

Climate, Environment + Sustainability Newsletter



CITY HIGHLIGHTS

Community engagement was critical in creating the Equitable Climate Action Plan (ECAP). Our goal is to continue that relationship through ongoing updates on progress and opportunities for involvement:



Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) Heritage Month celebrates the cultural presence and achievements of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, and recognizes their central role in U.S. history. This month we honor the pivotal role of AAPI Oaklanders, and condemn the historical and current surge in injustices that continue to affect our AAPI community members. The City's Sustainability and Stewardship teams applaud the pivotal work of AAPI community organizers in moving Oakland towards our collective climate justice goals. The Asian Pacific Environmental Network's (APEN) recent publication,

"<u>Resilience Before Disaster</u>," is one such example that aligns with the Resilience Actions outlined in the ECAP, as well as the City's collaborative efforts with the NorCal Resilience Network in expanding resilient spaces throughout Oakland. APEN is a leader in advocating for the right approach and necessary resources to build deep resilience in frontline communities in Oakland, Richmond, and beyond.

Thank You to Our Earth Day Volunteers!



Earth Day volunteers in Mosswood Park on 4/24/2021

Thank you to the Oakland volunteers, elected officials, City staff and community partners who participated in Earth Day and Earth month activities! Throughout the month of April, Environmental Stewardship received reports of:

- Over fifty-five clean up events
- 700+ volunteers
- 10,845 gallons of trash bagged by volunteers from roadways and parks
- 5,400 gallons of green waste collected
- And a total of over 1,800 volunteer hours

View photo highlights here: <u>Photos – Earth Day 2021 highlights</u>. Please report your volunteer actions on the Hub page here: <u>Oakland Volunteer Community</u>. You can still make an Earth Month *Acts of Green* pledge <u>here</u>.

Towards A Just Green Economy: Workforce Development Stakeholder Engagement Moving towards an equitable, decarbonized future for Oakland will take a strong, well-trained, and justly compensated workforce. Studies show that there will be an overall increase in jobs in this transition. But quality and location are as important as quantity: to ensure family-sustaining career pathways that equitably benefit all Oaklanders, we need to work together to ensure the right training and economic development levers are in place. To begin this conversation, the Sustainability Program, Department of Transportation, and Economic and Workforce Development Department, in partnership with Rising Sun Center for Opportunity and The Greenlining Institute, launched a stakeholder engagement workshop series in March. To learn more, <u>click here</u>. To sign up for updates on the series, please contact <u>carellano@oaklandca.gov</u>.

Urban Forestry Master Plan Updates

The City of Oakland's Tree Services Department is finalizing the Citywide Tree Inventory, which will form the starting point of the City's first-ever <u>50 Year Urban Forestry Master Plan</u>. The Tree

Services Team reported several major milestones recently, including:

- 1. Completion of the street and urban park tree inventory. This data will be used to identify the environmental and human health benefits Oakland's street and urban park trees provide the community.
- 2. The <u>Tree Canopy & Land Cover Assessment</u> for Oakland is complete and now available.
- 3. Public Works delivered an <u>update to City Council</u> on the project in February.
- 4. Tree Planting: Our recent tree-planting effort in DeFremery Park was featured in a <u>news</u> <u>clip on NBC Bay Area</u> related to urban heat islands.
- 5. The team will initiate community engagement to begin developing the Urban Forest Master Plan when the inventory data has been processed.

Future project updates, including meeting information, will be posted on <u>the website</u>. To sign up for email updates, <u>click here</u>.

TRANSPORTATION + LAND USE

Vision: Access to safe, reliable, and affordable public transit and mobility options for every Oaklander enable an equitable transition away from cars. Auto use is minimized, and all remaining vehicles on Oakland roads are electric.



We Need Your Input!

Zero Emission Vehicle Action Plan Survey Electric vehicles can save you hundreds of dollars a month while reducing air pollution in our community. But many neighborhoods in Oakland have no public chargers. How can we ensure that all Oaklanders have access to affordable, clean transportation? The City of Oakland is developing a Zero Emission Vehicle Action Plan and needs to hear from you!

Take the ZEVAP Survey

Tell us where you want to see more chargers

To learn more about the project and see the development and progress of the plan, visit the City's <u>Zero Emission Vehicle Action Plan webpage</u>. Sign up for email updates <u>here</u>.

