

Pop-up Event #9

Event: Pop Event #9: Community Healing

Location: Chinatown

Date/Time: 2/25/2022 at 3PM to 6PM

Number of people reached: 57

- 57 English flyers
- 26 in-person interviews



Event Description: The Black Arts Movement Business District, CDC and East Side Arts Alliance staff conducted English and Chinese outreach in Downtown Oakland for the Asian Health Services Community Healing event. This event supported Chinatown and victims of hate, celebrated Black History Month and the beginning of the Year of the Tiger!

The team informed people what the General Plan is; conducted 26 in-person interviews; shared a 2-pager on housing and environmental justice conditions that people in Oakland are experiencing; handed out flyers for resources for Emergency Rapid Assistance Program (ERAP), library, and maintenance; referred community members to direct service organizations or City Department to address current needs; and gathered questions regarding the General Plan and City services. The 2-pager on housing and environmental justice conditions presented racial displacement, housing affordability, pollution burden, past and future housing production in Oakland, and a call to action.



Engagement Approaches: 1) Approach people to have a conversation rather than extracting information from them and 2) a 2-pager on housing and environmental justice on the table in English, and 3) Individuals who completed an interview were entered into a \$75 raffle.

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Demographics: The Deeply Rooted in Oakland Partnership is committed to reaching people who have not traditionally been part of planning processes. At this particular pop-up we spoke to the following populations: older adults, LGBTQ+ persons, tenants/ renters, and homeowners. The following are demographic highlights based on the 26 in-person interviews we conducted:

- **Race/Ethnicity:** Majority are Asian American (70%) and Black (8%). *See Table 1 below for more information.*
- **Age:** Most of the people we spoke with are between the ages of 65+ (46%). *See Table 2 below for more information.*
- **Gender:** Most of the people we spoke with are female (69%). *See Table 3 below for more information.*
- **Housing:** Most are renters (54%). *See Table 4 below for more information.*
- **Disability:** People shared having a mobility impairment (19%) and a learning disability (4%). *See Table 5 below for more information.*
- **Annual Personal Income:** Most make between \$0-\$10,000 (42%). *See Table 6 below for more information.*
- **Sexual Orientation:** Most are heterosexual (54%). *See Table 7 below for more information.*
- **Experience with Mass Incarceration:** Only one person we spoke to had some experience with mass incarceration. *See Table 8 below for more information.*

The 26 interviews included the following 8 questions and demographic information:

- **General:** 1) When did you/your family arrive in Oakland? Where were you living before?; 2) What neighborhoods have you lived in?; and 3) What's your favorite memory of Oakland?
- **Housing:** 1) Have your family members struggled with housing problems? If so, what have been your major problems?; and 2) What are your ideas for solutions? What would you like to see as solutions?
- **Environmental Justice:** 1) Do any of your Oakland family members have trouble breathing, been involved in a car collision, been affected by wildfires (proximity or smoke), or flooding?; and 2) What are your ideas for solutions? What would you like to see as solutions?
- **Anything else you would like to share?**
- **Demographic Information:** Zip code, neighborhoods, age, race/ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, housing, disability, annual income, and formerly incarcerated

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Engagement Summary

The following is a summary of the main points that community members brought up during the event. Points under each topic are ordered by most to least mentioned.

FAMILY ARRIVED IN OAKLAND

- A majority of individuals that we spoke to shared that their families arrived recently between 1980-1999 (36%) and 2011-2020 (27%). *See Table 8 below for more information.*
- People had previously been living Internationally (43%), the Bay Area (33%), and the South (14%). Internationally a lot of people we spoke with came from China, Hong Kong and Vietnam.

A FAVORITE MEMORY OF OAKLAND

“Oakland's stories [like] the Black Panther Party's free breakfast [program,] it's [part of] America's Liberation story”.

- **People, Culture, and Community:** People, culture, food, and community. People expressed enjoying spending time in the community like eating in Chinatown and moving to the United States of America. Appreciation of the Black Panther Party (free breakfast program) and Asian Pacific Environmental Network (APEN). Attending neighborhood events and marches like Marching for Huey Newton in 1989, March 2020 Solidarity (George Floyd and Ahmaud Arbery protests), and the Warriors Parade. And people shared a love of music playing drums with the community and learning an instrument at school.
- **Parks:** Playing basketball at Oakland Park

HOUSING

“Housing is too expensive now. People have to work 2-3 jobs (sometimes 5-6), to afford housing. We lost all our mom and pops shops and now folks are on the streets”.

HOUSING AFFORDABILITY

- **Issues:** Hard to afford living here (renters), people have to work 2-3 jobs, and hard to apply for low-income housing
- **Solution:**

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- **Building/Preserving Affordable Housing:** For older adults, low-income people and non-English speakers; building village-like affordable housing with community courtyards; in middle and upper class neighborhoods; and community land trusts.
- **Housing resources:** Outreaching to people in need like low-income, single parents, and older adults
- **Protecting Low-income people:** Improve housing retention, conduct intentional community development, and smoke free areas

HOUSING HABITABILITY

- **Issues:** Quality is a concern and housing isn't clean

HOMELESSNESS

- **Issue:** Folks can't afford rent or mortgage and lose housing and become unhoused

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

"My father died from emphysema [and] my wife had respiratory issues".

