



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** HONORABLE MAYOR &  
CITY COUNCIL

**FROM:** Deanna J. Santana

**SUBJECT:** City Administrator's Weekly Report

**DATE:** November 9, 2012

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### INFORMATION

Following are the key activities to be highlighted this week:

***Upcoming Holiday Closure at the City of Oakland*** – On Monday, November 12, the City of Oakland will suspend administrative and other City services for the Veterans' Day holiday on Monday, November 12. While the City's administrative employees are out of the office, if a situation arises that requires more staffing, the City has a plan in place to call in additional resources. Police, fire and emergency services are not affected during holidays or business closures. Regular parking enforcement will occur throughout the city for all parking violations on Monday, November 12, as Veterans' Day is not a meter holiday. For more information, please contact Karen Boyd, Citywide Communications Director, at (510) 238-6365.

***Oakland Rises to 7th in Nation in Bicycling Rate with 7,000 Biking Commuters*** – On November 5, the City of Oakland distributed a media release on the growth of bicycling in our city. More Oaklanders are pedaling to work than ever before. Over three percent of Oakland workers – or about 5,000 daily commuters – commute by bicycle according to the U.S. Census Bureau's newly released 2011 American Community Survey data. When combined with workers who bike to BART to catch a train, that's more than 7,000 Oaklanders who make cycling a part of their daily commute. Of the 100 largest cities in the country, Oakland has the seventh highest rate of bicycling. Since 2000, bicycling in Oakland has increased by over 250 percent. The rise in cycling reflects Oakland's extensive efforts to make bicycling in Oakland an easy and safe choice for all residents. Since 2007, Oakland's bikeway network of lanes and paths has steadily expanded from 90 to 130 miles, with over 20 miles added in just the last year. City staff members are currently advancing over a dozen projects to add new bike lanes to Oakland streets. To read the entire release, please visit [www2.oaklandnet.com/w/oak038366](http://www2.oaklandnet.com/w/oak038366). For more information, please contact Kristine Shaff, Public Information Officer, at [kshaff@oaklandnet.com](mailto:kshaff@oaklandnet.com) or (510) 238-2966.

***OPD Honors Department's Volunteers*** – On November 5, the Oakland Police Department (OPD) held an appreciation dinner honoring its volunteers. For over 20 years, more than 100 volunteers have worked alongside OPD. During these economically challenging times, when staffing has been reduced, volunteers are needed more than ever. About 150 volunteers volunteered over 20,000 hours last year at the animal shelter only. OPD's Citizen Police Academy (CPA) is a 14-week course that introduces Oakland residents to OPD. After

graduation, many of the Academy alumni become volunteers. Many volunteers work on various events or assist police personnel with large-scale clerical projects, organizational projects and newsletters. To read the entire release, please visit [www2.oaklandnet.com/w/oak038381](http://www2.oaklandnet.com/w/oak038381). If you would like to learn more about volunteering, please contact Ana Martinez, Neighborhood Services Coordinator, at [amartinez@oaklandnet.com](mailto:amartinez@oaklandnet.com) or Lea Rubio, Citizen Police Academy organizer, at [lrubio@oaklandnet.com](mailto:lrubio@oaklandnet.com). For more information, please contact the OPD Media Relations Office at [opdmedia@oaklandnet.com](mailto:opdmedia@oaklandnet.com) or (510) 238-7230.

***New Technology, Grace Period Make Parking in Oakland More Convenient*** – On November 9, the City of Oakland distributed a news release on its continued efforts to improve the experience of drivers parking at metered spaces, both on-street and in off-street lots and garages. A variety of enhancements make it easier to pay for parking, avoid parking tickets and enjoy the offerings of Oakland's vibrant commercial districts. These include:

- New pay-by-phone technology
- A five-minute grace period pilot program
- Self-serve payment kiosks in garages
- New meters that accept credit/debit cards
- A holiday parking promotion to encourage people to shop in Oakland

To read the full news release, please visit [www2.oaklandnet.com/w/OAK038520](http://www2.oaklandnet.com/w/OAK038520). For more information, please contact Karen Boyd, Citywide Communications Director, at (510) 238-6365.

