



CITY OF
OAKLAND

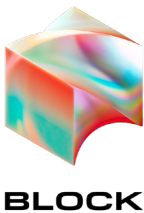
Welcome to the inaugural

CLIMATE JUSTICE SUPPER

Thursday, October 5, 2023
6 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Port Workspaces Rooftop Garden

OUR SPONSORS

Changemaker



Innovator



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MENU CURATED BY:



Chef Tu David Phu



Chef Nelson German



Chef Monique Feybesse

WELCOME

On behalf of the City of Oakland, it is my pleasure to welcome you to Oakland's inaugural Climate Justice Supper. This special gathering not only marks a celebration of our community's commitment to climate justice, but also serves as a poignant reminder of the significant strides we have made and the ambitious path that lies ahead.

Our vision for the future is one of inclusivity, where no one is left behind in the fight against the climate crisis. Oakland's 2030 Equitable Climate Action Plan laid the foundation for transformative change, creating a roadmap to expand green jobs and businesses, increase sustainable housing, and manage climate risks while centering the needs of our most impacted communities. The stories you will hear tonight are a testament to the power of collective action and the belief that all those who live, work, and play in Oakland deserve a healthier, safer, and more prosperous environment.

Tonight's supper is not just a gathering but a catalyst for change. As we break bread and engage in thoughtful discussions, let us strengthen the bonds that unite us as part of this community. Let us draw inspiration from each other's experiences and ideas to foster collaboration and innovation among our business, financial, and governance industries. Above all, let us work together to build a stronger, more resilient Oakland.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to all the business leaders and organizations working to solve the climate crisis from here in Oakland. I am committed to building and expanding the green jobs and opportunities that your businesses are providing, and which help make Oakland a recognized visionary leader in this global challenge. Your dedication and passion serve as beacons of hope for Oakland's future. My hope is that tonight we find ways to align the tremendous progress of our corporate community with that of our City government and its partners, increasing our resilience and unleashing our potential as partners.

Tonight, as we embrace the spirit of unity, collaboration, and determination, I invite you to savor every moment and cherish the connections we forge. Together, let us seize this opportunity to reimagine the future of Oakland, one that provides economic prosperity for all, a safe and sustainable community, and a model of success for cities across the world.

Thank you once again for being part of this momentous occasion. Together, we will build a stronger, greener, and more equitable Oakland for all.

In community,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Sheng Thao". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Sheng" and last name "Thao" clearly distinguishable.

Mayor Sheng Thao



MEET THE STORYTELLERS



Keta Price

The Hood Planner

A third generation East Oakland native, Keta served as the director of urban and regional planning for the East Oakland Collective, where she is the lead on several East Oakland neighborhood and transportation projects, participates in the development of regional planning, and holds the city of Oakland accountable to equitable zoning and land use in East Oakland. In 2022, Keta Price founded Hood Planning Group, a community focused planning consultancy committed to empowering residents to get involved in planning and redeveloping their built environment to provide a better quality of life. Keta's formal passion for urbanism stems from her recreational research on how gentrification has impacted low-income Black neighborhoods. Keta has an Associates of Mathematics and Natural Science degree from Merritt College, home of the Black Panthers.



Khariyyah Shabazz

Deputy Executive Director, Higher Ground NDC

Khariyyah has worked in the field of youth development and community engagement for the past 15 years. As an East Oakland Native, she takes pride in starting her career working within Higher Ground's after school programs throughout Oakland. While working as the Deputy Executive Director with the agency Higher Ground NDC, she has managed after school programming while building a team of leaders, and facilitated successful neighborhood projects that focus on several community-led initiatives. After receiving a B.A. in mass communications from Cal State East Bay, Khariyyah now has her own public speaking platform called Khariyyah Speaks Incorporated that addresses solutions that transform communities through planning and partnerships.