CARS AND TRUCKS, WILDFIRE, AND INDUSTRIAL

- **Issues**
 - **Pollution:** Pollution in West Oakland
 - **Collisions:** People and their family members have been involved in collisions
 - **Wildfires:** Lived close to fires in 2019 and 2020
 - **Respiratory:** Trouble breathing during wildfire season, near industrial spaces, and around smokers; family members have lung infections and have passed away from emphysema
- **Solutions:**
 - **Respiratory:** Clean air initiative days
 - **Collisions:** Add flashing lights at crosswalks in low-income neighborhoods, more bike lanes, cars shouldn't turn right on red when there's a bike lane, and closing more streets for safer walking
 - **Public transit:** More frequent buses and stops

PARKS

- **Issues:** Lack of parks and recreational facilities
- **Solutions:** More green spaces, and parks and trees

PUBLIC SAFETY, ENGAGEMENT, TRANSPORTATION, ECONOMIC, AND EQUITY

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VIOLENCE

- **Issues:** Ongoing racism and not feeling safe

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- **Solutions:** More direct impact work in communities, and city should build relationships with community

TRASH

- **Issue:** Lots of trash and not getting picked up
- **Solutions:** On foot cleaning team

EQUITY

- **Solution:** Community decisionmaking for city investments

Table 1. Engagement by Race/Ethnicity

| Race/Ethnicity | Count | Percent |
|---|--------------|----------------|
| Asian American | 18 | 69.2% |
| Black | 2 | 7.7% |
| White | 0 | 0.0% |
| Multiracial | 0 | 0.0% |
| Latinx | 0 | 0.0% |
| Middle Eastern | 0 | 0.0% |
| Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander | 0 | 0.0% |
| Caribbean Islander | 0 | 0.0% |
| Native American/Indigenous or Alaska Native | 0 | 0.0% |
| Decline to Comment | 7 | 26.9% |

Table 2. Engagement by Age

| Age | Count | Percent |
|------------|--------------|----------------|
| 12-17 | 0 | 0.0% |
| 18-24 | 0 | 0.0% |
| 25-34 | 0 | 0.0% |

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| 35-44 | 2 | 7.7% |
| 45-54 | 0 | 0.0% |
| 55-64 | 1 | 3.8% |
| 65+ | 12 | 46.2% |
| Decline to state | 11 | 42.3% |
| Total | 26 | |

Table 3. Engagement by Gender

| Gender | Count | Percent |
|------------------|--------------|----------------|
| Female | 18 | 69.2% |
| Male | 2 | 7.7% |
| Non-binary | 0 | 0.0% |
| Transgender | 0 | 0.0% |
| Intersex | 0 | 0.0% |
| Decline to state | 6 | 23.1% |
| Total | 26 | |

Table 4. Engagement by Housing

| Housing | Count | Percent |
|--|--------------|----------------|
| Rent | 14 | 53.8% |
| Own | 2 | 7.7% |
| Shared housing with family/roommates/partner | 2 | 7.7% |
| Temporary with friends/family | 1 | 3.8% |

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| Mobile housing/unhoused | 0 | 0.0% |
| Temporary (in shelter, hotel) | 0 | 0.0% |
| Decline to state | 7 | 26.9% |
| Total | 26 | |

Table 5. Engagement by Disability

| Disability | Count | Percent |
|--|-------|---------|
| A mobility impairment | 5 | 19.2% |
| A learning disability (e.g., ADHD, dyslexia) | 1 | 3.8% |
| A mental health disorder | 0 | 0.0% |
| A sensory impairment (vision or hearing) | 0 | 0.0% |
| Decline to state | 20 | 76.9% |
| Total | 26 | |

Table 6. Engagement by Annual Personal Income

| Annual Personal Income | Count | Percent |
|------------------------|-------|---------|
| \$0-\$10,000 | 11 | 42.3% |
| \$10,001-\$20,000 | 5 | 19.2% |
| \$20,001-\$30,000 | 0 | 0.0% |
| \$30,001-\$40,000 | 0 | 0.0% |
| \$40,001-\$50,000 | 0 | 0.0% |
| \$50,001+ | 1 | 3.8% |
| Decline to state | 9 | 34.6% |
| Total | 26 | |

Table 7. Engagement by Sexual Orientation

| Sexual Orientation | Count | Percent |
|--------------------|-------|---------|
| Heterosexual | 14 | 53.8% |
| Queer | 1 | 3.8% |

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| Lesbian | 1 | 3.8% |
| Bisexual | 0 | 0.0% |
| Gay | 0 | 0.0% |
| Decline to state | 10 | 38.5% |
| Total | 26 | |

Table 8. Engagement by Experience with Mass Incarceration

| Mass Incarceration | Count | Percent |
|---|--------------|----------------|
| I am a family member of someone who is currently incarcerated | 1 | 3.8% |
| I am a family member of someone who is formerly incarcerated | 0 | 0.0% |
| I am formerly incarcerated | 0 | 0.0% |
| Decline to state | 25 | 96.2% |
| Total | 26 | |

Table 9. Family Arrived in Oakland

| Arrive in Oakland | Count | Percent |
|--------------------------|--------------|----------------|
| Before 1900 | 0 | 0.0% |
| 1900-1950 | 2 | 7.7% |
| 1950-1979 | 3 | 11.5% |
| 1980-1999 | 8 | 30.8% |
| 2000-2010 | 2 | 7.7% |
| 2011-2020 | 6 | 23.1% |
| 2021+ | 1 | 3.8% |
| Visiting | 1 | 3.8% |
| Working | 0 | 0.0% |
| Decline to state | 18 | 69.2% |
| Total | 26 | |