***OPR to Host Series of Focus Groups*** – From November 19 through December 13, the Office of Parks and Recreation will host a series of Focus Groups to gather community input on OPR facilities and programming. Participants will hear plans for the New Year, discuss park programs, dog play areas, park use hours, facility improvements and public safety.

- District 1 Community Focus Group  
Monday, November 19, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.  
Studio One Art Center  
365 45th Street
- District 2 Community Focus Group  
Wednesday, November 28, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.  
Franklin Recreation Center  
1010 East 15th Street
- District 5 Community Focus Group  
Thursday, November 29, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.  
Manzanita Recreation Center  
2701 22nd Avenue
- District 4 Community Focus Group  
Monday, December 3, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.  
Allendale Recreation Center  
3711 Suter Street
- District 3 Community Focus Group  
Wednesday, December 5, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.  
Willie Keys Recreation Center  
3131 Union Street
- District 6 Community Focus Group  
Thursday, December 6, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.  
Rainbow Recreation Center  
5800 International Boulevard
- Citywide Programs Focus Group  
Monday, December 10, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.  
Lake Merritt Sailboat House  
568 Bellevue Avenue
- District 7 Community Focus Group  
Thursday, December 13, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.  
Ira Jinkins Recreation Center  
9175 Edes Avenue

For more information on the focus groups, please contact Karis Griffin, Recreation Supervisor, at (510) 597-5027.

***21st Annual Thanksgiving Dinner to Serve Holiday Meal to 2,000 Needy Individuals*** – On November 20, the 21st Annual Thanksgiving Dinner will be held from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Oakland Marriott City Center, 1001 Broadway. The free turkey feast will provide a nutritious meal and entertainment to more than 2,000 low-income families, seniors and homeless individuals while providing them the opportunity to obtain a winter coat/jacket if needed. The annual event is hosted by the City of Oakland's Department of Human Services, Communities United Committee, Community Action Partnership and the Emergency Food Providers Committee. Major sponsors are the City of Oakland's Hunger Program; David Lee, power forward and center for the Golden State Warriors; Oakland Paratransit Program and the Oakland Marriott City Center. This volunteer-operated event brings out the best in our community and is supported by donations from hundreds of community donors who have a spirit of giving and fellowship. Just \$12.63 will provide a meal for one guest and \$25 will feed an entire family. Please consider giving generously of your time and resources to make this annual event a success. Volunteers serve the scrumptious dinner with all the trimmings while guests enjoy live entertainment and a nutritious meal. Donations are greatly appreciated, as this event is entirely supported by gifts from agencies and individual donors. Donations are tax deductible. To volunteer or make a donation, please call the Department of Human Services' Hunger and Homeless Program at (510) 238-2077. For more information, please contact Susan Shelton, Community Housing Services Manager, at [srshelton@oaklandnet.com](mailto:srshelton@oaklandnet.com) or (510) 238-2077.

***Coffee & Conversation: Beating the Holiday Blues*** – On November 19, the Downtown Oakland Senior Center, 200 Grand Avenue, will host an event on how to overcome those blues or spells of depression that sometimes occur during the holiday season. Starting at 9:00 a.m., counselors from the Psychological Services Center will be on hand to offer tips and to answer questions. The event is free, but advance reservations are required. R.S.V.P. to (510) 238-3284. For more information, please contact Jennifer King, Senior Center Director at [jking@oaklandnet.com](mailto:jking@oaklandnet.com) or (510) 238-3284.

***California Midwives Support Oakland Early Head Start Program*** – On November 2, midwives from across the state gathered at Preservation Park in downtown Oakland for the annual meeting of the California Nurse Midwives Association. At their annual meetings, newborn blankets are collected and donated to a local organization which serves families with newborns. This year's recipient was the City of Oakland's Early Head Start Program which serves very young children, birth to three years old, and their parents by focusing on prenatal services and positive parenting skills. For more information, contact Usana Hopkins, Early Childhood Services Manager, at [upulliam@oaklandnet.com](mailto:upulliam@oaklandnet.com).

