

The Brooks Blotter

A summary of news & events from the Office of Council Member Desley Brooks

Happy New Year 2014!!!

District 6 Empowerment Meeting – Economic Development

Since September 2013, **Councilmember Brooks, Pastor L.J. Jennings, Pastor Curt Robinson, Pastor Joe Smith, Pastor Mark Smith, & Pastor Cornell Wheeler** have hosted a series of meetings in Councilmember Brooks' District 6 to empower the community to finding information to improve their community. The meetings occur the 3rd Saturday of each month (with the exception of December) from 10am to 12noon at various locations in District 6. The next Empowerment Meeting will be held on **Saturday, January 18, 2014 at Kingdom Builders Church located at 7272 MacArthur Blvd.** The topic is **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**.

Holiday Treecycling

The Waste Management of Alameda County sent out a mass mailing insert in residents' billing statement announcing the "Holiday Treecycling" collection taking place in January 2014. The bill insert reaches 77,000 residential property owners. Holiday tree collection takes place during the first two weeks of January on the customer's regularly scheduled collection day, starting on December 30 and ending on January 10th. After January 10th, residents may place their trees in their residential yard trimmings cart – trees must be cut down to fit in the cart with the lid closed. For more information and for questions call 510-238-SAVE (7283) or e-mail the City at recycling@oaklandnet.com.

Grants Available for Home Repairs

Do you have a pre-1978 home in Berkeley, Alameda, Emeryville or Oakland? Are there any children under 6, or a pregnant woman, living in the home? Or do children under 6 regularly visit? Is the household low-income? If so, you may qualify for up to \$4,000 in grants for lead hazard and other safety repairs in the home, from the Alameda County Healthy Homes Department. Rental and owner-occupied homes are eligible. Lead poisoning, asthma triggers and safety issues in the home are a serious threat to our children's health. The Alameda County Healthy Homes Department has services to assist low-income residents and property owners in making their homes safer for young children. Grants and technical assistance are available to reduce lead hazards, and other health and safety issues in the home, as well as free consultation services. To find out more about home repair grants and to apply, go to www.achhd.org or call 510-567-8280.

Invitation to a Celebration of Volunteerism- January 30

Happy New Year to All Park Supporters! The Oakland Parks Coalition (OPC) invites you to their Annual Meeting -Thursday, January 30th, 5:15pm to 7:10 pm, at the Garden Center in Lakeside Park (Ebell Room), 666 Bellevue Ave, Oakland. The traditional approach to maintenance of municipal parks is undergoing a quiet revolution all over this country. Because many cities are struggling to pay for basic services such as park maintenance, city officials are looking for ways to compensate for loss of services and volunteerism is getting a lot of serious attention. At this year's OPC Annual Meeting on January 30th, you will hear from a panel of three Bay Area park officials who will discuss their experience with volunteerism and its present and future role in the panoply of approaches to keeping our parks viable. The distinguished panel includes:

Kimberly Kiefer, Deputy Director for the San Francisco Recreation and Park Department's Volunteer Program that supports 157,000 hours of volunteer service to the 220 parks and recreation centers in that city; **Jim Ryugo**, recently retired from the City of Oakland, where he worked for 24 years in the Office of Parks and Recreation and nine years for Public Works where he was responsible for maintaining 134 parks and public grounds and over 100 street medians; **Mike Perlmutter**, who serves as the Environmental Stewardship Team Supervisor for the City of Oakland Public Works Agency which supports community and volunteer efforts to clean, green and beautify Oakland.

The OPC Annual meeting will begin with member registration, refreshments and a brief report on OPC activities. A panel discussion on volunteerism will follow and conclude with a tribute to OPC Park Stewards. (All those who pay this year's membership dues of \$20 will be eligible for the drawing of a selection of enticing gifts at the end of the meeting). **Your RSVP will be much appreciated.**

Oakland Public Library's Teen Design Competition

Are you artistic? Do you love the library? Are you 13-18 years old? Oakland Public Library needs your original artwork! Oakland Public Library is starting off 2014 with a fun contest for teens that allows them to make their mark on the Main Library... permanently! With a grant through Keep Oakland Beautiful, the drab cement trash cans outside of the Main Library on Madison Street are going to be transformed into beautiful mosaic murals. This competition is based *entirely* on teen input and creation, and is open to anyone between the ages of 13-18, as long as they live or attend school in Oakland. Youth across Oakland are welcome to enter the competition and are also invited to help create the mosaics. Teens interested in submitting designs can choose from two possible layout options and can submit multiple entries: **Option One:** Wraparound Panoramic design for an estimated size of 69"x30" which would cover the three panels of a trash container. **Option Two:** Individual Portrait Panel design to cover a 23"x30" surface.

