



Summer Greetings and a happy 4th of July holiday to one and all. With the beginning of summer, Oakland now has its new two-year budget, my staff and I are getting ready for our annual summer picnic/BBQ, and we want to share some information--including important info that will help residents prepare for wildfire season.

My staff and I are continuing to work on getting the city bureaucracy to respond to service requests in a more timely fashion, as well as crafting legislation to address city-wide needs. Please be aware that my hard-working D-1 staff members (Oliver, Lisa and Deidra) work long hours to serve North Oakland residents and our entire city. I want to take this opportunity to publicly thank each of them for their good work.

-Dan K.

Come one, come all! 2019 Annual District One Summer Picnic/BBQ

July 21, Noon - 3:00pm. Bushrod Park, 560 59th St (in front of Recreation Center) in North Oakland

This annual event brings together North Oakland residents from all parts of the district and beyond and presents a great opportunity to meet and chat with your neighbors. We will provide the main BBQ dish and drinks -- please bring a side dish or dessert to share.

Please contact us with any questions at 510-238-7001. Hope to see everyone at our 2019 Summer



Picnic/BBQ. Please spread the word among your North Oakland neighbors. [Click here to download the event flyer.](#)

City Council Adopts 2019-2021 Budget!

On June 24th, the City Council approved a \$3.29 billion total two-year budget over the combined 2019-20 and 2020-21 fiscal years. The approval was unanimous, which is unusual for budget votes and a positive sign of the current Council's collegiality. As always, we had to make tough choices among competing priorities and policy needs. Thanks so much to the many North Oakland residents who, over the past few months, took time to share their budget priorities and recommendations with me.

The approved budget consists of the base budget proposed by Mayor Libby Schaaf and the City Administrator and \$44.4 million in modifications from the City Council, including those proposed by Council President Kaplan with her 'Oakland Together' budget team (councilmembers Fortunato Bas, Thao, and Taylor) and final modifications to the Council President's proposal added by Council President Pro Tem Kalb and Councilmember Gibson McElhaney. I am pleased that early proposals with overly-wishful, risky revenue projections were replaced with revenue estimates based on careful analysis.

The shared priorities of the budget include:

- Affordable housing and anti-displacement measures
- Homeless services and prevention solutions
- Park maintenance
- Illegal dumping prevention and clean-up
- Street paving and potholes
- Community safety and violence prevention
- Wildfire prevention
- Economic and workforce development

I am very pleased that the budget includes additional fire inspectors for vegetation management. Our budget also enhances funding for the Oakland Parks, Recreation, and Youth Development Department, including restoring park maintenance positions, and provides additional funding for the geographic expansion of Shotspotter.

The approved budget includes a new Permanent Affordability Fund that I strongly support, which proposes \$12 million (to be capitalized annually) for Community Land Trusts and Limited Equity Housing Cooperatives to acquire and preserve small housing sites for permanent affordability. Another included budget policy directive tracks my efforts with Public Works and OakDOT on coordinating Trash Capture Device installation when certain street work is performed, which keeps our creeks and the Bay cleaner.

I successfully pushed back on a proposal to cut promised funding for the Caldecott Trail. Other highlights that I worked on include maintaining a joint program I started four years ago with Oakland Unified School District to reduce chronic absenteeism, maintaining and increasing 911 dispatch service levels, and enhanced funding for the Oakland Parks & Recreation Foundation. My priority to increase our efforts on homelessness prevention is also reflected in the budget.

Wildfire Safety

Wildfire season is upon us. Here is some information and resources for homeowners and others concerned about wildfire prevention and safety here in Oakland.

New Fire Marshal. In April Oakland Fire Department announced hiring of new Fire Marshal, **Orlando Arriola** who oversees the Fire Prevention Bureau, which is responsible for fire safety education, inspection of high-hazard occupancies, fire code enforcement, and vegetation management. Among his duties will be establishing



priorities for annual state-mandated inspections and new construction plan review and inspections. Arriola brings over ten years of experience as Fire Marshal on a wide variety of matters ranging from adopted fire code, community outreach and preparedness, fire and arson investigation, and community-based strategic planning and service initiatives.

