

OPRYD 5 Year
Accomplishments
Report
2016-2021

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

OPRYD is excited to deliver this first of its kind, detailed 5-year review.

Over the past 5 years, we've worked hard to make sure we deliver quality programs, meet the various needs of Oakland's vibrant communities, intentionally focus on removing any barriers that prohibit access to programs, service and greenspaces, while promoting health and safety for all. We've developed and sustained outstanding partnerships and collaborations that have provided for the creative expansion of services to serve more participants. While this report highlights many of our tangible accomplishments, we have also worked extremely hard to build and sustain a reputable parks, recreation and youth development culture and environment that supports our park users and our employees. OPRYD has focused on building internal capacity by supporting the professional development of our employees in this field, resulting in many employees now achieving professional designations from the National Parks and Recreation Association (NRPA) and the National Afterschool Association (NAA).

Because we have been laser-focused on Oakland's youth, we have experienced a tremendous increase in program participation across the city. Reported pre-Covid numbers show OPRYD serving approximately 1,000 youth daily through our signature summer camp experience, "Town Camp" and approximately 800 youth daily in our new afterschool enrichment programs "Neighborhood Town Camp."

I am extremely proud of our entire OPRYD team as we were present on the front lines and serving our most vulnerable populations as the COVID 19 pandemic swept through the East Bay. We served over 2 million meals and provided safe spaces for youth and families who didn't have any other options.

Now, as we prepare for year three of COVID -19 related concerns, we are still opening our doors for youth and other program participants, we are planning for Town Camp 2022, we are safely back on the fields, back in the gyms, back in the dance and fitness studios, and back in our arts and culture programs. As we pay close and special attention to local health trends, we will continually monitor and be prepared to implement necessary safety protocols and procedures.

The future is bright for OPRYD and our patrons. Thanks to the passing of Oakland's Measure Q, the parks are improving. We are pleased with our relationship and partnership with Oakland Public Works as the responsible agency for the maintenance and capital improvement of Oakland's Parks and Recreational facilities.

The pandemic driven experiences of the past several months have elevated the understanding that parks, recreation and greenspace provide opportunities for positive mental health and for safe human connections. We welcome you to come and see for yourself. Our parks are open and inviting and waiting for you to come and enjoy the magic of being outdoors.

Overall, we continue to adapt to change in order to safely deliver services and dynamic programs to Oakland youth and the diverse community. We are confident in both our ability and capacity to change the trajectory for Oakland's kids, and we hold fast to that promise.

Super thankful for our dynamic Assistant Director, Dana Riley, and the whole executive administration team.

We invite you to "Imagine, Inspire and Invest...Experience Oakland with US!"

J. Nicholas Williams
Director



Oakland's Parks, Recreation, and Youth Development will be the nation's leading parks, recreation, and youth development agency, providing transformational experiences, and multi-cultural awareness. We create empowering park and recreational opportunities, and equitably increase the quality of life for all Oaklanders.



VISION & MISSION

With an emphasis on Oakland's youth, Oakland Parks, Recreation, and Youth Development and its partners will provide best in class, relevant, and equitable programs and services, while meeting the specific needs of people and communities both at the neighborhood level and regionally throughout the City of Oakland. We achieve this mission through intentional engagement and by removing the barriers that prohibit equitable opportunities for all.



MEET OPRYD LEADERSHIP



HARITH ALEEM

GENERAL SUPERVISOR

Years with department: 24

Years with the city: 24

Fondest memories: Supporting and witnessing the Eat, Learn, Play launch event in conjunction with Town Camp at Lake Merritt in 2018; Watching my son, Isa, play soccer with, Steph Curry and Oakland Roots Soccer Club.



JACQUELINE LONG

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES MANAGER

Years with department: 1.5

Years with the city: 30

Fondest memories: Seeing youth interview for summer jobs and "singing, dancing, & performing" live via Zoom. It was so inspirational and so good. You can compare it to Fame meets Soul Beat and Soul Train!



DANA RILEY

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Years with department: 20

Years with the city: 20

Fondest memories: Taking Pool Mangers sailing on the Bay and watching them experience water in a very different way; Lake Merritt Rowing & Teambuilding day; Images of excitement & learning at Town Camp.