For sample templates and Design Submission Forms, please visit www.oaklandlibrary.org/teendesign or the Main TeenZone, 125 14th Street, 2nd Floor. All submissions (only paper copies are accepted) must be received in the Main TeenZone by **5:30pm on Feb 14, 2014**. For more information about the competition, please visit www.oaklandlibrary.org/teendesign or contact Lana Adlawan, Teen Services Supervising Librarian, at (510) 238-7613 or LAdlawan@oaklandlibrary.org.

Oakland School Board To Hire Next Superintendent of Schools in 2014

Coming up in 2014! The search is on. The next Oakland Superintendent of Schools will lead a system that serves 46,000 students. This is the most important decision the school board will make this year. Make your voice heard in this process. Take the Community Survey and let the School board and Superintendent candidates know how satisfied you are with your school and the district, and what you think the new leader should focus on. You can take the 10-minute survey by logging into:

<http://bit.ly/NextOakSuper>.

Appointment of Oakland Animal Services Director

Effective January 6, 2014, Mr. Gary Hendel is the new Oakland Animal Services Director. Mr. Hendel comes to the City with over 19 years of experience in animal care services, having worked as a Director in variety of local governments, including: San Antonio, Texas; Washington County, Oregon; Montgomery County, Ohio; and, Multnomah County, Oregon. He also served as the Executive Director of the Maui Humane Society in Hawaii.

During his time as Director of Animal Care Services for the City of San Antonio, Mr. Hendel was responsible for the management of the San Antonio Animal Care Services, where he led a staff of 124 employees, 300 volunteers and managed a budget of just under \$10M. Some of his accomplishments during his time in San Antonio included developing a specialized animal court and a court diversion program for animal violations. Using a public input process, Mr. Hendel conducted an evaluation of city animal codes for the City Council's consideration.

In addition to his work at the Director level, Mr. Hendel also has experience in most areas of animal services, including adoption, kennel maintenance, and fundraising. Mr. Hendel will work collaboratively to care for Oakland's animals and to provide quality services at the shelter.

City of Oakland Winter Shelter

The City of Oakland has operated a temporary inclement weather shelter at the Oakland Army Base since 1999. On Wednesday, November 20, 2013, the City of Oakland's temporary Winter Shelter re-opened for the season at the Henry Robinson Multi-Services Center, 559 16th Street, Oakland. Vouchers are available to both single men and women for up to 50 beds in the temporary Shelter (can only accommodate single adults without children). The Shelter hours are from 6:30pm to 7am. Persons who are homeless and seeking assistance and access to the Winter Shelter can gain access through one of the following referring agencies: **St. Vincent de Paul**, 2272 San Pablo Ave. Oakland (510) 832-3600; **Henry Robinson MSC (HRMSC)**, 559 16th St. Oakland (510) 419-1010; **Operation Dignity**, 1504 Franklin St. Oakland (510) 287-8465; **Health Care for the Homeless (HCH)**, 1900 Fruitvale Ave. Oakland (510) 532-1930; **TRUST Clinic**, Oakland (internal referrals only).

***Additional shelter sites at:** *Crossroads at 7515 International (510) 532-3211* - has space for women and men and limited number of families. It is a 24/7 shelter option that has enriched services; *City Team at 722 Washington Street (510) 452-3758* - Men only. Hours: 4pm to 6am. Dinner and Breakfast served; *Salvation Army at 2794 Garden Street (510) 437-9437* - For Families (single parent and/or married couples with children). 24 hour service - Clients apply between 9am-5pm M-F but should call ahead.

