

CITY OF OAKLAND

Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission



MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING

Date: Wednesday, September 10, 2025

Time: 4:30 PM

Location: Lakeside Park Garden Center, 666 Bellevue Avenue

Agenda Items

1. Call to Order: **4:36 p.m.**

2. Roll Call / Determination of Quorum

Alper, Barach, Cervantes, Henderson, Kos-Read, Omolo, Thomas, Tran, Watkins, Whitmore

Present (10): Chair Barach, Vice Chair Omolo, Commissioners Alper, Cervantes, Henderson, Kos-Read, Omolo, Thomas, Tran, Whitmore and Watkins

Remote (0):

Excused (0):

Absent (0):

Action: Quorum confirmed.

3. Modification of the Agenda

– **Item 7F will be heard after Item 6.**

Motion: Chair Barach entertained a motion to approve the modification.

Moved by: Commissioner Tran

Seconded by: Commissioner Kos-Read

Vote: Yes (8) Alper, Barach, Kos-Read, Omolo, Thomas, Tran, Watkins, Whitmore

No (0)

Action: Motion Passed.

4. Disposition of Minutes

– Approval of draft minutes from regular meeting on **July 9, 2025.**

Motion: Chair Barach entertained a motion to approve the minutes.

Moved by: Commissioner Thomas

Seconded by: Commissioner Tran

Vote: Yes (8) Alper, Barach, Kos-Read, Omolo, Thomas, Tran, Watkins, Whitmore

No (0)

Action: Motion Passed.

5. Open Forum

- Comment on all items not on the agenda are taken at this time.

In-Person: 1

Remote: 1

Email: 2

Com. Henderson joined the meeting at 4:41pm.

6. Measure Q Update

- Monthly OPW Informational Report on Measure Q and Performance Measure Updates.
 - Q4 Maintenance Update
 - Measure Q Financial Report

Com. Cervantes joined the meeting at 4:55pm.

Public Comment

In-Person: 1

Remote: 0

Email: 0

Motion: Chair Barach entertained a motion to accept and file the report.

Moved by: Vice Chair Omolo

Seconded by: Commissioner Henderson

Vote: Yes (10) Alper, Barach, Cervantes, Henderson, Kos-Read, Omolo,
Thomas, Tran, Watkins, Whitmore
No (0)

Action: Motion Passed.

7. New Business

- 7F. PRAC Review of Measure Q Findings and Recommendations in the 2024 -2025 Alameda County Grand Jury Final Report.

Public Comment

In-Person: 1

Remote: 0

Email: 0

Motion: Chair Barach entertained a motion to accept and file the report.

Moved by: Commissioner Henderson

Seconded by: Commissioner Tran

Vote: Yes (9) Alper, Barach, Cervantes, Henderson, Kos-Read, Omolo, Thomas, Tran, Watkins
No (0)
Abstain (1) Whitmore

Action: Motion Passed.

- 7A. Request for the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission (PRAC) to approve Association of Professional Designers request for vendor sales of plants at their plant fair to be held at Lakeside Park Garden Center on Wednesday, October 22, 2025, from 9:00am-4:00pm.

Public Comment

In-Person: 0

Remote: 0

Email: 0

Motion: Chair Barach entertained a motion to approve the request.

Moved by: Commissioner Kos-Read

Seconded by: Vice Chair Omolo

Vote: Yes (10) Alper, Barach, Cervantes, Henderson, Kos-Read, Omolo, Thomas, Tran, Watkins, Whitmore
No (0)

Action: Motion Passed.

- 7B. Request for Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission (PRAC) to approve Water Lantern Festival request to collect funds onsite for sales of lanterns, vendor sales of merchandise, crafts, mobile food trucks sales of food and beverages (non-alcoholic) at the Water Lantern Festival to be held at Lakeside Park (Edoff Memorial Bandstand and beach area) on Saturday, November 1, 2025, from 3:30pm-9:00pm.

Public Comment

In-Person: 0

Remote: 0

Email: 0

Motion: Chair Barach entertained a motion to approve the request.

Moved by: Vice Chair Omolo

Seconded by: Commissioner Thomas

Vote: Yes (10) Alper, Barach, Cervantes, Henderson, Kos-Read, Omolo, Thomas, Tran, Watkins, Whitmore
No (0)

Action: Motion Passed.

