

CITY OF OAKLAND
AGENDA REPORT

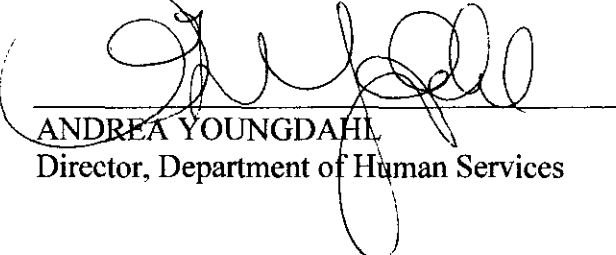
OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
2006 NOV - 14 PM 4: 12

TO: Office of the City Administrator
ATTN: Deborah Edgerly
FROM: Department of Human Services
DATE: November 14, 2006

RE: **Annual Report of the Oakland Youth Commission 2006-2007**

Attached is the Annual Report of the Oakland Youth Commission 2006-2007. A representative from the Oakland Youth Commission will be available to answer questions.

Respectfully Submitted,



ANDREA YOUNGDAHL
Director, Department of Human Services

Attachment

**FORWARDED TO THE
LIFE ENRICHMENT COMMITTEE**


OFFICE OF THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR

Item No. _____
Life Enrichment Committee
November 14, 2006

CITY OF OAKLAND



YOUTH LEADERSHIP & DEVELOPMENT • 150 FRANK H. OGAWA PLAZA STE 4211 • OAKLAND, CA 94612

Department of Human Services
Oakland Youth Commission

(510) 238-3245
Fax (510) 238-3320

November 14, 2006

Oakland City Council
Life Enrichment Committee
Oakland, CA

Chairman Chang and Members of the Committee:

Subject: Annual Report of the Oakland Youth Commission 2006-2007

The Oakland Youth Commission's Annual Report 2006-2007 is attached to inform and ensure the cooperative actions of those who read it. This report is a summary of the activities and policy issues that the members of the Oakland Youth Commission have remained dedicated to.

The OYC is a diverse group of 25 youth ages 13-21 that advise the Mayor, City Council and other City officials on Oakland youth issues. The Commission allows Oakland youth to have a voice in governmental affairs. Since the welfare of our community will soon be in the hands of the younger generation, an alternative perspective is essential in the City's decision-making process. Currently, there are 13 active and appointed members of the youth commission. There are also 11 youth applicants and two adult advisors awaiting appointment.

The Commission is currently formulating its plans to take on long term projects including a voter registration drive. We also plan to team up with other local youth organizations to work on a variety of policy issues. In addition, the Oakland Youth Commission strives to create positive alternatives to violence. By the end of the year we will hold a creative expression competition where Oakland youth will be given the opportunity to speak out against violence in their community through a variety of creative mediums. The OYC hopes to collaborate with the Mayor and City Council as representatives of youth concerns by reviewing policies pertaining to Oakland youth, creating recommendations based on these policies, and providing input on possible solutions of the problems facing the youth of our community.

