



City of  
**OAKLAND**  
California

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News from: **Oakland Parks & Recreation**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**OPR Breaks Ground on Curt Flood Field**

**Oakland, CA** – Today, Oakland Parks & Recreation Director Audree V. Jones Taylor joined Councilmember Annie Campbell Washington, Councilmember Noel Gallo, Director of Housing & Community Development Michele Byrd, Oakland Raiders Pro Football Hall of Famer Willie Brown and local community leaders to break ground on revitalizations to Curt Flood field. The \$7.1 million project to renovate the Curt Flood Sports Complex includes upgrading the turf field, resurfacing two basketball courts and installing field lights.

“Recognizing that Curt Flood himself grew up playing on ball fields and in parks throughout Oakland, it is heartening to know that each year more than 11,000 of our city’s children and young adults take advantage of a field that bears his name,” commented Mayor Schaaf. “With these important renovations, Curt Flood field will become a safer environment for our local youth – no more tripping over holes in the grass or playing in the lights of car headlights – and more families from all over this community will now have a new opportunity to get active!”

The Curt Flood Sports Complex project highlights the influence collaboration has in building stronger communities for youth. The Oakland Raiders have played a key role in developing local youth talent by offering resources such as NFL Play-60, Flag Football and football clinics. Currently, Curt Flood field is used nine months out of the year by more than 11,000 local youth of Fruitvale Elementary School and five other youth centers in the vicinity. With new turf fields and new light installations, the field will become a safer environment for local youth and community members alike. Renovations to Curt Flood field will expand usage to a full 12 months, allowing another 2,500 people to utilize the field. The project is scheduled for completion Spring 2016.

The renovation project has been made possible through a variety of funding sources, including the Housing Related Parks Grant, the Coca-Cola Company through the National Recreation and Park Association, Councilmember Gallo, The Golden State Warriors, and the Oakland Raiders through Local Initiative Support Corporation (LISC) and the NFL Grassroots Field Program Grant.

**About Oakland Parks & Recreation (OPR)**

OPR is a 105-year-old organization that operates 140 parks, 66 ball fields, 3 golf courses and 44 tennis courts in addition to 36 recreation facilities and a host of other amenities. OPR provides countless quality programs and services to meet the needs, demands and lifestyles of Oakland’s diverse and dynamic community. Currently, OPR serves over 72,000 enrolled participants and over 900,000 drop-in users annually. Offerings include a range of traditional sports leagues to

nontraditional sports of bowling and kickball as well as art classes and fitness memberships for youth and adults. In addition to the traditional youth focused afterschool programs, and abundance of captivating opportunities are available for adults and families to partake in as well. Exposing children and youth to non-traditional programming, OPR is proud to host an array of activities from sailing to skateboarding, water aerobics to fuel cell technology classes and everything in-between.

For more information on improvements at Curt Flood Field, call (510) 238-7275.

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