City Council Adopted New 2013-2023 Redistricting Boundaries

Every 10 years the City of Oakland reviews and revises City Council District boundaries, as mandated by the City Charter. The purpose of this Redistricting process is to equalize each district's population according to U.S. Census data. New City electoral district boundaries are drawn to address population changes over the past decade. On December 10, 2013, the City Council adopted Ordinance No. 13206 C.M.S. creating the 2013-2023 Council and OUSD electoral district boundaries. On Friday, December 20, the City's online Council District Locator Tool was updated and now reflects the 2013-2023 District Boundaries. To educate those residents impacted by changes to district boundaries, the City of Oakland will undertake an outreach campaign beginning in January. In addition to the use of Web and Social Media outlets, the campaign will include a direct mail piece to impacted residents, presentations to Neighborhood Crime Prevention Councils in areas where the boundaries shifted and informational slides on the City's television station, KTOP TV-10. Printed information will be available in English, Chinese, Spanish and Vietnamese. A detailed map of the new district boundaries can be found at oaklandnet.com/redistricting.

General Summary of Boundary Changes:

Broadway Terrace is generally the new border between District 1 and District 4. The Forest Park neighborhood moves to District 4. Woodland Place, Pine Needle and Farralon Way move to District 1. In the Glenview neighborhood, both sides of Trestle Glen Road are united in District 2. Both sides of Greenwood Avenue and Canon Avenue are united in District 5. Two census blocks just west of the Fruitvale Elementary School – bordered by I-580, Boston Avenue, School Street and Champion Street – move to District 5. The school itself remains in District 4. The boundary between Districts 4 & 5 between Humboldt Avenue and 35th Avenue moves one block to Davis Street. The Maxwell Park neighborhood is united in District 6. The Melrose Leadership Academy Middle School, at 4730 Fleming Avenue, moves to District 6. The boundary between Districts 4 & 6 is extended to 55th Avenue between Bancroft Avenue and Brookdale Avenue. The Melrose neighborhood, between Seminary and 51st Avenue, from International Boulevard south to San Leandro Street and the railroad tracks, moves to District 5. Bridges at Melrose Elementary School, at 1325 53rd Avenue, moves to District 5. East of Lake Merritt, Haddon Hill and Lakeshore Avenue move to District 2. The Gold Coast neighborhood blocks bounded by Madison Street, Lake Merritt, 14th and 17th streets move to District 2.

Oakland Economic Development Update

Oakland's economic development outlook is improving with increased investment and development interest increasing throughout the city. Major economic development projects, including three \$1 billion plus projects, are currently in various stages of planning and construction include:

- The Brooklyn Basin waterfront master plan which will add over 3,100 residential units, over 200,000 square feet of office space and 30 new acres of waterfront park. Infrastructure construction will start in 2014.
- The "Coliseum City" master development which could provide new sports facilities and residential and retail development in the Coliseum area is underway with its Specific Plan, and the Environmental Impact Report is expected to be released to the public in Spring 2014.
- The Oakland Global Trade Logistics Center, a full redevelopment of the former Oakland Army Base property into a major logistics center, will start infrastructure development in early 2014.

- AC Transit's Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Project will be built along the length of International Boulevard, supporting commercial revitalization and new mixed-use development opportunities along one of Oakland's major transportation routes. The project is in design development and related construction will begin in summer 2014 with advanced utility work.

The City is also underway with four specific plans to guide development in various areas of Oakland over the next 25 years. The four specific plans cover Broadway/Valdez, West Oakland, the Lake Merritt BART Station Area and Coliseum City. On Wednesday, December 18, the Oakland Planning Commission certified the Final EIR for the Broadway Shops retail center development which will include a Sprouts Market and additional retail in the Broadway/Valdez area. That development will join The Hive, a mixed-use project with space for 104 apartments and 100,000 square feet of office and retail in the Upper Broadway area. In addition, the City Council recently approved the Central Estuary Area Plan to guide the development of Oakland's waterfront. For more information on these specific plans, please visit:

<http://www2.oaklandnet.com/Government/o/PBN/OurOrganization/PlanningZoning/index.htm>.

Upcoming City of Oakland Job Announcement

For the month of January 2014, the Department of Human Resources Management (DHRM) has posted job announcements for the following positions:

- Health & Human Services Program Planner (Selective Certification - Homelessness - Rapid Re-Housing) – Deadline: Jan 17, 2014
- Latent Print Examiner II – Deadline: Jan 24, 2014
- Lifeguard, PT (Continuous)
- Project Manager III –(with OPD) – Deadline: Jan 7, 2014
- Veterinary Technician – (with OPD Animal Services) – Deadline: Jan 17, 2014

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

