



MEMORANDUM

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR &
CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Deanna J. Santana

SUBJECT: City Administrator's Weekly Report

DATE: February 24, 2012

INFORMATION

Following are the key activities to be highlighted this week:

City Minimizes Job Losses Following Adoption of Amended Budget - February 22 marked the last day of employment with the City of Oakland for about 21 employees whose jobs were eliminated as part of the City's effort to close a \$28 million budget gap created by the elimination of Redevelopment Agencies statewide on February 1. City Council adopted the Amended Policy Budget for Fiscal Year 2011-13 on January 31 and voted to delay the layoffs for 10 business days, resulting in an effective layoff date of February 22. The \$28 million budget gap was closed through significant organizational restructuring into a flatter, more traditional structure which included consolidating departments, merging functional services where a natural nexus exists and centralizing services for efficiency. The Amended Budget minimizes service disruptions while reducing duplication of effort, developing consistency in administrative functions, enhancing efficiencies and saving money. Essential services were preserved. As a result of the restructuring, as well as an extensive effort to redeploy as many employees to other jobs as possible, the total number of employees who were laid off was lower than earlier projections. In addition to the 129 positions cut, more than 500 positions throughout the City were affected by the layoffs and reorganizations. This clearly impacts staff capacity and services that the City can provide, but the Amended Policy Budget maximized services to the community and minimized total job loss. A media release on the layoffs can be viewed at <http://www2.oaklandnet.com/oakca/groups/ceda/documents/pressrelease/oak033412.pdf>. For additional information, please contact Karen Boyd, Citywide Communications Director, at (510) 238-6365.

Oakland Police Recruiting For New Officers, Exam and Process Workshops Offered - Through March 5, the City of Oakland is accepting applications for the position of Police Officer Trainee with the Oakland Police Department. The Oakland Police Department's primary goals include improving professionalism within the police force and strengthening community relationships. The Department seeks to attract applicants who already possess these values and skills. The police officer testing process can be rigorous and, at times, disqualify individuals who would be stellar applicants otherwise. Test preparation workshops have been scheduled to assist as many qualified applicants as possible in successfully applying. Anyone interested must apply

online at www.oaklandnet.com, and click on the Employment Opportunities link. To assist applicants with the testing process, the following workshops have been scheduled:

- POST Exam Preparation Workshop - February 25, 9:00 a.m. - Noon, Merritt College, 12500 Campus Dr. Register at www.passingthepost.com.
- Selection Processing Workshop - March 14, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m., Police Administration Building Auditorium, 455 7th St.
- Physical Ability Test Practice - April 4, 4:00 – 6:00 p.m., Oakland Fire Department Training Facility, 250 Victory Ct.

For questions concerning the position, please contact the Oakland Police Department Recruiting Unit at (510) 238-3339.

Building Services Improvements Advisory Task Force Convened - On February 1, an orientation meeting for the City of Oakland Building Services Improvements Advisory Task Force was held. To ensure that community residents and other stakeholders are involved in efforts to transform City of Oakland Building Services programs and operations, at the request of the City Council, Council President Larry Reid created an advisory Task Force to provide the Council with advice and feedback. The Task Force is charged with providing feedback on proposed new procedures and program design for a comprehensive report on Building Services priority improvements to the City Council. This staff report is anticipated for a Council meeting in spring 2012. The Task Force consists of twelve members. The Mayor and City Council members each appointed one member (for a total of nine), with the remaining three appointed by the City Administrator in order to ensure that the Task Force as a whole reflects the balance of perspectives and the overall breadth of experience needed. The Task Force members are Anne Bruff, Michelle Cassens, Curtis Caton, Alan Dones, Donna Gianoulis, Ken Houston, Joseph Keffer, Lynette Jung Lee, Ellen Lynch, Dr. Valerie Miles-Tribble, Sherry L. Niswander and Patricia C. Zamora. Council President Reid selected Mr. Dones to chair the Task Force. The next Task Force Meeting is scheduled for February 29, 4:00 - 8:00 p.m. in Hearing Room 3 to discuss Program Design. All Task Force meetings are open to the public; meeting information can be accessed at <http://www2.oaklandnet.com/Government/o/CEDA/o/BuildingServices/OAK033369>. A media release on the task force can be viewed at <http://bit.ly/z0vtO6>. For additional information, please contact Emily Lohr, Senior Management Advisor, at (408) 437-5400 or elohr@managementpartners.com.