Gold Medal for Electric Vehicle Charging <u>East Bay Community Energy</u>'s service area has earned a gold medal in the @CAGoBiz Zero-Emission Vehicle Permitting Olympics! East Bay communities like Oakland are leading the state in



making it easy to install EV charging infrastructure, giving drivers more options to refuel on the road, faster.

BUILDINGS + ENERGY

Vision: Leveraging a clean electric grid, all buildings in Oakland have equitably transitioned away from onsite fossil fuel use, creating safe and healthy indoor spaces that are resilient, efficient, and support the housing and community needs of all Oaklanders.



East Bay Green Home Tour Free Virtual Home Electrification Tour Sundays June 6 & 13, 10am – 2pm Register Here

Learn what neighbors are doing with their homes to combat climate change, improve air quality,

generate clean energy, and move towards a safer, greener future. Each segment consists of a 10-minute video tour followed by a live 10-minute Q&A with the homeowner or tenant. Extras include an induction cooking demonstration and experts who can fill you in on heat pumps, air quality, solar storage, power outages, rebates, and more. Find the full tour schedule <u>here</u>.

Thanks to our Green Tour Advocate Sponsors: Bridge Association of Realtors, Electrify My Home, Monark Premium Appliance and StopWaste



EBCE's New Web Portal Supports Customers in Need

PG&E currently has a moratorium on service disconnections for non-payment for residential and

small business customers. The moratorium was put in place during the COVID-19 pandemic and is expected to end as early as June 30. EBCE's analysis of the impact of the pandemic on our customers shows that the amount owed on past-due bills is increasing for our customers. We are using that data to help customers navigate their options and receive the assistance they need to avoid service disconnections. As part of that work, EBCE launched a set of <u>Energy Bill Payment Assistance</u> web pages, designed to help customers better understand which programs are available, what the program eligibility criteria are, and how to enroll in the programs that are right for them. Learn more here.



Energy Efficiency Webinars for Renters + Owners

<u>Renters – May 18th</u> Homeowners – May 24th

Join Energy Upgrade California®, BayREN, and East Bay Community Energy for informational webinars on home energy efficiency.

Learn how you can get started with energy efficiency, and how these practices aren't only good for the environment, but good for your wallet as well. Then learn about available programs and rebates to help

you switch to clean energy and energy efficiency offered by <u>BayREN</u> and <u>East Bay</u> <u>Community Energy (EBCE)</u>!

MATERIAL CONSUMPTION + WASTE

Vision: Oakland has eliminated the disposal of organic materials to landfill and strengthen edible food recovery. In creating a system for the repair and reuse of existing materials, Oakland boosts the local economy and reduces the need for the high carbon consumption of new materials.



Learn How to Dispose of Toxic Household Items

Did you know that batteries, fluorescent light bulbs, and even some household cleaners all need special disposal and should not be thrown away in your trash can? Check out StopWaste's new <u>Household Hazardous Waste Disposal Guide</u> to learn how to safely dispose of common items and keep your home toxics free!

Fight Climate Change from your Kitchen

Reducing food waste is one of the leading solutions to climate change, and it's something that we can all do, right now at home without new technology or having to buy anything.

When we waste food, we are wasting



ALL the energy, water, and resources that went into producing that food and getting it into our kitchens. Take <u>10-minutes to do a fridge reality</u> <u>check</u> to see how much food is going uneaten in your home. Get <u>tips to</u> <u>help you shop, prepare, and store</u> <u>food</u> to make it last longer and not go to waste.

URBAN GREENING + CARBON REMOVAL

Vision: In addition to reducing the amount of carbon dioxide we produce, carbon removal efforts draw down existing carbon from the atmosphere to help slow climate change. These efforts aim to work with and enhance existing natural systems, leading to healthier streams, trees, agriculture, and communities along the way.

Sign Up for Acts of Green Pledge

Make every day Earth Day. Continue your Earth Day actions via Oakland's <u>Acts of Green Pledge</u>! Choose from a wide range of actions in several different categories, including:

- Climate Action
- Gardening
- Pollution Prevention
- Water Conservation
- Zero Waste

Keep Oakland Beautiful Grants

Keep Oakland Beautiful gives out small grants of up to \$800 every year. Individuals or community groups can apply for a grant to help fund a project that helps keep Oakland clean, green and beautiful, and brings people together in public space. Successful past projects have included park and open space clean–up and beautification projects; planting community gardens; little free libraries; graffiti removal and murals; and litter container tile mosaics. To learn more about requirements, FAQ and past award projects, visit the <u>KOB website</u>.

