

District One Budget Alert and Newsletter

Oakland City Councilmember Dan Kalb – June 2013

Letter from Dan

Hello,

After over five months in office, I am sending you this newsletter to (a) share with you important information about our city's budget process, (b) to introduce you to my staff, and (c) to update you on what's happening in district one.

I am proud of the amazing team I've assembled in my office to serve District One and the entire city. Community Outreach Director **Olga Bolotina**, Community Services Coordinator **Dannette Lambert** and Policy Manager **Oliver Luby** are working hard each day to serve the residents of district one. Please [click here](#) to find out about their respective backgrounds.

It is not news to anyone that the number one issue of concern in Oakland—including District One—is **crime and neighborhood safety**. In January of this year, I voted to fund an additional police academy as well as authorize the hiring of much-needed civilian technicians at OPD, which will free up some police officers to focus more on high priority police work. I also authored resolutions to support legislation that can help get guns off the streets. And I've been making the hiring of trained civilian analysts to help with investigations and crime lab work my top priority. Everyone has a right to feel—and be—safe in their neighborhood. I will continue to meet with residents in every neighborhood to discuss their concerns and offer my assistance in making each and every neighborhood a safe place to walk, be and live.

I can say without reservation that I am proud and honored to be your representative on the City Council. I will do my best to represent your interests at City Hall with integrity and purpose. Please feel free to contact my office to share your thoughts and suggestions.

Budget Decisions Imminent – Your Input Needed Now!



Since the Mayor and City Administrator jointly released their proposed budget for the 2013 – 2015 budget cycle in April, my staff and I have been working long hours crunching numbers, listening to people's thoughts on budget priorities, and engaging with my colleagues on the Council to produce a forward-looking budget for our city. We are fortunate that the City's financial situation is somewhat better than it was for the last budget cycle. However, the budget realities facing the City are still far from great. We face

a variety of tough choices, as there is not enough money available to be able to fully fund all of things that I believe should be funded.

Regarding priority number one, the public safety portion of the Mayor's budget includes funding for four police academies over the next two years, which will increase sworn police staffing, and the addition of five vitally important police 911 dispatchers. Additionally, I have taken the lead in advocating for the inclusion of at least 10 new trained civilian personnel at the Oakland Police Department (OPD). The hiring of these personnel is not only a cost-effective way to increase investigative staff, but it will also allow for more sworn personnel to be assigned to beat patrols and ultimately help reduce crime overall.

Another one of my high priorities is to push for cleaner neighborhoods. For example, we need to put more resources into picking up and deterring the illegal dumping of garbage. I am pushing to restore additional personnel in our Public Works Agency for this purpose.

Some of my additional budget priorities include making up most of the federal cuts in Head Start, funding to facilitate affordable housing, and responsible fiscal planning for the City's future finances.

The City Council must adopt a final budget by the end of June and has already had a series of meetings on the budget. Our budget is essentially our priorities for the next two years. Yesterday, two of my colleagues (Lynette McElhaney and Rebecca Kaplan) and **I jointly released our inclusive 'ALL-IN' budget proposal that brings together many of the key elements of earlier iterations put forth by others.** The final Council budget meeting will be *this* Thursday night, June 27.

*****Share your thoughts and recommendations!** Please feel free to contact me at dkalb@oaklandnet.com before Thursday afternoon with your input on what should be our top priorities as we adopt our two-year budget. You are also encouraged to contact the entire City Council. To do so, send your e-mail message to DL-CouncilMembers@oaklandnet.com

I am proud of our proposed 'ALL-IN' budget that puts public safety as priority one while also providing some additional resources to other vital services. Please [click here](#) to read the "All In" Budget proposal submitted by Councilmembers Kalb, Kaplan, and McElhaney.

And, if you're interested in expressing your views in person, please come to Thursday's Council meeting, 6:30 PM at City Hall. Please [click here](#) if you are interested in speaking during public comment on the budget. Many speakers are anticipated for Thursday's meeting, so we advise signing up to speak in advance and arriving early to get a seat. And please be prepared to stay for a while as this will be a long meeting.

In the Community



Overview of D-1 Listening Sessions

During the first few months of this year, we held a series of District One community listening sessions. Held in three different locations around the District, each Listening Session provided an opportunity for residents to share their thoughts on specific needs in parts of district one and in which direction Oakland should be headed. Our office would like to thank the nearly 200 residents who came out to pose their questions and share concerns in their neighborhoods and throughout our city.

Some of the highlights of the meeting include:

- Public safety concerns were the most frequent comments. Residents expressed a desire for more community policing, safer streets, and greater communication and accountability with the Police Department and other city agencies. Nearly 250 residents also came out to a May 6th Emergency Public Safety Meeting held at the North Oakland Senior Center. Additionally, our Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council (NCPC) meetings are a great place to continue these conversations. You can find out when your NCPC meets [here](#).
- D1 residents are environmentalists! Residents want more trees in District 1 and many of them are working with NGOs like Urban Releaf to make that happen. Bike lanes and improved bike and pedestrian safety were also enthusiastically requested.
- Public works issues, such as illegal garbage dumping, potholes, and graffiti were high priorities for many residents. Instructions on how to utilize the Public Works Agency's [SeeClickFix](#) system were given out. You can learn more about it in the section below.