City Administrator and City Department Representatives Walk "100-Blocks" - On February 21, a group of City Department Directors walked several priority service locations in the "100-Blocks." The "100-Block" Initiative involves focusing and committing resources from all City departments on quality of life issues in identified areas. All aspects of public safety, including violence prevention, job growth, blight, street and sidewalk conditions, youth recreation and community outreach, were discussed at each stop. City leadership will reconvene at monthly meetings and revisit these neighborhoods in order to define contributions and evaluate progress. For more information, please contact the OPD Media Relations Unit at (510) 238-7230 or opdmedia@oaklandnet.com.

Public Works to Purchase Six New Street Sweepers - On February 22, the Public Works Agency received approval from City Council to purchase six new street sweepers. The existing sweepers have exceeded their useful life and have been breaking down. This purchase will reduce the number of times streets are not swept due to broken equipment and reduce equipment maintenance costs. The new sweepers should be in service by the end of 2012. For more information, please contact Ken Bailey, Equipment Services Manager, at (510) 615-5487 or kbailey@oaklandnet.com.

Upcoming City of Oakland Job Announcements - During the week of February 27, the Department of Human Resources Management (DHRM) anticipates posting job announcements for Police Records Supervisor and Police Services Manager I. For updated information on City jobs, please view the DHRM website at <http://agency.governmentjobs.com/oaklandca/default.cfm>. This employment information page also contains information on minimum qualifications of specific job classifications, how to apply for a job online, and how to submit a job interest card for positions not currently posted. For more information, please contact Daryl Look, Principal Human Resource Analyst, at (510) 238-4479 or dlook@oaklandnet.com.

The Great Backyard Bird Count: Birding Basics Workshop & Count - Held on February 18, this 45-minute training and workshop included discussions on the history of the Rotary Nature Center and Lake Merritt Wildlife Refuge, why bird count information is important in the conservation and scientific world, basics in bird identification (types of bills and feet, body shape, colors, etc.) and how to conduct a bird count. For the free event, checklists and tally forms for Lake Merritt and loaner bird identification pamphlets and books were provided. Several of the attendees expressed an interest in volunteering at the Rotary Nature Center after the event. For more information, please contact Alex Fulper, Bird Count Organizer, (510) 238-3739 or afulper@oaklandnet.com.

Oakland Airport Connector Guideway Foundation Construction Update - Starting February 20, construction on the Oakland Airport Connector (OAC) guideway foundation and column structures continued at additional locations near the intersection of Hegenberger and Airport Access roads and along 98th Avenue between Doolittle Drive and Airport Access Road. General work hours are 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Monday through Saturday. However, some work will be performed at night between 9:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m., Monday through Saturday. The public should be aware of lane reconfigurations, closures and detours. Foundation and column construction in the area will continue through 2012 and general construction of the OAC will continue through 2013. For more information, please call (510) 464-6463 or visit www.bart.gov/oac.

Office of Parks and Recreation Summer Employment Opportunities - Through March 5, the Office of Parks and Recreation will be accepting applications for summer employment opportunities. Positions will be available in the Sports Unit, Cultural Arts and Camp programs and the Radical Roving Recreation Program. It should be noted that funding for these employment opportunities do not come from the City's General Fund. To apply, please visit

www.oaklandnet.com. For more information, please contact the Department of Human Resources at (510) 238-3112.

Free Tax Preparation Assistance Available at Three Oakland Senior Centers - Through April 12, free State and Federal income tax preparation assistance is available for low- and moderate-income seniors at three Department of Human Services' senior centers. The assistance program, sponsored by the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP), is staffed by trained professionals. Appointments are required. Participating senior centers include the Downtown Senior Center – (510) 238-3284, North Oakland Senior Center – (510) 597-5085 and West Oakland Senior Center – (510) 238-7016. To schedule an appointment, please call one of the participating centers directly.

