review of our Police Academy recruitment process and standards.

I hope that this important dialogue continues in our city because I have no doubt that it will result in even more creative and effective solutions to address crime prevention. I will continue to listen and continue my commitment to being innovative and more creative with the city's funding for crime prevention. Thank you for making the time and taking the effort to share your opinions and requests with me.

Help Oversee the Oakland Police Department!

I am proud to be one of the lead authors of the ballot measure that crested our Police Commission.

You can apply to be on the **Oakland Police Commission**, which can analyze and modify OPD use of force policies and is responsible for overseeing police discipline. It can take a significant amount of time in meetings, meeting prep, and committee work, but you can help bring fair and just policing to Oakland communities.

The panel that selects a majority of the commissioners is looking to achieve diversity and is encouraging people from impacted communities to apply. If you are 18 or over and live in Oakland, you qualify—as long as you are not a police officer currently, a former Oakland police officer, a City employee, a current or former representative of a police union, or an attorney who has filed a claim or lawsuit against OPD. Formerly incarcerated individuals are encouraged to apply. The Mayor also makes appointments to the Commission.

Applications are due by June 30, 2020. To **apply, <u>visit this page</u>**. You will find more information about the Police Commission and Measure LL (the law that established the Police Commission) at that link. You can watch videos of past meetings and find out about upcoming meetings. If you have any questions, please call Lorelei at (408) 275–9567 between 8:00 am and 10:00 pm.

Dan Kalb's Budget Priorities

Every two years, the Mayor, City Administration and City Council develop and adopt a full 2-year budget for the City of Oakland before the end of June (in oddnumbered years). In the alternate (even-numbered) years, we are tasked with reviewing updated revenue and expense projections for the second year and making mid-cycle budget adjustments to ensure a balanced budget and meet additional unmet needs if funding can be identified.

This year, due to the recession caused in large part by the necessary COVID-19 shelter-in-place Order, we are looking at a significant budget shortfall, and will need to make difficult budget adjustments--including the freezing of some vacant staff positions. Nevertheless, I do intend to advocate for some meaningful budget adjustments that include:

- Alternative first response model for mental health related and certain other non-violent situations
- Increased trash collection and cleanings at homeless encampments, and more frequent servicing of porta-potties and hand-washing stations
- Mediation program for commercial tenants and property owners to help our small businesses and nonprofits remain in their locations
- Redirection of funding to effective violence prevention programs

Alameda County Reopening Plan

On Friday June 5, Alameda County issued an <u>updated Shelter in Place order</u> and for the first time posted an <u>Alameda County Reopening Plan</u>, modeled after the California Reopening plan released by the Governor's office last month.

The Alameda County plan includes a definition of risk for various activities (graphic #1). Based on the level of risk it lays out the sequence for reopening (Graphic #2). If sufficient progress is observed during those intervals as measured by Covid indicators (Graphic #3), a new stage is opened up.



Alameda County COVID-19 Indicators

6.5.2020



The state of California has issued several <u>industry-specific guidance</u> resources -including new ones for <u>restaurants</u>, <u>bars and wineries</u>, <u>childcare</u> and <u>day camps</u>. Alameda County will likely also offer industry-specific guidance to complement the state's as we move forward. **Check for updates at <u>http://www.acphd.org/2019-</u><u>ncov.aspx</u>.**

You may have seen news reports about recent increases in Covid cases in Alameda County. While some of this increase can be attributed to higher levels of testing, County Health officials have informed us that the greatest risk of infection seems to be working outside the home and living in densely populated households. In addition, they are concerned about increased infections from participation in recent protests and encourage anyone who thinks they may have been infected to get tested.

Free testing is available to all in Oakland: visit <u>https://www.oaklandca.gov/services/covid-19-testing</u>.

Parking Meter Enforcement to begin July 6

As Oakland businesses continue work to safely reopen under the terms of Alameda County's shelter-in-place order to slow the spread of COVID-19, the City of Oakland announced that it will continue supporting economic recovery and enable easier access to businesses by reactivating all parking meters citywide, effective July 6. As a courtesy to educate the driving public of the change, during the month of July each vehicle in violation will receive one warning ticket. After the initial courtesy warning, vehicles in violation will receive a regular parking citation. The courtesy warnings will only be given during July.

Metered parking is used to encourage turn-over of parking spots to better ensure availability for shoppers, both on-street and in off-street garages and lots. The City will maintain standard pricing at all street meters and in City-owned garages and lots.

All other temporary suspension of parking regulations announced in mid-March remains in effect – the City is <u>not</u> enforcing:

- Time-limited parking (example: one-hour or two-hour zones)
- Residential permit parking
- Street sweeping parking (NOTE: Street sweeping operations are continuing, and the City asks for vehicle owners' voluntary compliance to allow street sweeper vehicles to access the curb.)

The City continues to enforce all other parking regulations in service of public safety and public health.

New Progressive Tax Plan - Relief for Small Businesses

I am co-sponsoring with Councilmembers Bas and Thao a plan to revamp our City business tax structure. This change would make three significant changes: (1) create a progressive business tax structure, (2) reduce the tax burden on most small businesses, and (3) raise the amount of money the City brings in from larger businesses.

Currently, our business tax structure is flat and places a significant tax burden on smaller businesses. From a progressive standpoint, our flat tax structure taxes all businesses within a category the same and fails to take into account the size of the business. This new progressive tax plan continues to use gross receipts as the basis for the tax.