Vegetation Management Plan. Over the past few years, Councilmember Kalb and many North Hills residents have been pushing the City Administration to make sure Oakland has a critically important and up-to-date Vegetation Management Plan for the city-owned parks and open spaces in the high severity wildfire area of our city. The first draft of that plan, released one year ago, did not contain the specificity and commitments that

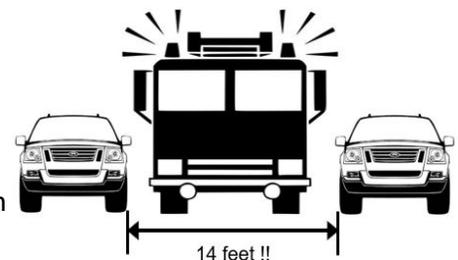
residents and this office were envisioning. The revised Plan is expected to be presented at the Council's Public Safety Committee in September. An Environmental Impact Report will then be conducted with a target finish date of early 2020. For more information see the city's [webpage](#) or contact Angela Robinson (arobinson@oaklandca.gov) who continues to shepherd this project from her new position in Oakland Public Works.

Vegetation Management Unit. It took longer than we had hoped, but with approval of the new Oakland budget the Vegetation Management Unit now has its requested budget and staffing levels. In addition, the Vegetation Management Inspector staff positions have been upgraded to be consistent with Building Fire Inspection staff, so the unit will be less likely to lose trained staff. The Unit has its struggles, including the current technical difficulties related to online Vegetation Management Inspection reports, but we are hopeful that with our new Fire Marshal Arriola and increased staffing and budget, the unit's work will become more efficient and streamlined.

And we must thank Vince Crudele for his tireless efforts to protect our city from wildfire. Vince reports that as of July 1 he has cleared Tunnel Road, Grizzly Peak, Broadway Terrace, and Skyline Boulevard of hazardous vegetation. The vegetation on Claremont Avenue is still green and therefore not a fire hazard; it will be cleared in August.

Vegetation Management Inspections. Oakland Fire Department conducts 25,000 inspections of private properties annually in the high fire hazard area of the Oakland Hills, as required by State and City law. Inspections started this year in late May. We have heard reports that the new online reporting system has run into some unfortunate technical hiccups; these are being addressed as quickly as possible. For more information, please consult the [city website](#), and please see [this link](#) for frequently asked questions.

Hills Fire Safety Parking Project. Councilmember Kalb and his staff have worked in conjunction with the District 4 office to convince City staff to pilot a program to enforce parking regulations on narrow streets in the hills. The program was launched in 2017 with installation of new 'No Parking' signs on 10 streets and expanded in 2018 with an additional 11 streets. The vast majority of feedback on this program has been positive. In fact, Oakland's leadership on this issue has now encouraged Berkeley to initiate a similar effort, taking advantage of our experience.



We are gratified that this program, which involves multiple city departments including OakDOT, OFD, OPD, and City Administration, has now been fully embraced by OFD to move from pilot to broader implementation. New streets will be added to the program in the coming weeks. Please let our office know if there are streets that you believe should be added.

Of course, No Parking signs are only helpful if rules are enforced. We are continuing to advocate OakDOT to perform regular enforcement sweeps, especially on Red Flag days. *If you see cars parked unsafely, please note license plate numbers and call 311 or 510-615-5566 to report them*; logging them into the 311 system enables city staff to record incidents and potentially highlight trouble spots for active enforcement.

PG&E public safety power shutoffs. This year, PG&E is expanding its Public Safety Power Shutoff program to include all electric lines that pass through high fire-threat areas -- both distribution and transmission. According to the company, they will only proactively turn off lines when extreme fire danger conditions are forecasted. But their criteria for making these decisions have yet to be fully clarified. City staff from OFD, OPD, OakDOT and other city departments have been consulting with PG&E to seek more clarity and manage these impacts.

