



## *MEMORANDUM*

**TO:** HONORABLE MAYOR &  
CITY COUNCIL

**FROM:** John A. Flores

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

**DATE:** January 23, 2015

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### INFORMATION

Following are the key activities to be highlighted this week:

***Vote Daily For Oakland In The Miracle-Gro Competition*** – Through Monday, February 9, Oakland Parks & Recreation (OPR) is one of four finalists in the Inaugural Miracle-Gro1000 People's Choice Community Gardens Grant competition. The other finalists are Orlando, New York and Detroit. The city with the most online votes on February 9 will receive a \$40,000 grant. If Oakland wins, the grant will fund a community garden at Lowell Park. Contest rules indicate voters may vote once per day per device until February 9. To see an ABC7 news report on the competition, please visit <http://abc7news.com/society/oakland-community-garden-hoping-to-win-contest-for-funding/456125/>. To cast your vote for Oakland, please visit [www.gro1000vote.com](http://www.gro1000vote.com).

***APWA Public Works Leadership Fellow*** – On Thursday, January 15, Oakland Public Works Principal Engineer Gus Amirzehni received recognition by the American Public Works Association (APWA) as a national Public Works Leadership Fellow. Mr. Amirzehni is receiving this service designation in recognition of the highest level of commitment to the public works profession. The APWA Leadership Fellows have been designated to mentor other public works professionals. There are a growing number of professionals in our organization who have earned this level of recognition, including Brooke Levin, Brian Carthan, Frank Foster, Gil Hayes, John McCabe and Susan Kattchee. For more information, please contact Kristine Shaff, Public Information Officer, at [kshaff@oaklandnet.com](mailto:kshaff@oaklandnet.com) or (510) 238-2966.

***OPD Is Hiring Lateral Entry Police Officers*** – Friday, January 30, is the deadline for Lateral/POST Academy Graduates to apply to serve as an Oakland Police Officer. Applicants must have been employed by a law enforcement agency as a police officer for at least one year within the past 36 months, and possess a current basic California POST Certificate. Applications are being accepted through 11:59 p.m. on Friday, January 30. To apply, please visit <http://agency.governmentjobs.com/oaklandca/default.cfm?action=viewJob&jobID=1039422>. This page also provides details and dates on the Practices & Actual Physical Ability Test, POST Entry Level Law Enforcement Test and Oral Board Interviews that are part of the selection

process. For more information, please contact Acting Sgt. Juan Sanchez, Recruiting & Background investigations Unit, at [jsanchez@oaklandnet.com](mailto:jsanchez@oaklandnet.com) or (510) 238-3339.

***OPD Is Hiring Police Officer Trainees*** – Friday, January 30, is the deadline to apply for the Oakland Police Recruit Academy to pursue a career as an Oakland Police Officer. The ideal candidate has an education and experience demonstrating personal motivation, cares about others, can deal effectively and fairly with residents and co-workers, can identify problems and resolve them quickly while under pressure, and wants to work in a fast-paced, urban environment. Applications are being accepted through 11:59 p.m., on Friday, January 30. To apply, please visit

<http://agency.governmentjobs.com/oaklandca/default.cfm?action=viewJob&jobID=1035465>.

This page also provides details and dates on the Practices & Actual Physical Ability Test, POST Entry Level Law Enforcement Test and Oral Board Interviews that are part of the selection process. For more information, please contact Acting Sgt. Juan Sanchez, Recruiting & Background investigations Unit, at [jsanchez@oaklandnet.com](mailto:jsanchez@oaklandnet.com) or (510) 238-3339.

***OPR Youth Explorers*** – Beginning Wednesday, January 21, Oakland Parks & Recreation began accepting applications for its Youth Explorer program. This program trains youth, ages 13 to 17, for leadership positions within children's recreation, business and community activism. Participants will also learn how to apply for jobs, including resume writing and applying for jobs using online application platforms such as NEOGOV. Since the program needs to be self-sufficient, participants will also learn business tactics to raise funds. This program is ongoing and youth can apply to participate at any time. Please contact any recreation center for an application. For more information, please contact Michelle Doppelt, Recreation Supervisor, at (510) 482-7831.

***Reception For The Re-Create Art Contest And Traveling Exhibition*** – On Friday, January 23, the Oakland Public Works and Pro Arts Gallery are hosting an awards reception for Re-Create, an annual art competition promoted in Oakland schools which requires the use of discarded or reused materials in a creative application of the 4Rs – reduce, reuse, recycle and rot. At the event, fifteen prizes consisting of art supplies and museum passes will be awarded to student participants in this year's Re-Create Art Contest and Traveling Exhibition. The displayed artwork at the reception presents works created from discarded and reused materials by Oakland student artists. The free reception will be held at Pro Arts Gallery, 150 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. The reception is held to recognize and inspire the students and attendees to practice recycling and reuse every day. Following this year's public reception, selected pieces will be displayed at various Oakland Public Library branches during the months of February and March during the Re-Create Traveling Exhibition. For more information, please visit [www.oaklandrecycles.com](http://www.oaklandrecycles.com).