***The Spookiest Decoration Winners Announced*** – On October 31, agencies and departments in the City of Oakland participated in a Halloween haunted house competition and invited local children to tour each department floor with spooky decorations and costumes from 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. This friendly completion helps build intra-agency relationships among City staff and community with Oakland residents. The Office of Parks and Recreation would like to applaud all

the departments and staff who participated and joined the Halloween event. The contest winners were:

- 1st place – Business Tax & Revenue, 1st floor of Dalziel Building
- 2nd place – Public Works Agency's Building Services, 1st floor of Dalziel Building
- 3rd place – Office of Neighborhood Investment, 5th Floor of Dalziel Building
- 4th place – Planning, Building & Neighborhood Preservation, 3rd floor of Dalziel Building
- 5th place – Department of Human Services, 2nd floor of Wilson Building
- 6th place – Public Works Agency's Environmental Services, 5th floor of Dalziel Building

For more information, please contact Tiffany Millinder, Administrative Assistant, at (510) 238-3791.

***Daffodil Bulb Day*** – On November 10, approximately 10,000 free daffodil bulbs will be distributed to pre-registered volunteers who will plant them in parks and other public spaces throughout Oakland to further beautify neighborhoods. The program is run by Keep Oakland Beautiful, in partnership with the Office of Parks and Recreation and the Public Works Agency's Adopt a Spot program. Funds for the project come from a UPS grant with additional support from Home Depot. For more information, please contact Peter Collier, Recreation Specialist, at (510) 238-2197.

### **Upcoming Meetings and Events:**

***Monday Night Tights: Ballet Film Series*** – Mondays through December 3, 7:00 p.m., Danforth Lecture Hall, Mills College Art Museum, 5000 MacArthur Boulevard. Mills College is hosting ballet movies every Monday. Some movie titles include *Black Swan*, *Billy Elliot* and *Dracula: Pages from a Virgin's Diary*. For more information, please visit [www.mcam.mills.edu/events/](http://www.mcam.mills.edu/events/).

***Peralta Junction Events*** – Weekends through December 15, Various Hours, corner of Mandela Parkway and West Grand Avenue. Working with local artists, the Peralta Junction Project creates an arts-based gathering space, autumnal activities and exciting economic opportunities. There will be art installations, creative workshops, local performing arts programming, micro-retail shops featuring local artisans, Oakland-based food trucks, a pumpkin patch and a tented creative commons. For more information, please visit <http://peraltajunction.com> or call (510) 550-0009.

***Hidden Jewels*** – Every Saturday through November 10, 10:30 a.m. - Noon, Ira Jinkins Recreation Center, 9175 Edes Avenue. Jewelry classes where participants can design their own custom pieces. The beginners' classes teach the use of appropriate tools to create original unique jewelry such as earrings, necklaces, bracelets and body jewelry. For more information, please contact Renee Tucker, Recreation Specialist, at (510) 615-5959.

***Ira Jinkins Basketball Clinic*** – Every Saturday year-round, 10:30 a.m. - Noon, Ira Jinkins Recreation Center, 9175 Edes Avenue. The basketball clinic is designed for youth, ages 7-12, to experience the basics of basketball techniques while enjoying fitness. The clinic meets in the

gym. For more information including registration fees, please contact Donte Watson, Center Director, at (510) 615-5959.

***Friends of the Oakland Public Library Bookstore Celebrates 20 Years in Old Oakland*** – Through Sunday, November 11, Various Hours, Bookmark Bookstore, 721 Washington Street. The Friends of the Oakland Public Library (FOPL) will mark its 20th anniversary with a weeklong celebration by extending the 20 percent discount available to FOPL members to anyone who makes a purchase in the store. Plans include an Anniversary Raffle with prizes from local businesses and Kids' Day on November 10. For more information, please visit the Bookmark Bookstore website at [www.thebookmarkbookstore.org](http://www.thebookmarkbookstore.org).