PG&E has scheduled community meetings to help community members to learn more about PG&E's efforts to support wildfire safety and emergency preparedness, meet with PG&E representatives, ask questions and share feedback. The community meeting for Alameda County is **Monday, July 8, 6-8pm** at Oakland Marriott City Center, 1001 Broadway (Junior Ballroom). Please see the [PG&E website](#) for more information.



11 Ways to Tide You Over During a Power Outage

A power failure may occur during a windstorm, during an earthquake, or when PG&E turns off the power when an extreme wildfire threatens. So what can you do?

Be prepared: Download "[11 Ways to Tide You Over During a Power Outage](#)", produced by the [Oakland Firesafe Council](#).

Illegal Fireworks. Fireworks are illegal in Oakland (and dangerous). OPD will be increasing staffing and deploying patrol officers to specific areas of the City that have the highest amount of illegal fireworks activity. Councilmember Kalb has been encouraging OPD to make more frequent patrols to the Grizzly Peak lookout areas during the holiday season and throughout the summer.

Please report illegal fireworks by calling the **Fireworks Tip Line at 510-777-8814** to report the sales, possession and lighting of fireworks. Those caught with fireworks will be fined up to \$1,000. Possession of large quantities of fireworks carry penalties of \$5,000 to \$10,000 and even jail time. Check out this [Public Service Announcement](#).

Ready, Set, Go! To help educate property owners and residents in areas most at risk, CAL FIRE has developed a communications program called "[Ready, Set, Go!](#)" that breaks down the actions needed to be ready for wildfire:

- Be Ready: Create and maintain defensible space and harden your home against flying embers.
- Get Set: Prepare your family and home ahead of time for the possibility of having to evacuate.
- Be Ready to GO!: Take the evacuation steps necessary to give your family and home the best chance of surviving a wildfire.

Resources include information about creating defensible space and hardening your home by using fire resistant materials. In addition [a new smartphone app](#) takes you through the steps necessary to safeguard your home and family, and provides alerts and notifications, a fire incidents page, fire map, and educational videos.

Other resources:

[Final report of the Commission on Catastrophic Wildfire Cost and Recovery](#). In September 2018 Governor Brown signed into law SB 901, legislation that helps to mitigate wildfire risk and increase the pace and scale of recovery efforts response to the increasing threat of wildfires. As part of this legislation, a Commission on Catastrophic Wildfire Cost and Recovery was required to produce recommendations on changes to law that would ensure equitable distribution of costs among affected parties. Those recommendation were released on June 18, 2019. We are monitoring for implementation. See the [website](#) for more information.

[Wildfires and Climate Change: California's Energy Future](#). In response to instability in the energy sector and to PG&E's decision to file for bankruptcy, the Governor created a strike force to coordinate the state's efforts relating to the safety, reliability, and affordability of energy, as well as to continue progress to achieve the state's climate commitments. As part of these efforts the Governor directed the strike force to develop a comprehensive roadmap to address the issues of wildfires, climate change, and the state's energy sector. That roadmap can be found at [this link](#). A progress report, issued on June 21, can be found at [this link](#).



[Fire Prevention Matters: The Homeowner's Guide to Fire Prevention in the Oakland Hills](#) - Short guidebook written by North Oakland Hills homeowner Bob Sieben for homeowners living in the Oakland Hills.

[Defensible Space and Danger Spots](#) - Fact sheet on danger spots around your home and what you can do to eliminate them.

[Oakland Firesafe Council](#) - a grassroots community-based organization dedicated to mobilizing the people of Oakland to reduce the risks of wildfire danger to people and property through outreach, programs, and projects. Members are residents of the Oakland Hills, survivors of the 1991 Tunnel Fire, open space/park stewards and others working to reduce the risks of wildfire in the Oakland hills. The Oakland Firesafe Council is an affiliate of the Diablo Firesafe Council, serving Alameda and Contra Costa counties.

New City Ordinance Clarifying Property Owners Responsible for Repairing Most Sidewalks - Permit fees waived this summer!

