

March 2020 City of Oakland Parks and Homeless Services Measure



*A March 2020 Parks
Maintenance and
Homelessness
Measure to benefit
all Oaklanders.*

Why?

Our parks and recreation centers are suffering from overuse. Our parks host after-school programs, community meetings, senior events, fitness classes, and sports—and we need to clean them. We need regular pick up of trash and debris, increased service to the restrooms, more field mowing and much more.

At the same time, with skyrocketing housing costs, many long-term Oaklanders have lost or are at-risk of losing their home. Some of these individuals have no choice but to live in and around our parks. This measure is an important step toward helping those individuals and families find housing.

This measure won't solve every challenge but it is an important start by providing shelter and housing resources for unsheltered individuals. It will also invest in more regular cleaning, maintenance, and service for all parks in Oakland.

What can be done?

City leaders, park advocates, clean water experts and homelessness policy advisors came together to craft this measure. Approved by a unanimous city council with support from the Mayor, this measure will help to provide funds to clean our parks, clean our water supply, and create housing and opportunity for unsheltered Oaklanders who most need our help.

Oakland PARKS

March 2020 City of Oakland Parks and Homeless Services Measure



For more information go to:

www.oaklandca.gov/topics/march-2020-city-of-oakland-parks-and-homeless-services-measure



CITY OF **OAKLAND**
Department of Parks, Recreation
& Youth Development

www.oaklandca.gov

How might the funds from a new measure be used?

With new funds, here is what can be done for park maintenance, homelessness services and water quality:

- ▶ Provide programs to help homeless individuals move out of parks and into shelters and housing
- ▶ Remove trash and debris from city parks
- ▶ Keep restrooms at parks and recreational centers clean by attending to them more than once a day
- ▶ Protect local water quality by cleaning storm systems and park creeks

When will I vote on this?

The Measure will be on the March 3, 2020 ballot. All registered Oakland voters will be eligible to vote on the ballot measure, and it will require a two-thirds “yes” vote to be approved.

What taxpayer protections will be in place?

The proposed parcel tax will include exemptions for low-income seniors and affordable housing. Also, the ballot measure will require community oversight to ensure that funds are spent properly, and the measure will require all use of funds to be subject to annual independent audits. Finally, the measure, if approved by voters, is not permanent. It will sunset after 20 years.

This Fact Sheet has been prepared to share information about this initiative with interested parties. All information listed here is subject to change.