

June 2025



Hello Friends and Neighbors!

Since our election in April the new OHA Officers and Directors have been working hard to find ways to better serve our community by reducing the OHA's operating costs. You should have received our new Treasurer's report which included some cost saving and efficiency measures that we've implemented. Our goal is to make sure that your dues are spent wisely and effectively for the benefit of the entire community. Key to that effort has been to replace paid contractors with volunteers, including OHA members, Officers and Directors. Thank you all!

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Leimert Bridge Ribbon Cutting – May 16, 2025

Members of the OHA leadership and community attended the official opening of the 'new' Leimert Bridge. Our D4 councilwoman, Janani Ramachandran, her staff, and Josh Rowan Director, Dept. of Transportation (DOT) and his team attended. We made some valuable contacts and we were able to thank the people who worked hard to complete this complex task with speed and remarkably little impact to traffic. Now we can rest assured that our historic bridge is earthquake safe! 🌟



Oakmore Community Camera Program – Flock LPRs (License Plate Recognition)

Works in Progress

We are making progress toward launching our community-wide fundraising campaign. The funds that we raise will be spent on leasing 3-5 Flock LPR cameras for the neighborhood. The number of cameras will depend on the funds we are able to collect. The money we raise will also determine the amount of the member-approved OHA special assessment. Between the fundraising drive and the assessments, we hope to reach our goal. With the help of volunteer member, **Eric Enders**, we are putting together a page on the OHA website where we will post all camera related information. Thank you, Eric!

Flock Success Stories – there are many more!

Recent success from the Kensington Police Department– see details here at these links

[April 22, 2025](#) and [May 21, 2025](#)

2025 Oakmore Community Stroll - Save The Date – October 19 – 1:00 to 3:00

To all walkers, strollers, dog owners and anyone else who wants to get out in the sunshine of our beloved neighborhood, **save Sunday, October 19 from 1:00pm to 3:00pm for the Oakmore Stroll 2025**. We will be preparing a map with several stations along the route, or you can make up your own course.

Meet your neighbors and get some steps in along your favorite walking paths including Oakmore, Leimert, Bywood, Wrenn, Hoover and more. We are looking for volunteers to host and staff the several stations which will be set up along the route. There will be stations for our four legged friends, another to swap gently used puzzles and books, water breaks, or whatever creative or clever ideas you can dream up.

If you are **interested in volunteering or setting up and staffing a Stroll station**, please email **Ned Schroeder**, at alexisned@sbcglobal.net.

Many thanks to Ned for coordinating this event! It's a big job, and he will need help, but it's worth it, as everyone who attended the 2023 Stroll will agree.

KEEPING OAKMORE SAFE - *please share this information with friends and family*

It's Fire Season!

• ***First some good news!***

All Oakland Fire Stations Open Ahead of Wildfire Season for First Time in Decades! [Click here for details](#). Thanks to all of you who wrote letters and sent comments to the Mayor and City Council. They made a difference.

• ***Inspection Schedule***

Oakland Wildfire Inspections began on June 2. To check the schedule for your inspection [please click here](#). Watch the 'How To' video for details on how to check your address.

• ***General Fire and Earthquake Preparedness***

Please help to keep our neighborhood safe by making sure your property is compliant. For additional information about how to do that, please check the **Oakland Firesafe Council's excellent [website](#)**. It contains a wealth of information about fire safety and preparedness.

• ***Park Like Your Life Depends on It!***

Did you know that a fire engine needs a road width of 20 FEET** to assure access in an emergency? Our streets are narrow, winding, with many blind curves, so when you're parking be sure to leave room for emergency vehicles. It could be YOUR life at stake. Need convincing? [Watch this video](#). Always be mindful about how you park, particularly during **Red Flag** events (to learn more click the red link). For safe parking suggestions and a printable flyer [click here](#).

** From **CA Fire Code 503.2.1**: “Fire apparatus access roads shall have an unobstructed width of not less than 20 feet (6096 mm), exclusive of shoulders, except for approved security gates in accordance with Section 503.6, and an unobstructed vertical clearance of not less than 13 feet 6 inches.”