Mark Hall

Founder, Revalue.io

Mark is an Oakland, CA native, and former Capital Improvement Project Manager for the City of Oakland, instrumental in the adoption of the 2008 ARRA Green Jobs and Environmental Action & Resilience Plan. For the last 7 years, Mark has worked in the private sector for Revalue.io, an energy efficiency project developer working to prepare communities for the clean energy transition through energy efficiency and workforce development. In 2019, Mark was appointed to the California Green Bond Market Development Committee by CA State Treasurer Fiona Ma and is currently working with local jurisdictions and issuers to increase adoption, equity, and diversity. Mark is a graduate of Morehouse College and a member of the International Association of Assessing Officers.



Gavin Raders

Co-founder and Co-director, Planting Justice

Gavin is a father to two amazing daughters, a social justice activist, and a permaculture demonstrator/teacher. For the past 17 years, he has dedicated his life to peoples' movements for peace and social/economic/racial/environmental justice. Prior to Planting Justice, he studied the history, failures, and successes of social movements as a cultural anthropology student at UC Berkeley, and organized on a range of anti-war, anti-nuclear, environmental and human rights issues both on campus and off. Today, Gavin builds solutions that bring healing, health, peace, opportunity, and justice to those around him, using his privileges strategically for reparations and redistribution, and creating space for those most impacted by structural violence to live out their own dreams.

OAKLAND CLIMATE JUSTICE PROJECTS



Photo credit: Hope Collaborative

Better Neighborhoods, Same Neighbors: A Model of Bottom-Up Resilience

The Better Neighborhoods, Same Neighbors Initiative (BNSN) envisions an East Oakland with healthy surroundings, safe and accessible transportation, and thriving arts and culture that builds community wealth and ensures housing is a human right for existing residents. The project area, encompassing 5 square miles and more than 41,500 residents, is one of the most polluted and socioeconomically disadvantaged communities in the state. Challenging the typical top-down approach to community development, BNSN builds on decades of activism and organizing in East Oakland, including the East Oakland Neighborhoods Initiative (EONI). In 2020, the City and eight community partners received a \$28.2M grant from the California Strategic Growth Council to implement five diverse projects: a 55-unit, 100% affordable housing development with a ground-floor community health clinic; an urban greenway trail along San Leandro Creek; community greening, including 2,000 new trees and paid internships led by Oakland Parks and Recreation Foundation; an aquaponics farm and food hub run by Planting Justice; and a bike share and youth development program supported by the Original Scraper Bike Team and Higher Ground NDC. The project also includes an on-site anti-displacement clinic run by the East Bay Permanent Real Estate Collaborative, community engagement led by Black Cultural Zone CDC, and workforce development projects led in partnership by the Cypress Mandela Training Center, Youth Employment Partnership, Black Cultural Zone CDC, and the West Oakland Jobs Resource Center. Today, the housing development is complete and 100% occupied, and a significant number of the new residents formerly lived within one mile of the site.

Planting Justice: Growing Food, Healing Communities

Planting Justice is a pioneering climate justice organization working at the intersection of food sovereignty and economic opportunity. Rooted in Deep East Oakland, Planting Justice operates urban gardens and orchards, creating sustainable food systems while providing over 40 living wage jobs for formerly incarcerated residents. They lead food justice and ecology education at their gardens, in schools, and at detention centers. They also help grassroots sites throughout the community create “community justice garden hubs,” supporting projects that involve local community members, expand access to sustainably grown healthy food, and build local resilience. Today, Planting Justice is expanding their operations to include an aquaponics incubator farm near their existing 2-acre nursery in Deep East Oakland. This new resident-led site will be a replicable and scalable model for sustainable food production in the harshest of conditions, including communities deprived of clean topsoil, healthy air, or abundant water.



Photo credit: Planting Justice

OAKLAND CLIMATE JUSTICE PROJECTS

Resilience Hubs: Integrating Wellbeing, Preparedness, and Recovery

Resilience Hubs are community-serving facilities that support residents, coordinate communication, and distribute resources in the face of disasters as well as the stressors of everyday life. They have backup sources of energy; heating, cooling, and air filtration; and programming that supports communities to become stronger, self-determining, socially connected, and successful before, during, and after emergencies. In an earthquake-prone region, with increasing threats from extreme heat and other climate-related disruptions, and amidst ongoing struggles related to poverty and environmental justice, the need for robust resilience hubs couldn't be clearer.