NEIL VALLE

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES MANAGER

Years with department: 1

Years with the city: 19

Fondest memory: Each time I meet an OPRYD teammate in person for the first time - delayed after months of COVID shelter-in-place.



DONTE WATSON

GENERAL SUPERVISOR

Years with department: 20

Years with the city: 20

Fondest memories: My son swimming across the pool for the first time at 5 years old during OPR summer swim championships; Camping at Feather as a kid and an adult staff; Steph Curry Day at Lake Merritt; I could keep going, so many...



NICHOLAS WILLIAMS

DIRECTOR

Years with department: 5

Years with the city: 5

Fondest memories: Watching the kids participate in enrichment activities and hearing the laughter and joy; Racing the kids and winning all the time; Hearing the kids call me 'Uncle Nick' at Redwood; Playing full court basketball with the squad at Manzanita.

MEET OUR ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF



Armando Aguilera



Gloria Alcala-Ferguson



Diane Boyd



Jerome Casino



Priscilla Coleman



Mercedes Ervin



Wendy Johnson



Theda Lewis



Jean (Yu Chun) Lin



Gail McMillon



Susan O'Brien



April Oliver



Alan Phan



Hank Phan



Zermaine Thomas



Jovita Zarate

MEET OUR SUPERVISORS



Cynthia Armstrong



Elena Bermeo



Justice Bolden



Vinzuela Bolden



Myka Hammock



Maribel Lopez



Marcelina Sanchez



Marc Weinstein

MEET OUR CENTER DIRECTORS



Jessica Bustos



Rebecca Chhom



Breht Clark



Gilbert Gong



Armond Gray



George Henderson



Asmerom Kidane



Angelica Lopez



Greg McClain



Carmen Medina



Alonna Mellion



Claytoven Richardson



Tony Sirivongsa



Kola Thomas



Carlos Vargas



Alethia Walker



Terri Westbrook



Rodney Williams

MEET OUR PROGRAM DIRECTORS & PROGRAM COORDINATORS



William Davis Jr.



Gabriel Gipson



Vanderville Lewis



Frederick Morris III



Preston Pinkney



Bianca Posada



Margarita Rodriguez



Stephanie Siles





INCREASED CERTIFICATIONS & PROFESSIONALISM



National Parks and Recreation Certificated Employees

- ✓ Harith Aleem
Certified Park and Recreation Professional (CPRP)
- ✓ Elena Bermeo
Certified Park and Recreation Professional (CPRP)
- ✓ Justice Bolden
Certified Park and Recreation Professional (CPRP)
Aquatics Facility Operator (AFO)
- ✓ Carlos Vargas Garcia
Certified Park and Recreation Professional (CPRP)
- ✓ Donte Watson
Certified Park and Recreation Professional (CPRP)
- ✓ J. Nicholas Williams
Certified Park and Recreation Executive (CPRE)
- 20+ Employees currently in the process of
seeking their Certified Park and
Recreation Professional (CPRE)
- ✓ Entire agency has applied for
accreditation with NRPA's Commission
for Accreditation of Park and Recreation
Agencies (CAPRA)





FACILITIES & AMENITIES

149 Parks

68 Athletic
Fields

42 Tennis
Courts



24 Rec
Centers

24 Playgrounds

6 Gyms



5 Swimming
Pools

3 Golf Courses

2 Outdoor
Fitness
Courts



FACILITIES & AMENITIES

- 149 Parks
- 68 Athletic Fields
- 42 Tennis Courts
- 37 Recreation Facilities
- 24 Recreation Centers
- 14 Rental Venues
- 13 Community Gardens
- 5 Dog Play Areas
- 5 Pools
- 4 Skate Parks
- 3 Golf Courses
- 2 Boating Centers
- 2 Outdoor Fitness Courts
- 1 Digital Arts and Culinary Academy Center
- 1 Discover Science Center
- 1 Inclusion Center
- 1 Center for the Arts
- 1 Sports Complex with Indoor Waterpark
- 1 Studio One Arts Center





FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS

Through innovative partnerships, we have renovated amenities and facilities at 11 recreation centers/parks at **ZERO COST TO THE CITY**

