



City of
OAKLAND
California

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Photos by Kristin Hathaway

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Celebrate the Grand Opening of the Sausal Creek Restoration Project

Oakland, CA – Oakland Public Works Department has just completed construction of the newly restored stretch of Sausal Creek in Dimond Park. The project features 800 feet of improved creek habitat including better visibility of the creek, an ADA-accessible interpretive pedestrian pathway, enhanced native rainbow trout habitat, new native trees and vegetation, and new public restrooms. The project also improves water quality and flood control, reduces erosion, and helps protect the adjacent roadway and homes.

The \$3.9 million project continues the City's commitment to water quality and park improvements for environmental stewardship and public enjoyment. It was funded by grants from the California voter-approved Proposition 84 – the Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006; Proposition 50 – the Water Security, Clean Drinking Water, Coastal and Beach Protection Act of 2002; and the local voter-approved Measure DD – the Oakland Trust for Clean Water and Safe Parks.

Grand Opening

The public is invited to celebrate the **Grand Opening** of the **Sausal Creek Restoration Project in Dimond Park**, on **Sunday, July 17**, from **10 a.m. to 4 p.m.** The event will be held in conjunction with the 12th Annual Dimond Park Open House and Community Picnic, and the Friends of Sausal Creek 20th Anniversary Celebration, co-hosted by Oakland Parks & Recreation, Dimond Improvement Association and the Friends of Sausal Creek.

Activities for Sausal Creek Restoration Project Grand Opening feature:

- 10 a.m. – **Opening Ceremony** featuring Mayor Libby Schaaf, Vice Mayor Annie Campbell-Washington and Councilmember Noel Gallo
- 11:15 a.m. & 2 p.m. – Tours of the recently completed project
- 11:15 a.m. & 1:30 p.m. – Creekside readings of “I Am Sausal Creek / Soy El Arroyo Sausal” by author Melissa Reyes

Activities for 12th Annual Dimond Park Open House & Community Picnic feature:

- Noon – A FREE Performance by Circus Bella
- 2:30-3:15 & 3:30-4:15 p.m. – Lions Pool FREE Swims (limited availability, so register at the pool at 11:30 a.m. to reserve a spot)
- All Day – Arts & Crafts, Field Games, Swimming, Community Tables & Bike Tune-Ups

(more)

Activities for Friends of Sausal Creek 20th Anniversary Celebration feature:

- 8 a.m. – *Pre-event*, Bird Walk in Dimond Canyon led by Naturalist
- 11 a.m. & 1 p.m. – Insect Safaris led by Naturalist
- 2:45 p.m. – Tour of Dimond Canyon Restoration Project of 2001

Community Planned Project

Oakland Public Works partnered with our local non-profit and watershed stewardship organization, Friends of Sausal Creek (FOSC), on the planning and implementation of the creek restoration. The design phase included five community meetings and guided site tours to incorporate public input. Numerous FOSC-coordinated volunteers were involved in helping to grow native plants in FOSC's native plant nursery that are now installed in the project. FOSC will continue to play a key role through coordinating volunteers to help maintain the site as the project matures.

Oakland Public Works Director Brooke A. Levin said, "This project is a great example of the City leveraging funding from Measure DD bond to enhance the environment of Sausal Creek and Dimond Park. This project provides new space for the community to enjoy, learn from, and contribute to the long-term stewardship of these precious natural resources."

Specific components of the project construction included:

- Daylighting a portion of buried creek through the removal of 255 linear feet of buried culvert and concrete spillway
- Increasing channel width for improved flood control and stabilization of creek channel
- Repairing eroding creek banks
- Creating trout habitat through placement of boulders, cobble and tree root wads in the creek bed to create pools and overhangs
- Creating improved trout passage upstream through culvert removal and raising the elevation of the creek bed
- Installing 465 linear feet of new ADA-accessible pedestrian pathway with interpretive and artistic features
- Planting 80 new native trees and several thousand new native plants
- Installing new irrigation and landscaping including improvements around the existing Scout Hut
- Demolishing old restroom building and installing a new modern ADA-accessible restroom building

The project was designed by landscape and restoration engineering design firm, Restoration Design Group, LLC, and the general contractor was D-Line Constructors. The project was managed by Kristin Hathaway of Oakland Public Works, Bureau of Engineering and Construction.

To learn more about Oakland's creek restoration programs and projects, please visit www.oaklandcreeks.org. For more information on Oakland Public Works projects, visit www.oaklandpw.com/projects.