***Free Tax Preparation, Health Care Enrollment*** – On Friday, January 30, join Bay Area elected officials, the Alameda County-Oakland Community Action Partnership, United Way, the Alameda County Social Services Agency and the East Bay Asian Local Development Corporation for a free event offering expert tax preparation, health care enrollment assistance and help opening a bank account. The event will run from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Oakland

Main Library, 125 14th Street. If you are interested in tax preparation, for each person on your tax return, please bring:

- photo ID
- Social Security Card or ITIN
- W-2 forms for all jobs held in 2014
- all 1099s, 1098s and any other tax forms
- checking and savings account and routing numbers for direct deposit
- last year's tax return (if you have it)

If you have questions about the new healthcare laws, experts will be on hand to speak with you. Open enrollment closes February 15. For health care enrollment, please bring:

- proof of legal status
- proof of county residency (driver's license, utility bill, rental agreement)
- employer and income information for everyone in your family, such as a W-2
- your most recent income tax return (if you have it)

For further information about the Alameda County-Oakland Community Action Partnership, the Earned Income Tax Credit Coalition and the Earn It, Keep It, Save It campaign, please contact Estelle Clemons, Health and Human Services Program Planner, at [eclemons@oaklandnet.com](mailto:eclemons@oaklandnet.com) or (510) 238-3597.

***Soft Story Residential Building Survey*** – On Tuesday, January 13, an online survey for tenants and property owners of soft story buildings went live. More than 22,000 rental units in Oakland are potential soft story buildings, meaning that residents are at a high risk of personal injury, damage to possessions, loss of housing or loss of life in the event of an earthquake. The City seeks tenant and property owner input as it finalizes proposed soft story retrofit legislation for Oakland apartments. To take the survey, please visit [www.oaklandnet.com/softstorysurvey](http://www.oaklandnet.com/softstorysurvey). Community forums in February will also provide the opportunity for tenants and property owners to provide feedback. Once finalized, the schedule of community forums will be posted at [www.oaklandnet.com/homeretrofit](http://www.oaklandnet.com/homeretrofit). For more information on the City's Soft Story Building program, please contact Victoria Salinas, Chief Resilience Officer, at [vsalinas@oaklandnet.com](mailto:vsalinas@oaklandnet.com) or (510) 238-3487.

***Seismic Retrofit Grants For Single Family Homeowners*** – Sunday, February 15, is the deadline for the California Earthquake Authority's (CEA) Brace & Bolt Retrofit Program. The program offers grants of \$3,000 per home to property owners of single family/duplex wood-framed homes located in the following Oakland zip codes: 94602, 94607, 94609, 94610 and 94618. These zip codes were selected by the CEA because they have a high concentration of houses that meet certain state building code retrofit criteria for existing single-family buildings. Grant recipients will be selected in a random drawing of those who have applied and will be notified by email if selected. The grant is for simple retrofits to strengthen your house and potentially protect it from earthquake damage. The hope is to have 100 Oakland property owners selected as grant

recipients. For more information and to register for the grant, please visit [www.earthquakebracebolt.com](http://www.earthquakebracebolt.com).

***OPD Makes Arrests*** – On Thursday, January 15, at about 12:13 p.m., Oakland Police officers on patrol in the 2600 block of Alvingroom Court observed a vehicle that was reported stolen and had been used in connection with an armed robbery the day before. As the officers attempted to detain the occupants of the vehicle, they ran. The officers pursued them and arrested two of the suspects. Stolen items from the previous day's robbery and loss from a recent burglary were recovered. Later that day at about 10:05 p.m., Oakland Police officers responded to the 9900 block of Longfellow Avenue to investigate a report of a strong arm robbery. The victim told the officers that he been robbed by three juveniles. The victim was able to provide a detailed description of the suspects and their getaway vehicle. Officers began checking the area and were able to locate the vehicle and the suspects in the 2700 block of 98th Avenue. All three suspects were arrested. The officers recovered the car, which had been reported stolen. On Friday, January 16, at about 6:15 p.m., Oakland Police officers responded to the 4000 block of West Street to investigate a report of an armed robbery. While the officers were conducting a preliminary investigation, they heard a report over the radio of a second armed robbery. The suspects described were similar to the first armed robbery. Officers were able to locate and arrest the suspects and recover the stolen items. For more information, please contact Sgt. Holly Joshi, OPD Chief of Staff, at [hjoshi@oaklandnet.com](mailto:hjoshi@oaklandnet.com) or (510) 238-3131.