Who to call if you need help:

- Call 911 – for urgent medical emergencies, or for incidents or disturbances where violence is occurring or may be possible, when there are weapons involved or if there are crimes in progress. Crimes in progress get top dispatch priority.
 - 911 response can be delayed. Calling Oakland Fire (510-444-1616) or Oakland PD (510-777-3211) emergency numbers can result in faster response.
- Call OPD non-emergency (510) 777-3333 in cases that require police assistance but do not involve the emergencies listed above.
- Call MACRO – 510-44MACRO (510-446-2276) for interventions with individuals who appear to be experiencing a mental health crisis or in need of professional support, e.g., behaving erratically, intoxication, non-violent disturbances, etc.

<https://oaklandsid.org/2024/03/21/oakland-macro-crisis-response-phone-number-contact/>

Vehicle Safety Tips – contributed by an OHA member! Thank you!

Since many of us park our cars on the street or in the driveway, here are a few ways to prevent future car theft and burglary. All of these suggestions cost \$20 or less and are widely available online.

- Faraday box or pouch:

Your car is susceptible to theft using a simple technique called “relay theft” which targets your keyless entry system. Since many of us leave our keys on a dresser or hanging near a door close to the street, this procedure is fast and eliminates the need for a thief to break a window or hot-wire your car.

Relay theft requires 2 people (one person near the car and one person on the street side of your house), and a \$25 electronic relay unit that can be purchased on-line. That relay unit captures the signal from your key fob, amplifies it, and sends it to a receiver near the car, which in turn unlocks the car doors and could start the ignition. Bingo, your car is stolen and burglarized in less than a minute. This method is also used to steal gasoline as well. Using a Faraday box or pouch will block key fob signals and thwart relay thieves.

- Tracking tags to locate your car:

Hide an Apple Air Tag or Android equivalent (MiTag, Chipolo, Tile, Samsung SmartTag) in your car. They can help you find your car whether it’s stolen or lost in a large parking lot. These tracking devices all use Bluetooth connectivity to work with your Find My Device app. They may require an annual \$5 battery replacement.

- License plate screws:

License plates are vulnerable to theft, so switch your traditional screws with security screws. It’s easy. Take a plate screw from your car to a hardware or auto supply store to match the thread design. Security screws have special heads that do not work with standard Flathead or Phillips head screwdrivers so be sure to purchase the specialized screwdriver. This 5 minute changeover will make it less convenient for a thief to steal your license plates.

311 Reports (City of Oakland - Report-a-Problem to OAK311) – ***reminder and success story!***

In the last newsletter we mentioned using OAK311 to problems about potholes, illegal dumping and other issues. You will find details [at this link](#).

Here's a success story. The large potholes at 1700 Leimert were filled! But 311 reports were not enough; community engagement also played a role. At the Oakmore Bridge ribbon cutting an OHA Director met Josh Rowan, Director of the Oakland Department of Transportation (DOT). He gave her his card and she contacted him directly about the potholes and a recent accident they caused. Within days the repair was done! We even got a note thanking us for bringing the problem to his attention:

"Thank you for sharing this note. Kenneth Patton and his team do amazing work. They can move pretty quickly once we identify these high risk areas. A typical year now is 50k potholes repaired. I have not found a good way to differentiate between routine maintenance and high risk, and I appreciate you bringing these to our attention."



Your tax dollars at work!

Photo credit: Carol Van Steenberg

Coming Soon - Volunteer Opportunities

Community engagement and volunteerism are at the heart of the OHA's mission and success. We will be reaching out to all of you in coming days asking for your help with various projects and programs for the benefit of all Oakmore residents, such as:

- 2025 Oakmore Stroll – see details in Neighborhood News above – sign up now!
- Adopt-a-Tree-Well
- Adopt-a-Hydrant
- Party Planning – 2026 4th of July and OHA's 100th Anniversary Celebration
- Bucket Brigade for neighborhood clean up
- Other ideas???

When the call goes out, please consider joining us. And if you have any other suggestions, please let us know!

Until next time...

Best wishes from the OHA Officers and Directors!

Questions? Comments? Contributions? Please contact us at - oakmorehomes@yahoo.com