Additionally, this new plan will reduce the tax burden on thousands of small businesses here in Oakland. Small cafes,, bookstores and other small, local businesses will pay less taxes due to the graduated progressive tax rate.

Finally, this new tax plan would raise the tax revenue the City takes in to provide necessary city services for all residents. This plan will substantially increase the amount of tax revenue the City receives from large businesses. This new tax proposal, if supported by the City Council, will be on the November ballot for voter consideration. This proposal will be heard at the June 22nd Council Rules Committee.

Emeryville & Oakland Open Family Shelter

On Tuesday June 9, I joined Oakland **Mayor Libby Schaaf,** Emeryville **Mayor Christian Patz**, and Oakland Councilmember **Lynette Gibson McElhaney** to <u>announce</u> <u>the opening of *Family Matters*</u>, a new emergency shelter located in Emeryville near the Oakland border for unhoused families. The new shelter is a partnership between the two cities to address a significant shortage of



shelter beds to meet the needs of unhoused families in the northern part of Alameda County. The current family homeless system is at capacity almost every night. Shelter space for fathers with children is especially limited.

District One Paving Update

Temescal Avenue in Temescal

At long last, <u>Telegraph Avenue in Temescal is being repaved</u>! Starting Monday June 8, workers began milling and laying new pavement on Telegraph from 37th to 52nd Street. It will take up to three weeks. See <u>the</u> <u>project page</u> for more details including sequencing of events.

Two-way traffic will be maintained along Telegraph Ave every day throughout the paving.

However, residents and businesses should anticipate partial road closures, detours, and location- and time-bound parking restrictions. Notification for no parking zones will be placed 72 hours in advance at all locations – these WILL be enforced. Detour routes will be continuously implemented and lifted based on the location of paving operations.

NOTE: some detour routes include parts of 42nd Street and Webster Street, which are part of DOT's "Slow Streets" program. Slow Streets signage will be temporarily removed at these locations during construction. Slow Streets signage will be added back on weekends when no construction is occurring and fully reinstated when this phase of construction is complete.

Once the paving is complete for the entire corridor, signage and striping and construction of bus boarding islands will ensue.

Tunnel Road/Caldecott Lane Project Poised to Break Ground

The City of Oakland expects to begin construction on long-awaited improvements to the Tunnel Road/SR13/Hiller Drive intersection, Tunnel Road and Caldecott Lane as soon as this month. This project will feature a number of components including:

- Continuous bike lanes on Tunnel Road and Caldecott Lane between the Berkeley border and the east end of Caldecott Lane.
- Upgraded/modified traffic signal at Tunnel/13/Hiller intersection with pedestrian push buttons and bicycle detection
- Sidewalk to connect Berkeley's sidewalk on the south side of Tunnel road with the Tunnel/13/Hiller intersection
- Shared-use ramp and path on the south side of Tunnel Road to separate eastbound bicyclists and all pedestrians from traffic destined for the SR 13 on-ramp
- Reconstructed median islands, new high-visibility crosswalks and new green thru-intersection bike lane markings at the Tunnel/13/Hiller intersection
- Micro-surfacing (a pavement treatment that is between a slurry seal and a complete repaying) on Caldecott Lane between Tunnel Road and the east end of Caldecott Lane

Construction will begin once Caltrans issues the final encroachment permit and the contractor obtains their permit from Caltrans (the entire project is within Caltrans right-of-way). Notification letters will be sent to Hiller Drive residents and along Tunnel Road in Berkeley and large signs announcing the project.

In other paving news, District 1 will see the following paved in 2020:

• Panoramic Hill – June 2020

- College Avenue Q3 2020
- Multiple locations in District 1 Q4 2020. (see <u>the map at this link</u> and below)



Library Sidewalk Pickup starts June 19

Oakland Public Library (OPL) will offer <u>sidewalk pickup</u> for holds of books, DVDs, and CDs at five library locations **including the Rockridge Branch on College Avenue** starting **Friday**, **June 19**, **2020**, Monday through Saturday 10am to 1pm.

For more information and to place a hold on items, visit <u>www.oaklandlibrary.org</u>.

Library materials that were checked out prior to the Shelter in Place closure are due by **June 30.** (OPL does not charge fines for overdue library materials.)

Free Meals - Summer Food Service Program

The City of Oakland's <u>Summer Food Service Program</u> is now open, offering free nutritious meals during the summer while schools are closed. Parents or guardians can pick up free meals for kids 18 years of age and under & adults with disabilities enrolled in a school program. There are distribution centers throughout Oakland, with options for every day of the week. For more information and to find out where you can access food during the summer, visit the city's resource page for food <u>distribution</u> in Oakland.

Congratulations to the Class of 2020!



District 1 is home to two public high schools: Oakland Tech High School and Oakland International H.S. We also have the Mentoring Academy and College Prep in North Oakland. I want to congratulate ALL of the 2020 graduates for achieving such an important goal. You persevered during these uncertain times, and all of Oakland is proud of you. We wish you all the best in your future endeavors!



"Lean on Me" by Bill Withers Performed by Oakland Symphony, Oakland Symphony Chorus, Oakland Symphony Youth Orchestra, and Students from Oakland Symphony's MUSE programs. Edited by Omid Zoufonoun

Wildfire Season is upon us. Please be safe and aware of periodic red flag warnings.

Contacts:

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/ OPD for Emergencies - 911 (or 510-777-3211) \ for non-emergencies - 510-777-3333

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

~ Read COVID-19 Updates and Links here ~



Read Councilmember Kalb's Pre-COVID Newsletters here

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