***Experience Oakland's Diverse Culinary Scene During Restaurant Week*** – Through Sunday, January 25, more than 80 Oakland restaurants will celebrate Oakland Restaurant Week, presented by Visit Oakland and Discover<sup>®</sup>. With a growing list of restaurants receiving acclaim from national media, Oakland has become one of the hottest culinary destinations in the U.S. In ranking Oakland No. 8 on its roster of top 10 U.S. travel destinations, Lonely Planet described Oakland as an “incubator for adventurous restaurants.” Participating restaurants will offer special prix fixe lunch and/or dinner menus at \$20, \$30 and \$40 per person, reflecting up to 25 percent off regularly priced a la carte items. Oakland's culinary growth continues to boom and the city reaps the benefits:

- Approximately 300 new restaurants and bars opened citywide since 2013
- Restaurants in Oakland's foodie districts (Downtown, Uptown, Jack London Square, Temescal and Rockridge) generated over \$200 million in sales in 2013, representing \$1.9 million sales tax revenue going into City of Oakland coffers

For a searchable list of participating restaurants and to make a reservation, please visit [www.oaklandrestaurantweek.org](http://www.oaklandrestaurantweek.org).

***Family Game Night*** – On Thursday, January 29, the deFremery Recreation Center, located at 1651 Adeline Street, and the Convergence Church will host a Family Game Night. Enjoy a free dinner and games from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. as part of a night of fun, family, great food and community engagement. This event is open to all ages. For more information, please contact Valorie Winn, Center Director, at (510) 238-7739.

***CORE Class Schedule For Winter 2015 Released*** – Through March, the CORE Program (Communities of Oakland Respond to Emergencies) will provide 17 free emergency preparedness training classes for individuals, neighborhood groups and community-based organizations throughout Oakland. CORE teaches self-reliance skills and helps neighborhoods establish response teams to take care of the neighborhood after a disaster until professional help arrives. CORE is a program of the Oakland Fire Department's Emergency Management Services Division (EMSD). In CORE I classes on home and family preparedness, participants learn how to reduce common household hazards, prepare a family disaster plan and emergency kits, develop evacuation plans and respond to earthquakes, fires, flooding, hazardous materials and more. In CORE II classes on neighborhood preparedness, participants who have completed CORE I can learn how to organize their neighborhoods, create emergency response teams and set up and operate a Neighborhood Command Post. For folks that have completed CORE I and II, CORE III classes offer emergency response hands-on training where they learn important practical hands-on skills needed to deal with a disaster. Classroom instruction provides training in fire suppression, damage assessment, light search and rescue, disaster first aid, disaster psychology, neighborhood communications and how to address people with functional and access needs. Training includes a simulated earthquake functional exercise. This course is taught by Oakland firefighters at the OFD Training Division. Additional CORE advanced workshops are offered every third Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to Noon on a variety of topics including Command Post Operations, Disaster First Aid and Communications. Advanced registration is required. For more information or to register for CORE classes and events, please visit [www.oaklandcore.org](http://www.oaklandcore.org) or call (510) 238-6351.

***Senior Needs Assessment Survey*** – On Wednesday, January 14, the City of Oakland Human Services Department (HSD) launched a survey to identify the needs, interests and concerns of Oakland residents aged 55 and older. Information gathered will help HSD better serve the senior community. There are several ways to participate in the survey:

- Take the survey online at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/GLYQHFS>
- Download and print out the survey in multiple languages at <http://www2.oaklandnet.com/Government/o/DHS/s/aas/index.htm>
- Pick up a paper survey at one of the following four City-operated senior centers: East Oakland Senior Center, 9255 Edes Avenue; Downtown Oakland Senior Center, 200 Grand Avenue; North Oakland Senior Center, 5714 MLK Jr. Way or West Oakland Senior Center, 1724 Adeline Street

Completed surveys should be mailed to the Human Services Department, 150 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, Suite 4340, Oakland, CA 94612 or dropped off at one of the senior centers listed above. Your participation will help ensure that City services are meeting the needs of seniors living in Oakland. For more information, please contact Scott Means, Human Services Manager, at [smeans@oaklandnet.com](mailto:smeans@oaklandnet.com) or (510) 238-6137.

***Hip Hop Therapy Program For Oakland Youth*** – Monday, February 23, is the application deadline for the Spring Hip Hop Therapy program which runs from February to June. The Oakland Public Library and Oakland Parks & Recreation Department will partner with Oakland-

based nonprofit, Beats Rhymes and Life, Inc. to offer a series of community workshops and Hip Hop Therapy programs to youth in Oakland. Young men of color between the ages of 12 to 19 are eligible to apply at <http://brl-inc.org/spring2015>. For more information, please contact Lana Adlawan, Supervising Librarian for Teen Services, at [ladlawan@oaklandlibrary.org](mailto:ladlawan@oaklandlibrary.org) or (510) 238-7613.

***Upcoming City Of Oakland Job Announcement*** – During the week of January 26, the Human sources Management Department (HRM) anticipates posting a job announcement for the following positions:

- Animal Control & Shelter Manager

For updated information on City jobs, please visit the HRM 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 the Human Resources Management Receptionist at (510) 238-3112.

**Upcoming Meetings and Events:**

For information on upcoming City meetings and events, please visit the City's online calendar at <http://www2.oaklandnet.com/Events/index.htm>. For events at the Oakland Public Library, please visit <http://oaklandlibrary.org/events>.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

JOHN A. FLORES

Interim City Administrator