- 7C. Request for the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission (PRAC) to review and approve the Public Art Conceptual Design Proposal by artist Vanessa “DJ Agana” Espinoza for the De Fremery Park “Snack Shack” public art project in West Oakland (District 3).

Public Comment

In-Person: 0

Remote: 0

Email: 0

Motion: Chair Barach entertained a motion to approve the request.

Moved by: Commissioner Cervantes

Seconded by: Commissioner Whitmore

Vote: Yes (10) Alper, Barach, Cervantes, Henderson, Kos-Read, Omolo, Thomas, Tran, Watkins, Whitmore
No (0)

Action: Motion Passed.

- 7D. Informational report to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission (PRAC) on draft Slow Streets network recommendations which include paths within Oakland parks.

Public Comment

In-Person: 0

Remote: 0

Email: 0

Motion: Chair Barach entertained a motion to accept and file the report.

Moved by: Commissioner Tran

Seconded by: Commissioner Cervantes

Vote: Yes (9) Alper, Barach, Cervantes, Henderson, Kos-Read, Thomas, Tran, Watkins, Whitmore
No (0)

Absent (1) Vice Chair Omolo

Action: Motion Passed.

Com. Alper left the meeting at 6:45pm.

- 7E. Informational report on the General Plan Update.

Public Comment

In-Person: 0

Remote: 0

Email: 0

Motion: Chair Barach entertained a motion to accept and file the report.
Moved by: Commissioner Cervantes
Seconded by: Commissioner Kos-Read
Vote: Yes (9) Barach, Cervantes, Henderson, Kos-Read, Omolo, Thomas, Tran, Watkins, Whitmore
No (0)
Action: Motion Passed.

8. Planning and Conditional Use Permits (CUPs)

None.

9. Update from the Director, Committees, and Announcements

Director's Update:

- OPRYD is working with TPL (Trust for Public Land) and plans to have them present in an upcoming meeting. With TPL's guidance, the department is on track to begin park listening tours soon in communities to discuss parks and improvements.
- There is ongoing advocacy for a department strategic plan and a parks master plan to advise and guide the department and its priorities.
- The newly hired Assistant Director for OPRYD, Sarah Herbelin, will be rejoining the team. Before her transition to Finance, Sarah served the community with OPRYD for 15 years.

Measure Q Ad-Hoc Committee Update:

- Vice Chair Omolo forwarded commissioner comments on the parks assessment to OPW. He met with Beth Muñoz and Randall Kpoff, Kimley-Horn consultants (presented on the Parks Assessment) to discuss equity measures, MOU development and tools to measure equitable maintenance in relation to Measure Q. A meeting with TPL to discuss Oakland parks further is scheduled for the coming week.

Announcements:

- Vice Chair Omolo will be attending the NRPA conference in Orlando this month.
- Allendale community garden mural restoration will be Saturdays and Sundays 8 – 10a all month.
- Salsa by the Lake is partnering with Oakland is Better in Person for "Salsa on the Terrace" at the Henry J. Kaiser building, Thursday, September 18th, 5:30-9:30p.
- Oakland Parks and Recreation Foundation (OPRF) Business Breakfast is on September 26th.
- Black-Eyed Pea Festival is Saturday, September 13th.

10. Continuation of Open Forum

- Final comments on items not on the agenda are taken at this time.

In-Person: 0

Remote: 0

11. Adjournment: 7:18 p.m.

Motion: Chair Barach entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Moved by: Vice Chair Omolo

Seconded by: Commissioner Thomas

Vote: Yes (9) Barach, Cervantes, Henderson, Kos-Read, Omolo,
Thomas, Tran, Watkins, Whitmore
No (0)

Action: Motion Passed.

Next Regular PRAC Meeting

Date: Wednesday, October 8, 2025

Time: 4:30 PM

Location: Lakeside Park Garden Center, 666 Bellevue Avenue

Visit [PRAC's website](#) for Agendas, Meetings, Minutes, and more information.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jasmine S. Bellow". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jasmine S. Bellow
Executive Assistant to the Director
PRAC Recording Secretary