Oakland Public Library Offers Free Tax Help - Through April 16, trained volunteers will be on hand at several library locations to help residents file their taxes. This free assistance is made possible thanks to a long-standing partnership between the Oakland Public Library and AARP. The service will be available at the Main Library, César Chávez Branch, Eastmont Branch, Dimond Branch and Golden Gate Branch. Most locations require advance appointments (call ahead), but walk-ins are accepted at Main and Eastmont on a first-come, first-served basis. For a complete schedule and additional information, please visit http://www.oaklandlibrary.org/PR/Tax_Assistance_2012.pdf.

Upcoming Meetings and Events:

City Wide Track and Field program - Every Saturday from 8:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., McClymonds High School, 2607 Myrtle Street. McClymonds High School is hosting FREE track clinics in partnership with 100 Black Men. The clinics serve 160 youth between the ages of 5-15 yrs. This event is open to the public and prior registration is not required but suggested. For more information on these clinics, contact Willie White at (510) 238-3897.

Art of Living Black Open Studios Event - February 25, 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Mills College Student Union, 5000 MacArthur Blvd. This exciting group art exhibition features 15 Bay Area artists of African descent working in a wide range of media. The show includes sculptors, painters, jewelry makers, doll makers and photographers. For more information, please visit www.blackartatmills.com.

Black Women in American History & Culture: Michelle Obama - February 25, 1:00 - 2:30 p.m., African American Museum and Library at Oakland (AAMLO), 659 14th St. In keeping with AAMLO's theme of Black Women in American History & Culture, Dr. Ula Y. Taylor, Professor of History at the University of California-Berkeley, will deliver a keynote address examining Michelle Obama's role in history based on a recent article on the First Lady authored by Dr. Taylor. For more information, please visit www.oaklandlibrary.org/AAMLO/index.html.

African American Quilters of Oakland Demonstration and Workshop - February 25, 1:00 - 4:00 p.m., West Oakland Branch Library, 1801 Adeline St. This group meets monthly and is open to everyone, but this month you will see beautiful heirloom quilts and modern

interpretations. Bring something you are working on or buy a beginners kit from the group. For more information, please visit www.oaklandlibrary.org.

Celebrate Black History Month with Crafts - February 25, 1:30 p.m., 81st Ave Branch Library, 1021 81st Ave. and 3:30 p.m., Elmhurst Branch Library, 1427 88th Ave. Celebrate African American History with crafts. Guests will be making a version of kente cloth and creating container gardens to celebrate both Ghanan and Kenyan heritage. For more information, please visit www.oaklandlibrary.org.

Screening of The Civil War -The Cause - 1861 - February 25, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m., African American Museum and Library at Oakland, 659 14th St. Screening of episode one of a film by Ken Burns takes the audience to 1861 when the stage is set for war as the nation begins to tear apart. Opposition by the North to slavery in the South fuels a bitter debate on States' rights. For more information, please visit www.oaklandlibrary.org/AAMLO/index.html.

Oakland Art Murmur Guided Walking Tours - February 25, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m., Tour starts at Farley's East, 33 Grand Ave. Tours are led by prominent Oakland gallery directors, curators, writers and artists with a different theme each month. This tour's theme is Ceramics and the guide will be Joshua Margolis, artist and member of FM collective. For more information, please visit <http://oaklandartmurmur.org/calendar/saturday-stroll>.

Oakland Home Energy Efficiency Workshop - February 28, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m., Dimond Branch Library, 3565 Fruitvale Ave. This homeowner information event, produced by Energy Upgrade California, highlights home improvement projects that make homes more energy efficient and comfortable while saving homeowners money. Homeowners can get up to \$4,000 back in rebates when they make their homes more energy efficient. Local contractors who do this type of work will be in attendance and participants can hear from an Oakland homeowner who has been through the process. For more information, please contact Edie Irons at (510) 891-6528 or eirons@stopwaste.org.

