

The Brooks Blatter

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

Redistricting Process Completed in December 2013 Sets Council Boundaries through 2023

Every 10 years, the City of Oakland reviews and revises City Council District boundaries as mandated by the City Charter, in a process called Redistricting. The purpose of Redistricting 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. Hundreds of Oakland residents participated in the Redistricting process by attending one of the public meetings, submitting a map online, sending a letter or email, joining the online conversation at EngageOakland.com or leaving a voice message on the Redistricting hotline. While boundary changes to Oakland City Council Districts resulted in about 12,000 Oakland residents moving from one district to another, these changes do not impact school enrollment choices. However, their representatives on the Oakland City Council and the School Board have changed.

In early February, a brochure explaining the Redistricting process and boundary changes were mailed to the affected households. Translations in Chinese, Spanish and Vietnamese will be available by request. The brochure is part of an educational campaign that will include print ads, a spot on the City's cable station – KTOP TV 10, presentations at NCPC meetings in affected neighborhoods and other outreach methods. To view the brochure, Council District map, relevant legislation and additional information on the Redistricting process, please visit

<http://www.oaklandnet.com/redistricting>. To find out who represents you on the Oakland City Council, please use the City's online Council District Locator Tool at <http://mapgis.oaklandnet.com/councildistricts/>.

District 6 Empowerment Committee Meetings Where You Learn Information to Improve Your Community

Since September 2013, **Councilmember Brooks, Pastor L.J. Jennings, Pastor Curt Robinson, Pastor Joe Smith, Pastor Mark Smith, & Pastor Cornell Wheeler** hosted a series of meetings in Councilmember Brooks' District 6 to empower the community to finding information to improve their community. The meetings took place on the 3rd Saturday of each month (with the exception of December) at various locations in District 6. The last meeting was held on **Sat, Feb. 15th**, and the topic of discussion was **EDUCATION**. Thanks to all who have expressed interest in participating in the District 6 Empowerment Sub-Committees. These meetings will be held each month on: **1st Saturday – Economic Development Committee**, 10am to 12noon, at Kingdom Builders Christian Fellowship, 7272 MacArthur Blvd.; **2nd Monday – Public Safety Committee** – 6pm to 8pm, at Faith Baptist Church, 2680 64th Ave.; **3rd Saturday – Community Development / Public Works** – 10am to 12noon, at Last Days Revival Ministries, 2001 73rd Ave. Please join Councilperson Brooks and engage in more in depth discussions to improving your community.

Celebrating Black History Month!

African American Quilt Guild of Oakland – Saturday, February 22, Noon - 3:00 p.m., West Oakland Branch Library, 1801 Adeline Street. The public is invited to this annual demonstration and workshop. Supplies will be provided so you can make your own quilt. For more information, please call (510) 238-7352.

Black History Month Walking Tour – Saturday, February 22, 10:00 a.m., African American Museum & Library at Oakland, 659 14th Street. This free, guided walking tour highlights African-American leaders who helped shape present-day Oakland. For more information, please visit www.oaklandnet.com/walkingtours or call (510) 238-3234.

Who Are We?: Exploring Black Identities Discussion – Saturday, February 22, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m., Peralta Hacienda Center for History and Community, 2488 Coolidge Avenue. Join in a discussion of identity, connection and culture led by participants in the Peralta House Storyhorse exhibit, “What I Hear, I Keep: Stories from Oakland’s Griots.” For more information, please visit www.peraltahacienda.org or call (510) 532-9142.

The Art of Living Black: Open Studios Art Fair - Saturday, February 22 & Sunday, February 23, 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Student Union, Mills College, 5000 MacArthur Boulevard. Part of “The Art of Living Black” Bay Area Black Artists Exhibition and Art Tour 2014, the art fair will feature 15 Bay Area artists of African descent, including acrylic paintings by Mills College’s very own Professor Ajuan Mance. Artists represent a wide range of visual media including found object sculpture and collage, painting, fired clay and ceramic sculpture, jewelry making, doll making, photography and more. For more information, please visit www.mills.edu/academics/undergraduate/eths/blackhistorymonth.php or call (510) 430-2080.