***CORE Classes*** – Through Saturday, December 1, Various Hours, Holy Names University, 3500 Mountain Boulevard. Learn how to make yourself, your family and your neighborhood better prepared to deal with emergencies. There is limited space available for these classes. You can register for CORE I and II classes only, if you prefer. For more information, please visit [www.oaklandcore.org](http://www.oaklandcore.org), email [core@oaklandnet.com](mailto:core@oaklandnet.com) or call (510) 238-6351.

***18th Annual Days of the Dead Exhibition*** – Through Sunday, December 9, Various Hours, Oakland Museum of California, 1000 Oak Street. A wide range of local artists are featured in this observance and exhibition entitled *Forgotten Stories, Remarkable Lives: Dias de los Muertos 2012*. Through altars and installations, the exhibition pays tribute to Californians in the recent and more distant past. For more information, please visit [www.museumca.org](http://www.museumca.org).

***We Are America: Resistance & Resilience*** – Through December 30, Various Hours, Oakland Asian Cultural Center, 388 9th Street, Suite 290. An exhibit featuring a 100-year timeline about the civil rights of Filipinos which provides a visual account of Filipino resistance to discrimination and a chronology of the community's struggle for equality. In addition to the timeline a display of photos, artifacts and news articles will be on exhibit. For more information, please visit [www.oacc.cc/programs/exhibitions.html](http://www.oacc.cc/programs/exhibitions.html).

***Oakland East Bay Symphony Concert: Celebrating Democracy*** – Friday, November 9, 8:00 p.m., Paramount Theatre, 2025 Broadway. Opening concert for the 2012-13 season with Michael Morgan, Conductor, celebrating the rich, vibrant tradition of American music. For more information, please visit [www.paramounttheatre.com](http://www.paramounttheatre.com).

***Doorway to Islamic Civilization*** – Friday, November 9 through Sunday, November 11, Various Hours, Islamic Cultural Center of Northern California, 1433 Madison Street. Hands-on workshops on Islamic art and culture set against the current social backdrop of Islamophobia. These workshops are meant to give those interested the chance to get to know Islam and Muslims by providing a safe space to explore and experience the Islamic sense of beauty embodied in art, crafts, music, architecture and more. A screening of "Islamic Art: Mirror of the Invisible World," will be followed by a panel discussion with filmmaker Michael Wolfe and Islamic art and architecture experts. The Mevlevi Order of America will also be present to offer a Dhikr (a devotional act) by Mevlevi musicians and dervish turners. For more information, please visit [www.iccnc.org](http://www.iccnc.org).

***Saturday Stories*** – Saturday, November 10, Noon - 4:00 p.m. MOCHA, 538 Ninth Street, Suite 210. Free Library Day and Bookmark Making! Show your library card and get in FREE. There will be bookmark making activities in partnership Bookmark Bookstore on Washington. For more information, please visit [www.mocha.org](http://www.mocha.org).

***Truly Outstanding Perennials for the Bay Area*** – Saturday, November 10, Noon - 1:00 p.m., Lake Merritt Trails Gardens, 568 Bellevue Avenue. The Alameda County Master Gardeners will present a presentation by master gardener Meredith Kaplan who shares which plants are great for summer-dry gardens in the Bay Area, explains what “drought tolerant” means and discusses the Master Gardener’s list of outstanding plants – many of which are showcased in the Lake Merritt Trails Garden. For more information, please contact Peter Collier, Recreation Specialist, at (510) 238-2197.

