



**OAKMORE
HOMES
ASSOCIATION**

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Oakmore Homes Association

since 1926

Mission Statement

"The Oakmore Homes Association is a community of Oakmore neighbors committed to promoting and enhancing safety, beautification, community, and property values in our neighborhood."

2004 Annual Meeting

The annual meeting was a great success. There was a record turnout with something of interest for each person. Most of the attendees were interested in the historical presentation by Dennis Evanosky. There were those who came solely for the purpose of hearing the update of city affairs presented by our Councilmember, Jean Quan. Virtually everyone was attracted by the Montclair Women's Cultural Arts Club as well as by the food from Market Hall. Given the enthusiastic response, we plan to use this venue for the 2005 meeting as well as continue our series of historical speakers.

The following are highlights from Jean Quan's update:

The **wood lot on Monterey Blvd.** is used by Elite Tree Service with the knowledge and permission of the City. The spilling of wood into the street has been improved with the use of fencing. The illegal dumping has been reduced with the posting of warning signs and the installation of monitors. Jean urged residents to pay haulers of debris and vegetation only after seeing a receipt from the municipal dump. This would prevent illegal dumping in undeveloped areas of the Oakland Hills.

A trail from the Leimert Bridge to Montclair is under consideration as a Joaquin Miller Park task force conducts a survey about developing a trail through the region. \$50,000 seed money is available, and grants are being sought to cover the anticipated total costs of \$125,000.

With the passage of **Proposition Y**, there will soon be an extra officer assigned to every beat. Currently, the City's 2-year budget is mid-cycle. The City Council will loan the money for implementation by July 2005, rather than wait to implement in 2006.

The **view ordinance** has been restored to its prior coverage. An oversight in language during the drafting of the tree/view ordinance after the 1991 Oakland Hills fire has been rectified.

Jean is considering using **neighborhood mediation** in order to address **safety concerns** about narrow roads. Suggestions include alternate parking (e.g., no parking along one side of the road one week, alternating with the other side of the road the next week) and/or zoning.

Storm drains: they're old and there is a priority list for cleaning them. The City is looking into possibly investing a percentage of transfer taxes generated by real estate property sales (not from the general fund) for infrastructure. Care will be taken to comply with clean water standards during any repair and/or replacement work.

Sausal Creek undergrowth and other vegetation issues are being addressed by the Fire Assessment District committee as they work to develop a Master Plan.

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CC&R and Bylaw Revision – Volunteers Needed!

We are forming a committee to work on revising OHA's CC&R and bylaws. The current versions do not always reflect the changes that have occurred in the community's daily fabric of life, nor do they necessarily take into account the role the City plays today in regulating certain details. We need your participation. Contribute to the direction of your association as we address this very important task. This is our chance to have CC&Rs that will better strengthen our community and further enhance property values. Call us: 530-4719. Or email us: oakmorehomes@yahoo.com. Or send us a note: P.O. Box 27321, Oakland CA 94602.

Holiday Lights Warm Oakmore Village

Thank you to the **Merchants in the Oakmore village**, who once again lit up their businesses with holiday lights. This added such a festive mood to our neighborhood. It was a real pleasure to pass over the "Bridge Which Wrought A Miracle" and come upon those welcoming lights. Thanks also to **Bev Thompson**, Oakmore Homes Association member and Head Royce art teacher, who used her artistic skills to create the boughs of evergreens and pine cones that adorned the trees and Leimert Bridge. There are those amongst us who would say that this was a "Hallmark" moment.

New Bulletin Board

OHA, in partnership with Rocky's Market, has purchased and mounted a new bulletin board on the north exterior wall of Rocky's. This board will be used to update the community on association news and other items of interest to the hill. Thanks to the assistance of **Bill McGee**, who has volunteered to keep the board updated, you can view a current copy of our newsletter, pictures of Oakmore's historical past, and notices of upcoming events. If you have a notice of interest that you would like to post, you may contact **Gabe Dibs** of Rocky's Market. He has the final word on the posting of non-Association material.