- Lincoln Square Rec Center gym
- Bushrod Rec Center gym, outdoor basketball courts, and computer lab
- DeFermery outdoor basketball courts
- Willie Keys Rec Center gym, classroom, computer lab, and floors
- FM Smith Rec Center outdoor basketball court
- Rainbow Rec outdoor basketball court
- Oak Park outdoor basketball court
- Concordia Park outdoor basketball court and outdoor soccer field
- Raimondi Park baseball field
- Allendale Park outdoor basketball court
- Manzanita Park outdoor basketball court
- Have added Comcast Lift-Zones (free wi-fi) at all facilities



Rainbow Rec Center



Charles Porter Golden Gate Rec Center



Lincoln Rec Center



Bushrod Rec Center



Ira Jenkins Rec Center

OPRYD SPONSORS



Chabot Space
& Science
Center



Comcast



Kevin Durant
Charity
Foundation



Eat.Play.Learn
Foundation



East Bay
United Soccer
Club



Nancy
Lieberman
Foundation



Lawrence Berkeley
Lab



Outdoor Afro



Oakland
Lacrosse



Oaklandish



Oakland
Soccer Club



Oakland Athletics
& Major League
Baseball



Target



Warriors
Community
Foundation/ Golden
State Warriors



Under Armour

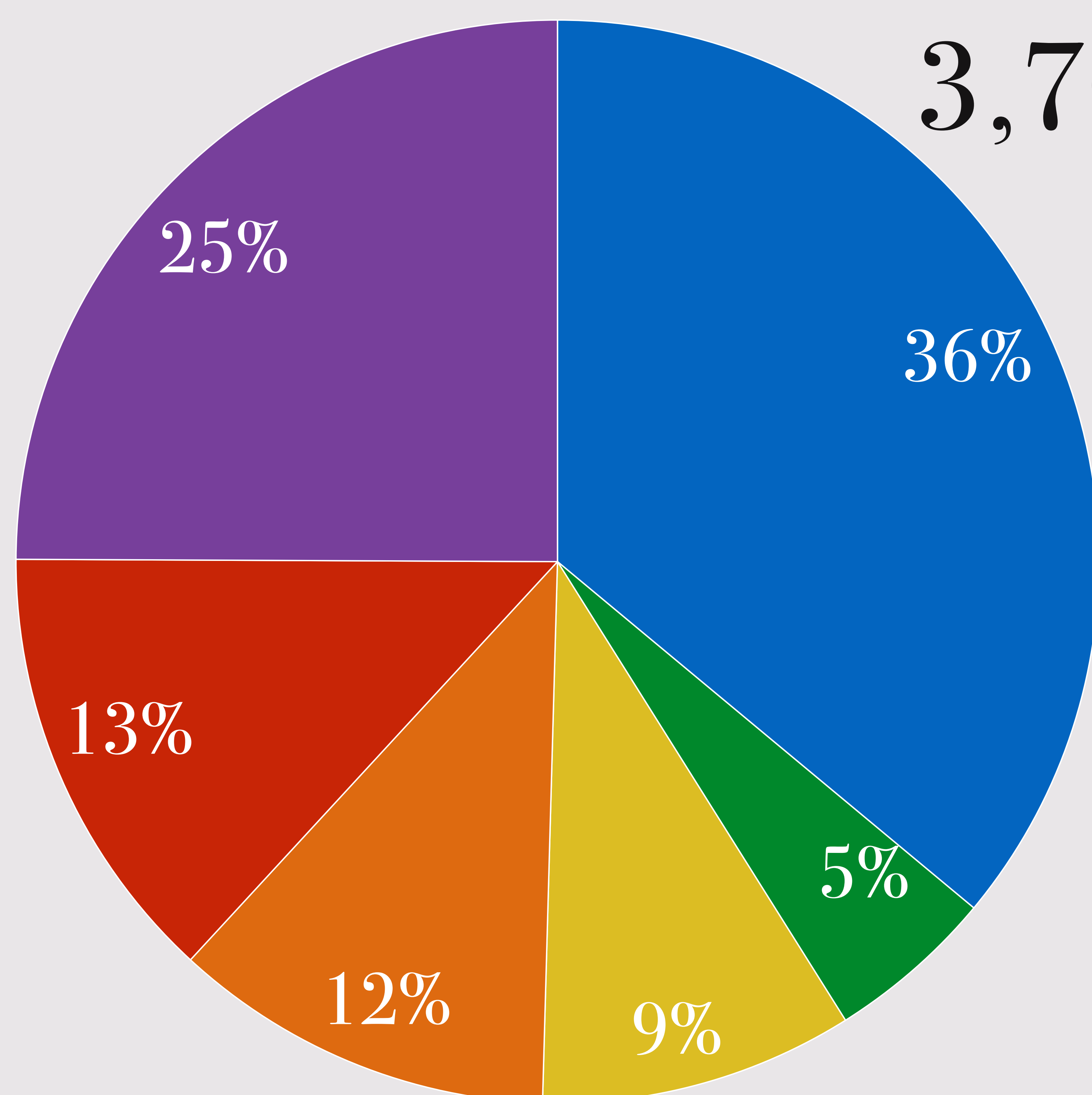


US Soccer
Foundation