***Roll Out Festival*** – Saturday, November 10, Noon - 10:00 p.m., Campbell Street at 26<sup>th</sup> Street. For one day only, a 12,000-square-foot vacant lot known as the unfinished section of Campbell Street, will be transformed into an autumnal steamy celebration of industrial art and vintage equipment. Attractions include several wood-fired steam engines including all nine-tons of “Hortense,” Kinetic Steam Works’ lovingly restored 1923 traction engine, a pumpkin-slashing Guillotine, a steam-powered player piano, the Robot Smashing Show, and three steam boats including our beloved “Wilhelmina,” a 46-foot stern wheel paddle boat, and yes, even more steam. For more information, please visit [www.kineticsteamworks.org](http://www.kineticsteamworks.org).

***Interpretive Beer Tasting: A Tastebud Tour of the World’s Best Brews*** – Saturday, November 10, 7:00 - 10:00 p.m., Lake Merritt Garden Center, 666 Bellevue Avenue. Oakland-brewed beers and other brews will be available for tasting. Beer, wine and non-alcoholic drinks will also be available for purchase. All proceeds support Feather River Camp. For tickets and more information, please call (510) 336-2267 or visit [www.featherrivercamp.com](http://www.featherrivercamp.com).

***Housing Clinic & Homeowner Workshop on Foreclosures*** – Monday, November 12, 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., registration runs 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., Oakland Marriott City Center, 1001 Broadway. Assemblymember Sandré R. Swanson, Oakland Mayor Jean Quan and the City of Oakland host a day of free housing and foreclosure prevention services and resources. Lenders will meet face-to-face with homeowners, and information on valuable housing programs will be available. For more information, please call (510) 286-1670 or visit [www.asm.ca.gov/swanson](http://www.asm.ca.gov/swanson).

***Biketopia*** – Friday, November 16, 5:30 - 9:30 p.m., Pavilion Building, Jack London Square, foot of Broadway. The Pavilion will be transformed into a Biketopian city of the future. Socialize with friends old and new, enjoy a tasty New Belgium brew or glass of wine, delicious food from Miss Pearl’s, browse an impressive silent auction, enjoy good music, complimentary bike valet and more. All ages welcome. For more information, please visit [www.ebbc.org/biketopia](http://www.ebbc.org/biketopia).

***Patchwork Indie Art & Craft Festival*** – Sunday, November 18, 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Jack London Square Pavilion, foot of Broadway. Patchwork showcases 100+ curated local independent vendors with handmade goods such as look-and-shop art, knits, clothing, paper

goods, accessories, housewares, artisan food and more. Free DIY crafting and complimentary eco-gift wrap. For more information, please visit [www.patchworkshow.com](http://www.patchworkshow.com).

***Jazz at the Chimes*** – Sunday, November 18, 2:00 p.m., Chapel of the Chimes, 4499 Piedmont Avenue. Jazz series, featuring a performance by Marcos Silva, returns to this landmark designed by Julia Morgan. For more information, please visit <http://oakland.chapelofthechimes.com/blog/article/show?id=1942>.

***Holiday Ice*** – Sunday, November 18 to Saturday, January 5, Various Times, Oakland Ice Center, 519 18th Street. Enjoy the holiday season by gliding across the ice on a pair of skates during one of the many public skating sessions. Warm clothing and gloves recommended. All Holiday Ice sessions are skate one session, and get the second session 50 percent off. Discount applies for same day only. Closed Thanksgiving and Christmas days. Skate rentals available. For more information, please visit [www.oaklandice.com](http://www.oaklandice.com).

***Harvest Camp*** – Monday, November 19 - Wednesday, November 21, 7:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m., Ira Jinkins Recreation Center, 9175 Edes Avenue. Participants, ages 4-11 years old, can enjoy this annual camp where they will create arts and crafts, play competition sports and visit the aquatic center for indoor swimming and activities. Participants must bring lunch. For additional information, please contact Donte Watson, Recreation Center Director, at (510) 615-5959.

***Holiday Tree Lighting*** – Friday, November 30, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m., Jack London Square, foot of Broadway. This annual tree lighting celebration comes complete with grazing reindeer and live musical performances by Radio Disney recording artist Amber Lily, pop sensation Emme and rising star Jeremy Thurber. Get a sneak preview of a float from the Children's Holiday Parade and meet costumed characters. The Oakland Ballet will host a dress-up station for kids featuring costumes from this year's performance. For more information, please visit [www.jacklondonsquare.com](http://www.jacklondonsquare.com).