The Department of Transportation (OakDOT) has more than 3700 open sidewalk repair tickets, approximately 25% of which were made more than 5 years ago. Sidewalk cracks, lifts, and upheavals can lead to injuries, which result in dozens of claims and lawsuits every year. From 2010-2017, the City paid out an average of \$485,000 annually in sidewalk trip-and-fall claims and lawsuits. In 2018, the City payouts jumped to more than \$1.1 M, exceeding the funds dedicated to the annual sidewalk repair program. Yet the majority of trip-and-fall claims stem from private damage, with the City identified as a co-defendant to a private property owner.

Only 15% of sidewalk damage in Oakland is “public damage” -- at or within a public facility or caused by an official City tree. The vast majority of sidewalk damage is “private damage”. Per California law ([California Streets and Highways Code § 5610](#)), private property owners are responsible for sidewalk repairs and may be liable for any injuries resulting from sidewalk defects.



On June 24 City Council approved a new [sidewalk liability ordinance](#). The ordinance does not change what is already vested in state law, but expressly establishes that the property owner has the primary and exclusive responsibility for maintaining safe sidewalks whether or not the City has notified the owner of their maintenance obligations. Many cities in California have such ordinances.

To help property owners navigate their responsibilities, and address the huge backlog of sidewalk repair tickets, City Council also approved the following:

1. Sidewalk Repair Financial Hardship Program: the city performs repairs at no cost to qualifying low income property owners.
2. Requirement for sidewalk improvements at title transfer: Either the property buyer or seller must complete necessary repairs and upgrades to bring a sidewalk to compliance before a title transfer is completed.
3. Temporary waiver for sidewalk repair permit fees: To encourage all Oakland property owners to repair damaged sidewalks, from **July 1, 2019 to September 20, 2019, all administrative fees assessed for the repair of sidewalk damage will be waived** for all Oakland property owners.

The City OakDOT also will be working to fix sidewalks that are the city's responsibility.

Residential Parking Permits -- Enforcement and Extension of Current Permits

In recent months this office has heard the message from residents about the lack of enforcement in Residential Parking Permit (RPP) zones. We have also heard about frustrations about the process to renew RPPs. Following are some updates:

Enforcement: On June 18 City Council approved a proposal from the Oakland Department of Transportation (OakDOT), which is responsible for parking enforcement, to procure and use vehicle-mounted Automated License Plate Recognition (ALPR) systems for parking management and enforcement. The new technology, which will be rolled out in July, will greatly enhance and make more efficient the enforcement of RPP zone parking limitations. For more information about this new program, [download the staff report](#).

Permit renewals: We have learned that the Parking Citation Assistance Center, which administers the RPP permits, remains short staffed at the moment. As a result, some area permits have not been provided to residents before the expiration date. In light of the situation, **Parking Enforcement staff will honor existing permits through the end of July**. If you have questions please contact the OakDOT Public Liaison, Keith Schuerholz at kschuerholz@oaklandca.gov.



SAXMAN UPTOWN © 1987
ARTIST ARNOLD WHITE

Summer Jazz at the Golden Gate Branch Library

It's time again for the annual Summer Jazz at the Golden Gate Library! Every summer for the last 29 years the Friends of the Golden Gate Branch Library treat Oaklanders to a series of Sunday afternoon jazz concerts featuring top-notch local talent.

All of the July shows will take place at the Golden Gate Branch Library at 5606 San Pablo Avenue. Each show will feature a headlining artist at 3 pm, followed by Randy Moore's "History of Jazz" discussion (4 pm), and an open jam session (5 pm).



We're proud to report the Councilmember Dan Kalb has been elected as the new Chairperson of East Bay Community Energy (EBCE)--Alameda County's Community Choice Energy Authority. For more information about EBCE, [click here](#). EBCE recently signed contracts to bring more renewable energy to Oakland and Alameda County.

Reminder: Click Below to File a Complaint

[OAK311](#) -- Report illegal dumping, traffic safety, and infrastructure issues

[Code Enforcement](#) -- Report blighted buildings and yards

[Animal Services](#) -- Report distressed or vicious animals

[Vehicle Abatement](#) -- Report abandoned vehicles

[City of Oakland's Homeless Response Info](#)

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