Email List-Serve

We are developing a list-serve to better communicate with you. Those of you who have provided your email addresses will be included in this listing. This will allow us to notify you of community issues, upcoming social events, and general announcements. Those who do not wish to be on this list will have the opportunity to opt out. This list will not be made available to any group or unauthorized individual.

Stairs Maintenance

Dan Callam and **Donnis Hobson** are seeking volunteers to join them on the 1st Saturday of every other month as they sweep Oakmore's 4 sets of public stairs. These stairs were rehabbed and/or rebuilt just a year ago by the City of Oakland, Public Works Agency. They are safe to use and quite attractive. But they can only remain safe and attractive if we keep them that way. The City had warned us they did not have adequate manpower to maintain our stairs. So it is up to those of us, who use these stairs, to take responsibility for their maintenance.

Thank you to the February crew of **Dan, Donnis, BJ Bardy, Ted Garrett, Michelle Hartnett, Ron Hedrick, and Kathie Fagan** for their hard work. That was the toughest month because of the recent rains and the fact the stairs had not been cleaned for several months. In March, it took **Dan, Donnis, and Virginia Lew** only about 40 minutes to clean the Bridgeview Path from Arden to Leimert, while **Kathie** took her clippers to the overgrowth along these stairs. We would also like to thank our anonymous **Good Samaritan** who single-handedly cleared ivy and cleaned the stairs between Hoover and Oakview during February.

If those who use the stairs each gave a bit of time once or twice a year, we would have plenty of hands to quickly do the job. Please join us at 4351 Bridgeview, 9:00 AM, on the 1st Saturday of May, July, September, and/or November. Or if you prefer to call Dan first to check on whether more help is needed, his number is 531-6447. Bring a broom, clippers, and/or work gloves. Bags will be provided.

Board of Directors . . . and more

Your Board of Directors for 2005 was duly elected at the Annual Meeting. They are **Terry Kulka**, President; **Donnis Hobson**, Vice-President; **Cindy Haines**, Treasurer; and **Dan Callam**. **Virginia Lew** is interim executive Secretary. We are looking for someone to assume the executive Secretary position. It is a paid position involving 20-40 hours per month. If you think you might be interested in this job, give us a call, or email us, for more details.

Oakland Expands Recycling Services

Since the first week of February, residences throughout Oakland began receiving service of weekly collection of yard trimmings, which now includes food scraps and food-soiled paper. Oakland becomes the largest city in the East Bay to collect and recycle food scraps with yard trimmings. A 2-gal green pail is being provided for convenient collection of food scraps in the kitchen. "The expanded services will help the City of Oakland meet its goal of 75% waste reduction by 2010", said Oakland's Public Work Agency Director Raul Godinez II. Besides being able to add food scraps and food-soiled paper to their green cart, unlimited amounts of properly prepared yard trimmings can be set out weekly. Branches no larger than 4 feet long and 6 inches in diameter may be bundled and set out. Extra yard trimmings that do not fit in the green cart can be placed in 30-gallon paper bags available at many local hardware stores. Do not use plastic bags as they cannot be recycled; they may be collected and charged to you as garbage.

New gray recycling carts (along with the green food-scrap pail) will be delivered to Oakland residents through May. The gray cart replaces the yellow and blue bins we have been using. They can hold more material than the 2 bins did combined. Residents will not need to separate paper from cans and bottles. The cart's lid will prevent recycled material from turning into litter on windy days.

Residents do not need to wait for their new gray recycling carts or food pails to recycle weekly. Food scraps can be collected in the kitchen in any convenient paper carton or container and placed in the green cart.

Waste Management is on schedule to deliver the gray carts and green pails the first week of April.

Dimond Area Construction

The Public Works Agency is planning a sanitary sewer rehabilitation project in the Dimond District to start in Spring 2005 and finish by the end of Summer 2005. This is part of Oakland's sewer improvement program. The project includes replacing or rehabbing the existing sewer, and rehabilitation of existing manholes and structures. The affected area is on Dimond Avenue (between Fruitvale and Canon) and Bienati Way (Sloan St.). There will be some inconvenience to the public during this time, and the PWA is asking for neighbors' understanding and cooperation during the project.