TOWN CAMP

Town Camp is Oakland's leading youth summer experience. The dynamic and innovative curriculum is designed to ensure youth grow up fully prepared and healthy so that they can discover the "Hero/ Shero" within and reach their highest potential. Pre-COVID, over 1,000 Oakland youth participated in Town Camp during the summers, and over 700 participated in Town After School during the school year.



3,705 Students enrolled from 2018-2021

- African-American / Black
- American Indian/ Alaskan Native
- Asian/ Asian-American
- Hispanic/ Latino
- White
- Multi-Racial/ Other



INCREASED ACCESS TO EQUITABLE PARKS AND PROGRAMMING



Improved and increased facilities in historically neglected neighborhoods



Reduced paperwork burden for low-income participants



Served over 2 million meals during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic



Prioritized health and access to fitness equipment by building two brand new outdoor fitness gyms, free for public use



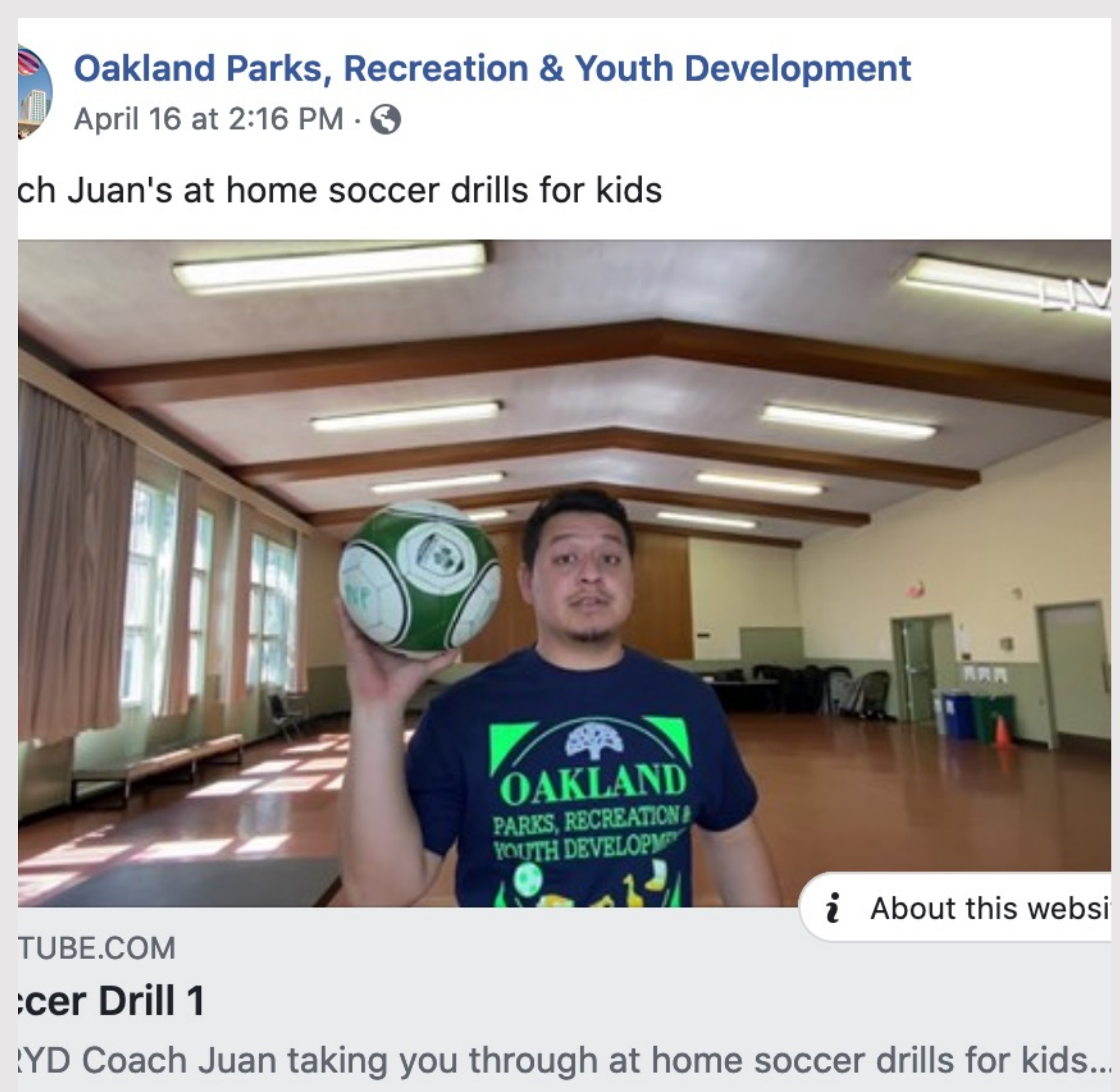
Created the first of its kind Park Stewards (previously named Park Ambassadors) to assist park users and create access to city resources.