City of Oakland African American Employees presents: “Striving for a better Tomorrow” – Friday, February 28, 12-2pm, California Ball Room, 1736 Franklin St., Oakland. Mistress of Ceremony – Councilperson Desley Brooks. Guest speakers Wanda Johnson, mother of Oscar Grant III, Sandra Blair, City of Oakland. Welcome remarks by Vice Mayor Larry Reid. Entertainment by Althea Battle featuring “Platinum Status,” Greg Garrett, Larry Sampson & Ms. Constance Cooper (Dance Performance). For more information and for advance ticket sales contact: Lois Loving (510) 615-6933, Saundra Eve Fisher (510) 238-2900, Althea Battle (510) 706-0929.

State of Park Maintenance Report at City Hall

Attention all park supporters! The culmination of Oakland Parks Coalition’s annual report on park conditions will take place at the Council’s Public Works Committee on Tuesday, February 25th @ 11:30am at City Hall, first floor, Hearing Room 1. OPC will present a power point on the *State of Maintenance of Oakland Parks*. The presentation will be based on OPC’s fall 2013 park survey which many of you participated in, and it will highlight the need for enhanced maintenance of Oakland green spaces. It will also recommend the creation of a comprehensive on-line volunteer site and the establishment of a position of coordinator for a volunteer clearing house for the City. The full written report can be viewed at:

Update on DAC

Update on the development of the framework for discussion of the Privacy and Data Retention Policy for the City-Port Domain Awareness Center (DAC). On July 30th, 2013 the Oakland City Council passed resolution 84593 authorizing the City Administrator to accept and appropriate funding for the development of Phase 2 of the DAC. This resolution also stated: *“During Phase 2, City/Port staff will develop a Privacy and Data Retention Policy that governs the collection, retention, storage, and dissemination of information processed by the DAC ensuring the protection of privacy rights by individuals, and will return said policy to the Council for approval no later than March 2014.”* The resolution further stipulated that the DAC capabilities not be activated until the City Council approves the Privacy and Data Retention Policy. Based on testimony received at City Council Meetings and in writing, staff has prepared a framework for discussion and public comment so that the draft policy that is returned to Council allows for a high level of community input. Staff is taking a new approach to public engagement around this draft framework. Distribution of this framework will happen via EngageOakland, a survey monkey, and broad dissemination via the Neighborhood Service Coordinators. This framework is being disseminated for a thirty day public comment period. During that time period there will be two public meetings scheduled for **Wednesday, February 26th** in City Council Chambers(6pm-8pm), and **Thursday, March 13th** at the Dimond Branch Library located at 3565 Fruitvale Avenue (6pm-8pm). In addition the City will be establishing an AD-Hoc committee comprised of privacy advocates and residents recommended by the Mayor and the Public Safety Committee Members of the Oakland City Council. These Ad-Hoc committee members will be asked to vet the framework, consider the comments from the public meetings, and make recommendations to the City based on their review. All of the input received during this process will be incorporated into the draft policy that will be forwarded to the City Council for review.

Public Tours & Sails Aboard Tall Ships

Lady Washington and Hawaiian Chieftain ships are visiting Oakland! Come by Jack London Square (foot of Broadway) when they visit Thursday, February 20 to Sunday, February 23. The ships will be open for walk-on tours and host guests for ticketed sails on Saturday and Sunday. For more information, please visit www.historicalseaport.org or call (800) 200-5239.

Ceasefire Oakland/LifeLines to Healing Night Walk

Friday, February 21, 6:30 - 9:00 p.m., Cosmopolitan Baptist Church, 988 85th Avenue. The City of Oakland and local faith-based organizations are continuing neighborhood Night Walks on Fridays as a way community members can get involved in Operation Ceasefire. These walks are organized by residents and faith leaders in areas where Ceasefire is focused. Volunteers are trained in advance and are accompanied by other volunteers for the duration of the walk. The purpose of the Night Walk is to reach out to communities affected by violence. The next Night Walk is on Friday, February 21, 6:30 - 9:00 p.m. at Cosmopolitan Baptist Church, 988 85th Avenue. For more information, please call (510) 639-1440 or email fridaycommunitynightwalks@gmail.com.