***CityCamp*** – Saturday, December 1, 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m., Oakland City Hall, 1 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza. CityCamp will bring together City employee, business, neighborhood, non-profit and academic communities to re-imagine the ways in which open source collaboration and technology will shape the future of our city. The format of the event is designed for collaborative learning and as a launch pad for ongoing innovation and participation between otherwise disconnected groups in the city. Of particular interest is the use of social/participatory media, mobile devices, linked open data and the idea of the "Web as a platform." Hosted by the Oakland Code for America Brigade, CityCamp is sponsored by Accela. The free event will include breakfast and lunch. To register for CityCamp, please visit [www.citycampoak.org](http://www.citycampoak.org). For more information, please contact Nicole Neditch, Online Engagement Manager, at (510) 238-2105 or [nneditch@oaklandnet.com](mailto:nneditch@oaklandnet.com).

***Piedmont Avenue Branch Library Grand Opening Celebration*** – Saturday, December 1, 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., 80 Echo Avenue. Community celebration for the opening of the branch library at its new site on the grounds of the Piedmont Avenue Elementary School. For more information,

please contact Mary Schrader, Branch Services Librarian, at (510) 238-3670 or [mschrader@oaklandlibrary.org](mailto:mschrader@oaklandlibrary.org).

***Oakland Holiday Parade*** – Saturday, December 1, 2:00 p.m., Broadway from 11th to 20th streets. Dancing trees and floats on parade join the giant balloons that fly high in the sky. There are marching bands, drill teams and clowns. It's fun to watch kids see their favorite stars. Santa rides his sleigh along the parade route. For more information, please visit [www.oaklandholidayparade.com](http://www.oaklandholidayparade.com).

***27<sup>th</sup> Annual Holiday Concert*** – Saturday, December 1, 7:30 p.m., Paramount Theatre of the Arts, 2025 Broadway. The Oakland Interfaith Gospel Choir presents its popular holiday concert with special guests. For more information, please visit [www.oigc.org](http://www.oigc.org).

***Songs for a Starry Night*** – Saturday, December 1 & Sunday, December 2, 7:00 p.m. Saturday and 5:00 p.m. Sunday, Odell Johnson Theater, Laney College, 900 Fallon Street. The Oakland-East Bay Gay Men's Chorus presents its holiday concerts with a mix of seasonal songs representing the diversity of the East Bay. For more information, please visit [www.oebgmc.org](http://www.oebgmc.org).

***A Holiday Tradition*** – Saturdays & Sundays from December 1 through December 16, 11:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Dunsmuir-Hellman Historic Estate, 2960 Peralta Oaks Court. Visitors tour the magnificent 37-room mansion, which features turn-of-the-century holiday decorations plus indulge in Holiday teas, ride the romantic horse-drawn carriage and sip something warm while being entertained by holiday performers. Work on your holiday shopping list at the mansion gift shop or the Carriage House crafters. The Kids' Zone will have pony rides, holiday face-painting, crafts and the Breakfast with Santa. The Oakland Ballet will perform an excerpt of The Nutcracker. For more information, please visit [www.dunsmuir-hellman.com](http://www.dunsmuir-hellman.com) or call (510) 238-3052.

***ZooLights*** – Friday, November 30 through Monday, December 31, 5:30 - 9:00 p.m., Oakland Zoo, 9777 Golf Links Road. Hundreds of thousands of LED lights brighten Oakland's night sky. Highlights include a candy cane lane themed rides area, a night time adventure on the Outback Express train, rocking around the Christmas trees in the Children's Zoo, and a light show that's sure to blow out any bah hum bugs. Closed December 24-25. For more information, please visit [www.oaklandzoo.org](http://www.oaklandzoo.org) or call (510) 632-9525, ext. 100.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

DEANNA J. SANTANA  
City Administrator