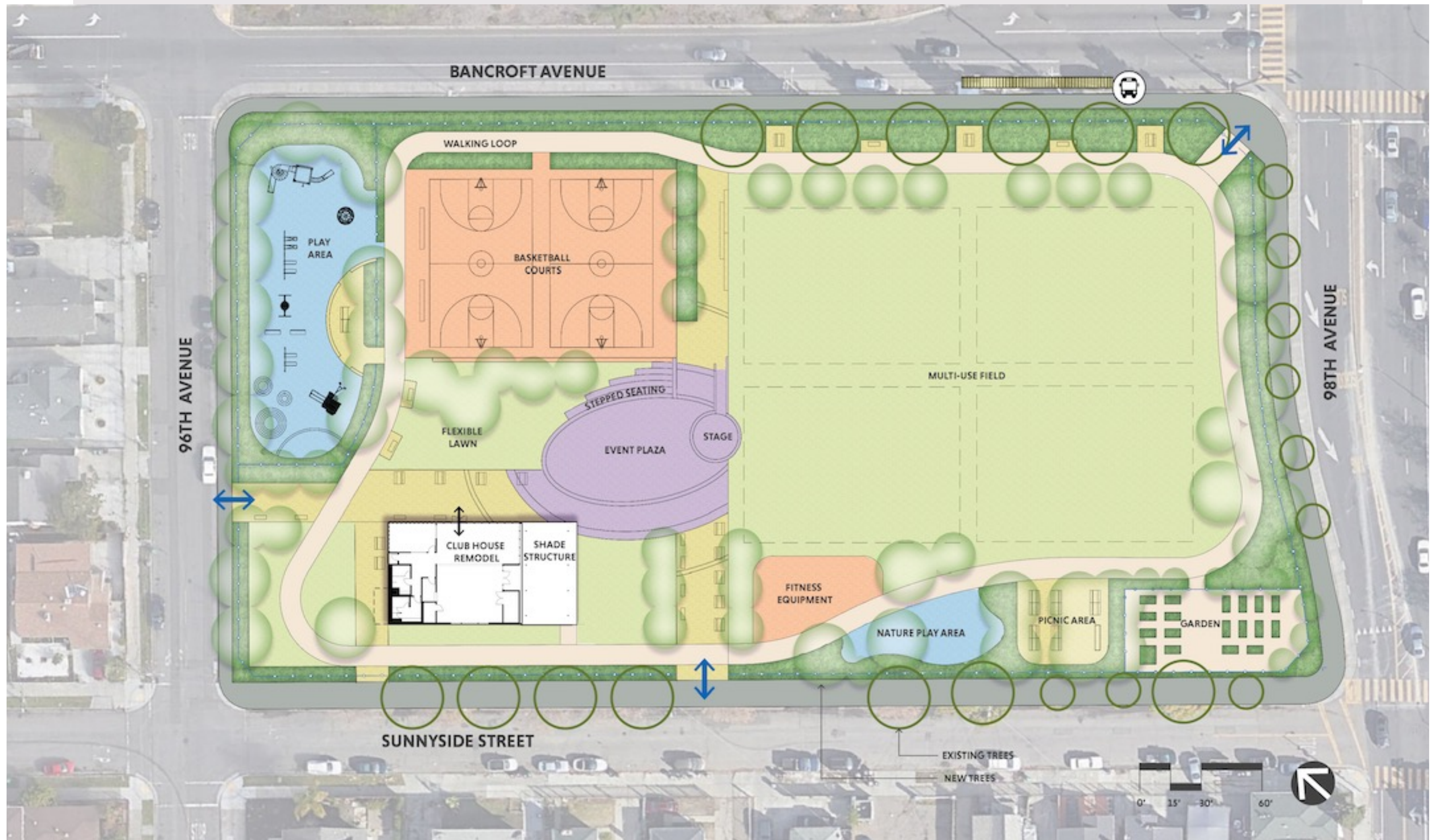


NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED COVID-19 RESPONSE

- ✓ Safe shut down with signage
- ✓ Pivoted to online programming for all ages
- ✓ Maintained access to programs for those with greatest need
- ✓ Used parks as food distribution sites and vaccine centers
- ✓ Created the Park Stewards Program
- ✓ Shared best practices via presentations with national audiences



EYES ON THE FUTURE



Governor's Outdoor for All Initiative

State funding for future work in Oakland

Verdese Carter Park Renovation (Pictured above; \$8,439,000)

Constructing a new community plaza with entry promenades, large group picnic area, nature play area, outdoor fitness area, walking loop, and shade structure to expand PAL programming area. Renovating the playground, community garden, and multi-use field.

Lincoln Square Park and Rec Center Renovation (\$8,500,000)

Creating a new Community Center, outdoor classroom, badminton court, 2 patio/garden areas, and landscaping and lighting throughout the park. Renovating three existing basketball courts.

Bridges Academy Green Schoolyard Park (\$1,315,000)

Constructing a new outdoor classroom, nature play area, playground with shade, basketball court, soft-surface running track, public art mural and mosaic seating area, two eating areas, shade structures, and landscaping and lighting throughout the park. Renovating the game court and field.



THANKS TO THE FOUNDATION AND PRAC