Mother/Daughter Basketball Skills Challenge

This free workshop for young girls, ages 6 to 14, and their parent/guardian is designed to get parents involved in their daughter's sports and community activities. The challenge is composed of four basic skills tests in passing, shooting, dribbling and defense. Each participant will be evaluated individually within an age bracket (6 to 8, 9 to 11 and 12 to 14). Individual challenges will be available for girls ages 15-17. Everyone is a winner in this contest and special prizes will be presented to the top two teams in each group. Participants will also be able to compete in the all-skills challenge. The Mother/Daughter Basketball Skills Challenge is Saturday, February 22nd from 10am to 1pm, at Rainbow Recreation Center, 5800 International Blvd. To register, please visit www.oaklandnet.com/parks and use activity #22106.301. For more information, please contact Lovella Sein-Colon (a.k.a. Coach Love), Girls Sports Coordinator, at lsein-colon@oaklandnet.com or (510) 535-5608.

Oakland Symphony Concert

Friday, February 21, 8:00 p.m., Paramount Theatre of the Arts, 2025 Broadway. The Oakland East Bay Symphony, led by Conductor Michael Morgan, presents this concert. Pre-concert talk at 7:00 p.m. with Oakland Symphony Chorus Music Director Dr. Lynne Morrow and composer Mary Fineman. For more information, please visit www.oebs.org.

FLU SEASON IS HERE!

As February commences, we find ourselves in the middle of flu season. Everyone is encouraged to become familiar with and adhere to the current recommendations for staying healthy and preventing the spread of viruses. The Center for Disease Control and Prevention provide tips to help you and your family cope with this season's flu bugs. More information is available at: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/>

PG&E Scholarships for Students

Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) has announced its third annual PG&E Bright Minds Scholarship Program for high school, college and vocational students! The scholarships are also available to individuals who are not currently students, but who are interested in returning to school in the 2014-2015 academic year. Scholarship winners will receive awards of up to \$20,000 per year for up to five years. Program finalists will receive \$2,000 towards their studies. PG&E has provided close to \$60 million towards educational initiatives over the last 10 years, and they are proud to continue supporting the educational goals of students as part of their commitment to supporting the communities where we live and work. The PG&E Bright Minds scholarships will be awarded based on a combined demonstration of community leadership, personal triumph, financial need and academic achievement. **The deadline for applying for the PG&E scholarship is Friday, February 28, 2014.** For more information and to apply, visit www.pge.com/brightminds. Scholarship winners will be announced in the spring.

Multifamily Building Energy Efficiency Training in February

Attention Contractors and Property Managers! The City of Oakland is pleased to announce two free training opportunities in February 2014 for multifamily contractors and property managers working in the San Francisco Bay Area. These trainings are part of the statewide Energy Upgrade

California program to support energy efficiency improvement projects in multifamily residential buildings with five or more attached dwelling units. Improving energy efficiency may increase comfort and energy affordability for tenants, and can reduce operating costs for both owners and tenants. The program is streamlined and flexible; it is designed specifically for the multifamily sector to help make energy upgrades to multifamily properties easy and more affordable. Eligible properties may earn \$750 per dwelling unit in rebates to help pay for enhancing old or inefficient energy systems. To learn more about these free trainings, or to learn more about energy efficiency for multifamily properties, call (855) 213-2838 or visit: www.multifamilygreen.org/training.

PWA's 2014 Bulky Pickup Program

Public Works Agency mailed out an announcement to the occupants of 90,000 Oakland single-family residences (1-4 units), including owner-occupied and rental properties notifying them of the 2014 Bulky Pick up Program. Oakland residents can call **(510) 613-8710 to schedule a pickup appointment**. For more information on the guidelines and for any questions you may have about the program, please contact PWA's Recycling Hotline, at 238-SAVE (7283) or recycling@oaklandnet.com.

Upcoming City of Oakland Job Announcement

Part-Time Summer Employment Opportunities With OPR – Now through Friday, February 21, the Office of Parks and Recreation will be accepting applications for Part-Time Summer Employment for the following positions:

- Lifeguard, Part-Time
- Pool Manager, Part-Time
- Recreation Leader I, Part-Time
- Recreation Leader II, Part-Time
- Recreation Specialist I, Part-Time
- Recreation Specialist II, Part-Time
- Sports Official, Part-Time
- Water Safety Instructor, Part-Time

Beginning February 24 through March 17, applications for Recreation Aides and Recreation Attendants will be accepted. For more information, please visit the Department of Human Resources Management (DHRM) hiring 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.