2021 Small Grant applications are open!





Application period is now open until May 31, 2021. Fill out the application now.

Report your Volunteer Hours



Do you know that Oakland tallies all the litter removed by volunteers in a legally required annual water quality report to the State of California? And that volunteer cleanups are helping Oakland keep the city clean, and achieve water quality goals for the Bay? Your data is critical to our understanding of litter and all that is required to clean Oakland. To enter volunteer hours and other workday results, go to the <u>Oakland Volunteer</u> <u>Community and click on the survey "Report Your Volunteer Hours."</u>

Contact adoptaspot@oaklandca.gov with questions.

Host a Project for Team Oakland This Summer!

Environmental Stewardship is seeking Adopt a Spot and volunteer site coordinators to host weekly special projects for the Team Oakland youth. The program begins July 6th and runs for eight weeks. Site coordinators are needed for the afternoon 2–6pm shift. If you have a beautification project on City of Oakland public land, and are interested in working with a small group of youth and their team leader, please contact AdoptaSpot@oaklandca.gov



Youth Employment Program Summer Job Applications Now Open

Apply via the Youth Employment Program/YEP

Applications are now available for Team Oakland, summer jobs for youth. Team Oakland is a City-sponsored summer employment program for Oakland youth ages 15-24. Team Oakland participants gain practical job training experience through meaningful beautification and cleanup projects. The program seeks to provide a formative experience for youth

through crew-based work and participation in City cleanups, park maintenance, habitat

restoration, fire fuel management, community outreach, and training on work & life skills and environmental topics.

- * In application, check the box "Outdoor Crew Based"
- * Team members and Team Leaders needed!



Become An Oaktown PROUD Youth Ambassador! Apply Here Today

Oakland Public Works is seeking incoming high school juniors and seniors for next school year's Oaktown PROUD Student Ambassadors! Being an Oaktown PROUD Student Ambassador will afford you the opportunity to:

- Receive a stipend of up to \$1,000 for your participation
- Include this work in your Senior Capstone Projects
- Learn excellent leadership skills
- Meet with City officials

In addition, Oaktown PROUD Student Ambassadors also enroll in the Team Oakland program where you can earn up to \$1,700 over the course of the summer. You will be safely socially distanced while partaking in crew-based outdoor activities.

Read more about the program HERE,

Training begins the first week of June. Please contact Tami Lawrence at <u>tlawrence2@oaklandca.gov</u> or 510-238-3490 for more information.

Send Us Your Volunteer Photos

We love to see and share photos of your Adopt a Spot volunteer activities! Please send us before and after photos, shots of volunteers in action, and other photos that tell compelling stories of your hard work and effort towards improving Oakland. <u>Click here for photo tips</u>. Please send your photos to adoptaspot@oaklandca.gov

ADDITIONAL NEWS

Share Your Thoughts on Economic Recovery in Oakland

Oakland's Economic and Workforce Development Department is proactively developing an economic recovery plan to assist small businesses in reopening and thriving as Oakland emerges from the COVID-19 pandemic. To be successful, economic development strategies must be built through public contributions, feedback, and buy-in from people like you. To ensure that key community stakeholders have a voice and are a part of the effort, we ask that you provide candid feedback by <u>completing a brief survey</u>. After gathering community feedback, we will report on the information captured and deliver a final economic recovery plan in Summer 2021.

Take the Survey

Friends of Sausal Creek is Hiring

Position Opening for Restoration and Stewardship Intern.

This internship will support the restoration and water quality programs. Internship duties will include leading and supporting habitat restoration workdays, helping with the Native Plant Nursery tasks and workdays, and assisting with the water quality program.

When: May 2021 to October 30, 2021, with the possibility of extension.

Pay: The rate of pay is \$ 18.00 an hour.

Hours: The number of hours required is 15–20 per week, with a flexible schedule. Applications should be received no later than May 10th, 2021, with priority given to earlier applications. To apply, please email a cover letter, resume, and two references (name, contact) to FOSC Executive Director Anna Marie Schmidt at <u>jobs@sausalcreek.org</u>.

If your organization would like to have relevant community events or opportunities posted here, please email us at climate @oaklandca.gov.

We'd love to hear from you! For Questions or comments contact climate@oaklandca.gov