The overarching takeaway from our Community Listening Sessions was that District 1 residents very much care about their neighborhoods and our city. Residents are ready and willing to take the extra effort to make Oakland an even better city. Working together, we can fix what's wrong with our city and highlight what is so great about living in Oakland. Thanks to all who came out and to the North Oakland Senior Center, Chabot Elementary School, and St. Columba Church for hosting us. And thanks also to Beebe Memorial Church for hosting D-1 town hall meetings on public safety and the budget.

How to Navigate City Services

In our first 6 months, we have had a plethora of constituent calls to address Public Works related issues such as potholes, illegal dumping, and graffiti. District 1 residents rightfully want a cleaner and safer city

and aren't shy about asking for it. This community participation is absolutely necessary if our resource strapped city is going to address these issues in a timely and appropriate manner.

While City Council staff is not allowed to direct the city staff on their work priorities, we can follow up and make clear inquiries on the status of pending requests. We will also do our best to facilitate a speedy resolution to the best of our abilities and authority.

The most effective first step in the process is to report the issue directly to the Public Works Department prior to calling our office. The City of Oakland created the [See Click Fix](#) system that allows everyone to report a problem in the most convenient and efficient fashion. There several ways that this system can be used (**and we use it too!**):

- Phone **(510) 615-5566**
- Email: pwacallcenter@oaklandnet.com
- Online reporting: [begin a New Service Request](#)
- Mobile App: [SeeClickFix](#) – you can download a version on your smart phone.

Please make sure that you record a case number and refer to that case number when you contact our office.

Local Business Highlight

Lois the Pie Queen

Located at 851 60th Street, Oakland

This Family owned business (run by owner Chris Davis) was recognized last week at the Oakland City Council together with several distinguished small businesses in Oakland.

[Lois the Pie Queen](#) has been open for over 60 years (40 in its current location). This iconic restaurant is part of Oakland's food culture; "Food that warms the soul," is Lois the Pie Queen's motto.

The restaurant features honest down-home food cooked from scratch, amazing biscuits, generous portions, and fast and welcoming service. This legendary establishment is best known for its world class pies. My favorite is the Raspberry Key Lime.



Events and Meetings

San Pablo Stroll

Saturday, June 29th, 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM

San Pablo Avenue, from 54th Street to 66th Street, Oakland

Meet your neighbors, support local merchants, eat good food and maybe even win a raffle prize.

Sponsored by the San Pablo Avenue Golden Gate Improvement Association (SPAGGIA)

Celebrate Pride at Oakland Museum of California

Sunday June 30th, 2:00 PM

Location: Oakland Museum of California

Art/Exhibits Tour/Cruise Film/Theater

Celebrate Pride Month with an LGBT History Tour in the Gallery of California History, led by an OMCA

Docent. Discover historic LGBT artifacts and explore the stories behind California's vibrant, diverse LGBT culture.

The 10th Annual Temescal Street Fair

Sunday, July 7th, 2013, Noon - 6 PM

Telegraph avenue, from 42nd street to 51st street, North Oakland

Sponsored by the Telegraph Temescal Business Improvement District (TBID)

Featuring multiple performance/music stages, a range of high-quality food booths, a 'green zone'

highlighting green businesses, and dozens of local artists, craftspeople and valuable organizational booths

to fill the day. ***Stop by our Dan Kalb District One booth to say 'Hi'.***

Bushrod Recreation Center Open House

Wednesday, July 10, 2 - 4 PM

Location: [Bushrod Recreation Center, 560 59th Street](#)

The Open House will showcase activities available at the center. There will be face painting, arts and & activities, a T-ball game and refreshments.

mnhammock@oaklandnet.com

Council Member Dan Kalb's First Annual District One Community Picnic

Sunday, July 28th, Noon - 3:30 PM

Lake Temescal Regional Park Streamside Picnic Site (south side)

(The park is located off of Broadway Terrace next to Highway 13. Park in the lot for a small fee or park on Broadway Terrace. You can also park on the north side of the park and walk a quarter mile around the lake to our picnic site.)

You are invited to Councilmember Dan Kalb's First Annual Summer Picnic. We provide the BBQ and drinks – You bring a side dish or dessert! This is a great place to meet your neighbors.

National Night Out in Oakland

Tuesday, August 6th, 6:30 - 9:00 PM

<http://www2.oaklandnet.com/nno>

Friends of the Golden Gate Library Jazz on Sundays Series

Please click [here](#) for more details.

Golden Gate Library
5606 San Pablo Avenue
Oakland, CA 94608

On-going events

Bites Off Broadway Mobile Food Trucks and Family Fun

Every Friday through early October, 5:30 - 8:30 PM

Venue: In front of the Studio One Art Center, 45th Street near Lawton Avenue, Oakland

Featuring the best of Oakland's own food culture, as well as Lawn Games, Hula Hooping and Face-Painting for the kids.

Get involved!

We are looking for interns and volunteers!

From entering data to event organizing to doing policy research – we have a lot of work to do and not enough hours in a day to do it. We welcome and appreciate your support. If you interested in helping out at your local elected official's office please contact Olga Bolotina, D-1 **Community Outreach Director**, at obolotina@oaklandnet.com Thank you!

Idora Park Project

A vacant lot is located on Telegraph Ave. and 56th St. under the 24. A group of neighbors is organizing to obtain funding and build a community space there. Some suggestions include a dog park, playground, a bocce ball court, and elements that incorporate the area's amusement park past and Italian roots. What would you like to see there? The organizing group is looking for planning volunteers and your ideas. To get involved, contact Christine at idoradesign@gmail.com or 510.847.3732.