Photo credit: Shah Kawasaki Architects

In 2022, two East Oakland faith communities worked with external partners to become Oakland's first small-scale resilience Hubs. Faith Baptist Church, serving two faith communities, installed solar panels, a battery backup system with islanding capabilities, and air filtration. They are planning to install EV chargers in 2023. Allen Temple Baptist Church installed solar and battery backup, dramatically boosting their ability to support the Deep East Oakland community where they are located.

The City is now in the process of developing large-scale, Municipal Resilience Hubs in West Oakland (combining the West Oakland Branch Library, West Oakland Senior Center, and DeFremery Recreation Center) and Chinatown (at the Lincoln Square Recreational Center). These projects are co-led with community partners: West Oakland Environmental



Photo credit: Oakland Department of Transportation

Sustainable Mobility for All: Oakland's Universal Basic Mobility Pilot

Convenient, safe, reliable, and affordable transportation is critical to accessing jobs, groceries, and recreation. With support from the Alameda County Transportation Commission, the City launched a Universal Basic Mobility pilot, providing 500 East Oaklanders with up to \$300 on pre-paid cards for transit, bike share, and scooter share. Results are promising: 40% of participants changed the way they travel and 23% reported driving less. The East Oakland program is now in its second round to use remaining program funds, providing pre-paid cards of up to \$200. A second pilot for West Oakland, where 1,000 residents will each receive up to \$320, is expected to launch by the end of 2023.

OAKLAND CLIMATE JUSTICE PROJECTS



Photo credit: The Crucibles

Waste Not, Want Not: Edible Food Recovery as a Solution to Hunger and the Climate Crisis

While Oakland has made significant progress on food insecurity, almost half (44%) of Oakland households with children still receive federal assistance for groceries. Meanwhile, food scraps and excess food waste are one of the largest categories of waste Oakland homes and businesses send to landfills. To bridge this contradiction, the City has partnered with almost 70 food recovery organizations and 162 “edible food generators” and in 2022, redistributed over 1,426,000 pounds of unused, edible food to food-insecure Oaklanders. Edible food generators include supermarkets, grocery stores, hotels, restaurants, and school kitchens. The City is also working to upgrade facilities like Arroyo Viejo Recreation Center, DeFremery Recreation Center, and the East and West Oakland Senior Center kitchens to be available for nonprofits and start-ups to collect, prepare, and distribute recovered food.

Oakland’s Urban Forest Plan: Expanding Tree Equity and Environmental Stewardship

Oakland’s first 50-year Urban Forest Plan will be completed in 2023, including a public tree inventory (published in 2022) and strategies to maintain and expand Oakland’s urban forest. Oakland’s overall tree canopy has shrunk in recent years, and the existing urban forest is deeply inequitable: canopy coverage ranges from as little as 5% to over 40% from the flatlands to the hills. The Urban Forest Plan will help to identify resources for proactive public tree maintenance; increase canopy in frontline communities; install and maintain greenspaces on public property to filter stormwater and pollution; and restore bay-front and riparian ecosystems to better manage rising sea levels and increase access to greenspace in frontline communities.



Photo credit: Oakland Department of Transportation

In September 2023, the City was awarded \$8 million to jumpstart some of the critical work of restoring a robust urban forest. With community partners Common Vision and Oakland Parks and Recreation Foundation, the City will prioritize tree plantings and maintenance in West and East Oakland while also educating neighbors on the value of environmental stewardship. By bringing residents together to care for their common physical environment, the social bonds of the community are strengthened, growing a culture of mutual aid.

OAKLAND CLIMATE JUSTICE PROJECTS

Innovating and Incubating Cleantech: An Oakland Tradition

Appropriate technologies and robust local supply chains are essential to our climate justice goals. Oakland has long been an epicenter of innovation and incubation for new technologies, business models, software, and more in fighting the climate crisis.

Powerhouse is an innovation firm that works with corporations and investors to help them find, partner with, invest in, and acquire the most innovative startups in clean energy, mobility, and climate. Launched a decade ago as one of the only solar incubators/accelerators in the world, Powerhouse now connects hundreds of climate tech startups annually to clients who can help drive decarbonization at scale.