The Oakland Parks and Recreation Foundation creates public-private partnerships with local government, community organizations and financial sponsors to support parks and expand recreational opportunities citywide. The organization partners with the City of Oakland's department of Parks, Recreation and Youth Development to advocate for parks policy improvements, provide camp scholarships, complete capital projects and manage funds for nearly 100 groups offering recreation and stewardship programs across Oakland. Learn more and get involved at oaklandparks.org.

Terra Cole Brown

Executive Director of Oakland Parks and Recreation Foundation



2021 brought great rewards and produced some challenges for PRAC. We are excited about the upcoming park maintenance projects and the equity analysis reports on our parks, and we are committed to working with our council members to solve the issues that plague our city parks.

Princess Allen

Chair of Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee (PRAC)



THANKS TO OUR PARTNERS & AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS

PARTNERS

- Alameda County First Five
- Alameda County Nutrition Services
- AllSport America
- Community Kitchens
- DHS Summer Food Program
- H&R Block
- Jr. Center of Arts & Science
- Literati
- National Fitness Campaign
- NextDoor
- Oakland Fire Department
- Oakland Police Department
- Oakland Symphony
- Reading Partners
- Project Backboard
- Positive Coaching Alliance
- United States Tennis Association
- UC Davis Center for Alzheimer Dementia Disease Prevention
- U.S. Department of Agriculture Summer Food Service Program



AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS

- American Red Cross
- Bay Area Public Pool Operators Association
- California Parks & Recreation Society
- National Recreation & Parks Association
- Oakland Parks and Recreation Foundation



American Red Cross



OAKLAND PARKS AND RECREATION FOUNDATION