Lake Merritt Boating Center - Beginning in March, the Lake Merritt Boating Center, 568 Bellevue Drive, is offering two 10-day programs for "After-School Learn-To-Sail." Youth will learn the fundamentals of sailing with the goal of sailing solo by the end of the program. The two programs will run from late March to early June and again from early May to early June. Each program will offer one or two days of sailing after school each week for approximately two hours per day. This sailing program is offered in partnership with OPR Recreation Centers who will invite up to 14 Oakland youth ages 10 to 17 to participate in each program. Participants are able to enjoy this program free of charge and expenses are paid in full with a grant from the California State Department of Boating and Waterways. For more information, please call (510) 238-2196.

Another Terrific Movie-Lecture Series: Night of the Hunter – A Fairy Tale Nightmare - March 2, Noon, Downtown Oakland Senior Center, 200 Grand Ave. If you love movies with mystery and suspense, hang on to your hat because this 1955 classic delivers! For more information, please call (510) 238-3284.

Toy Town: The Land of Lost Identities - March 2-4, Various Times, Laney College Theater, 900 Fallon St. Toy Town is a Wizard of Oz-like journey into the mind of a teenage girl struggling with family pressures and the world's woes. Follow her into a wild, magical land of lost dolls and action figures, all trapped in a mega superstore. The production features the Destiny Arts Youth Performance Company, a multicultural group of teens who create dynamic productions with professional artists that combine hip hop, modern and aerial dance, theater, song and rap. For more information, please visit www.destinyarts.org/ParentsStudents/events.html.

Oakland Museum's White Elephant Sale - March 3 - 4, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., 333 Lancaster St. The legendary White Elephant Sale is held in a 96,000-sq.-ft. warehouse and features quality used items including an extensive offering of vintage clothing, fine jewelry, Asian collectibles, tools, furniture, sporting goods and more. All sale proceeds benefit the Oakland Museum of California. Free shuttle service from the Fruitvale BART station. For more information, please visit www.WhiteElephantSale.org.

Alice in Oaksterland - March 8 - 10, 15 - 17, 22 - 25, 29 - 31, 8:00 p.m., Laney College Theater, 900 Fallon St. Fusion Theater Company premieres Alice in Oaksterland. Recently relocated to Oakland, Alice follows a white rabbit art car, which sends her on a journey careening down the tunnels by Lake Merritt and deep into her own mind. For more information, please call (510) 501-8529.

The Town Spectacle: A Multi-Interactive Extravaganza - March 9, 6:00 - 9:00 p.m., Oakland Asian Cultural Center, 388 9th St. Seven interactive music and art exhibits. Multiple music and arts interactive stations to make stuff, play stuff and learn something new. For more information, please call (510) 637-0455.

Volunteer for Oakland - March 10, 1:00 - 4:00 p.m., Oakland City Hall, 1 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza. Learn more about hands-on volunteering with organizations already making a difference in our city. Learn about social justice advocacy opportunities in our city and how you can make positive change in Oakland during this event hosted by Mayor Jean Quan. For more information, please visit <http://www2.oaklandnet.com/Government/o/Mayor/index.htm>.

Oakland East Bay Symphony Concert: Stops on the Orient Express - March 16, 8:00 p.m., Paramount Theatre, 2025 Broadway. The program opens with Schubert's delightful *Overture in C Major* and continues with composer Ned Rorem's *Letters from Paris*. Andrew Sords makes his debut with OEBS playing one of the greatest concertos ever written, Brahms' richly harmonic *Violin Concerto*. For more information, please visit www.oeps.org.

Rock the Boat Spring Break 2012 - April 9 - 13, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., Lake Merritt Boating Center, 568 Bellevue Ave. The Girl Scouts of Northern California and the City of Oakland's Lake Merritt Boating Center offer this special program for young ladies, ages 6 to 10. Participants will gain boating skills and discovery through arts & crafts, games, songs and adventures in nature. This is also a recruitment event for the Girl Scouts of Northern California.

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Registration deadline is March 23. For more information, please call Nicole Jones at (800) 447-4475, ext. 3011 or via email njones@girlscoutsnorcal.org.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

DEANNA J. SANTANA
City Administrator

cc: Agency/Department Directors
Media List