Meanwhile, **Circuit Launch** Oakland is a dedicated 31,000 square-foot co-working space for IOT, VR, AR, and other electronic hardware startups. Innovators at Circuit Launch have access to heavy machines and tools, classes, micromanufacturing workspaces, and a shared lab to help assess profitability. Members also enjoy full access to Circuit Launch's diverse network of industry-leading engineers, suppliers, manufacturers, and hardware-friendly investors. Members include startups focusing on carbon capture, delivery robots, 3D printing, advanced item sanitation, bioprinting, security robots, logistics, and more.

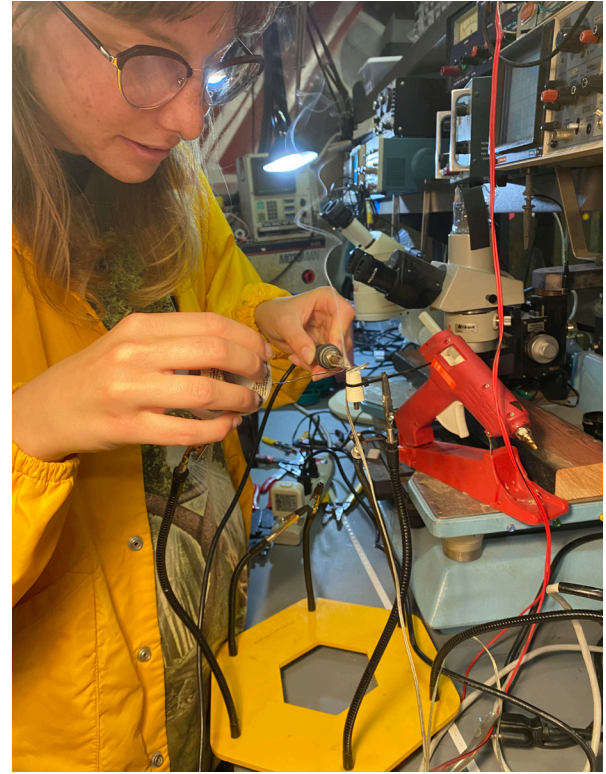


Photo credit: City of Oakland

Port Labs is a likeminded coworking space for entrepreneurs, inventors, and others focused on the business development side of clean tech innovation. With their staffed Rapid Prototyping Lab, private and flexible spaces, engineering benches, networking events, and pitch competitions, Port Labs is a valuable resource helping Oakland entrepreneurs and inventors get on the map.

Finally, West Oakland's **O2 Artisans Aggregate (O2AA)** is a hotbed of makers and sustainability-focused regenerative businesses. Home to over 40 artists, craftspeople, and small businesses, O2AA develops novel uses for closed-loop systems on their own campus. Projects include diverting logs from the landfill; composting bay nut, buckwheat, & acorns shells; growing bugs for food; diverting food waste; biodiesel; and composting toilets.

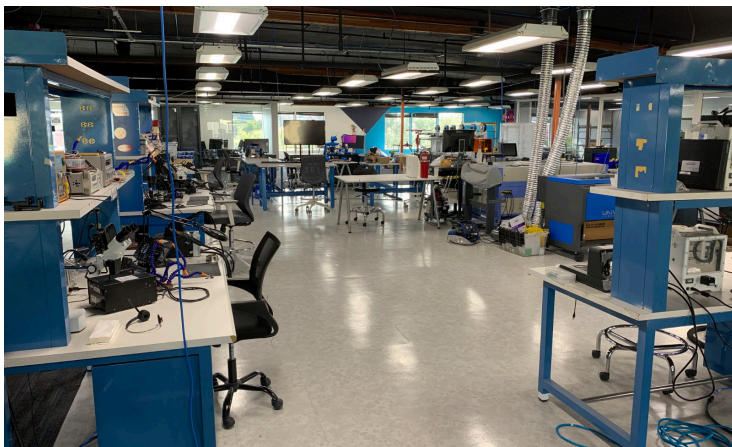


Photo credit: Circuit Launch



Photo credit: Port Labs

LOOKING FOWARD: A LETTER FROM OAKLAND'S CLIMATE PROGRAM MANAGER

The initiatives described in this book demonstrate important momentum. We are building on this progress in five priority areas:

Holistic decarbonization. This refers to eliminating fossil fuels from buildings and transportation in ways that prioritize health, safety, affordability, and good jobs. We will continue building on the innovative partnerships that Revalue.io and Cypress Mandela embody. We're seeking funding to increase access to holistic electrification upgrades for renters, restaurant owners, and apartment buildings. We're also working to engage more local contractors, electricians, and other industry professionals in the electrification economy.



Sustainable mobility for all. Strengthening the role of public transportation and improving infrastructure for walking and biking are top priorities. The City is developing "Smart and Equitable Mobility Hubs" that integrate shared mobility, public transit access, and charging for electric vehicles, scooters, and e-bikes. A more complex challenge is ensuring that our streets and neighborhoods are safe and welcoming. That includes everything from land use policies and bike lane management to engaging local business districts and supporting bike lending programs.

Circular economies. Elevating the repair industry, uplifting local manufacturing and reuse, and celebrating small businesses are key climate strategies. Repair not only keeps materials from the landfill, but also provides business and employment opportunities that are inherently local. Oakland has linked its economic development and climate strategies, and we're doubling down on our small business support and workforce investments to ensure a robust, regenerative economy. We're working to boost local supply chains that support our climate strategies – diverse work that strengthens Oakland's economy and ensures our long-term ability to accomplish our goals.

Carbon sequestration through urban greening. Communities at the front lines of the climate crisis enjoy fewer trees and less green space, and face elevated pollution-related health risks. Generations of under-investment in these areas – now dominated by concrete and asphalt – have contributed to increased heat, neighborhood decay, flooding, loss of biodiversity, and poor health. "Urban greening" is a nexus solution to improve health, mitigate stormwater, and combat the climate crisis. Oakland is building on lessons from other cities and partnering with communities and local businesses to re-imagine neighborhoods, increase green spaces, and invest in trees and healthy soils.

Adapting to the effects of climate change. Oaklanders are experiencing more extreme heat, wildfire smoke inundation, localized flooding, and drought. Oakland youth openly discuss the insecurity they feel growing up with the ever-present threat of climate catastrophe. Our mandate is clear and humbling – and we're up to the task. We're fortifying public infrastructure such as roads and community centers, turning libraries into cleaner air and cooling centers, building resilience hubs, transforming gray infrastructure into green, and restoring shoreline wetlands to absorb higher tides and storm surges. We're working internally and externally to be more efficient in how we modernize our infrastructure and services to reflect a changing climate.

I invite you to join us in growing these solutions. I am endlessly thankful to the Oakland Fund for Public Innovation for hosting the Climate Justice Innovation Fund, a profound opportunity to accomplish your ESG goals locally, with exponential benefits across the region. Whether your interest is in a specific activity – such as urban biking, home electrification, or trees – or a specific population – like seniors, West Oaklanders, or reentry populations – there are numerous ways you can be part of Oakland's climate justice story.

In partnership, and with deep gratitude for your presence here,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shayna Hirshfield-Gold".

Shayna Hirshfield-Gold, Oakland Climate Program Manager

CITY OF OAKLAND ELECTED OFFICIALS

Sheng Thao, Mayor

Rebecca Kaplan, Councilmember At-Large

Dan Kalb, Councilmember, District 1

Nikki Fortunato Bas, Council President & Councilmember, District 2

Carol Fife, Councilmember, District 3

Janani Ramachandran, Councilmember, District 4

Noel Gallo, Councilmember, District 5

Kevin Jenkins, Councilmember, District 6

Treva Reid, Councilmember, District 7



Photo Credit: Acta Non Verba

Learn more about [Oakland's Climate Justice Story](https://oaklandca.gov/topics/sustainable-oakland-1) at oaklandca.gov/topics/sustainable-oakland-1 or by scanning the QR code