Sincerely,

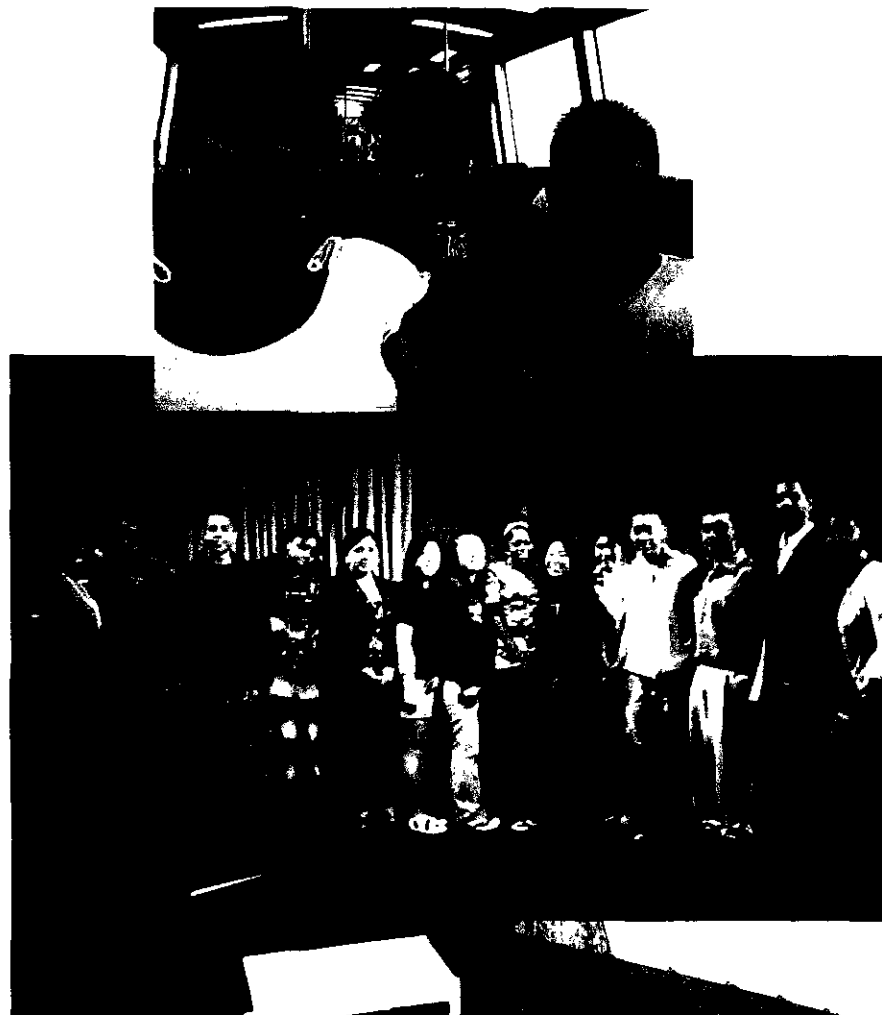
Jessica Devereaux
Chair, Oakland Youth Commission

Item: _____
Life Enrichment Committee
November 14, 2006

Oakland Youth
Advisory Commission

Youth Leadership
and Development

Annual Report 2006



- ❖ Oakland's Youth Advisory Commission was created on February 5, 1985 by Ordinance No. 10545.
- ❖ The Commission is a group of 25 youth ages 13-21 appointed by the Mayor and City Council to advise the city on youth issues.
- ❖ The Commission's charge is to identify the needs of youth, create citizen awareness of such needs and serve as a policy recommending body for civic/education-related matters within the jurisdiction of the City of Oakland.

GENERAL MEETINGS

2nd & 4th Mondays of the month

5:00 – 7:00PM

Hearing Room #3 or #4

COMMISSION STAFF

Andrea Tacdol, Youth Leadership Coordinator

DEPARTMENT

The Oakland Youth Advisory Commission is housed in the Department of Human Services within the Children & Youth Services Division.

1. Infrastructure

**2. Leadership
Development
& Civic
Education**

**3. Community
Building**

CREATION OF & ADVISING ON YOUTH POLICY

**4. Community
Grounding**

**5. Research,
Dialogue, &
Creativity**

6. City Support

Edward Baraona, College
Glenda Frost, 10th Grade
Malcolm Gaines, 8th Grade
Katrina Gilbert, 8th Grade
Connie Ip, 9th Grade
Olivia Lau, 10th Grade
Rocio Molina, 10th Grade
Andy Nguyen, 10th Grade
Lexus Monae Stromas, 9th Grade
Renato Rocha, 11th Grade
Annie Takahashi, 10th Grade
Diana Tran, College
Patrick Sean Weston, 11th Grade

ADVOCACY & POLICY

❖ **EPIC:** Environmental Prevention in Communities' (EPIC) youth program conducted research and published a report entitled "Surveying Teens About Alcohol 'n Oakland." EPIC also created a resolution asking that the Alameda County Board of Supervisors make underage drinking a priority issue, create a Underage Drinking Taskforce and support programs that make the community more aware of the problem. The Commission wrote a letter of support to the Board of Supervisors and wants EPIC's research and recommendations to be taken seriously by policy makers.

❖ **Safe Walk to School Program:** The OYC wrote a letter of support for the Safe Walk to School Program (SWSP) sent to City Council members to encourage them to attend Walk Your Child to School Day and learn about this program and the issue of student safety.

❖ **Youth Recognition Day Resolution:** The OYC drafted a resolution presented by Councilwoman Jean Quan to recognize outstanding youth in the City of Oakland. These youth were recognized in Frank Ogawa Plaza and given awards and prizes for their efforts.

❖ **Measure Y Focus Group:** The OYC made suggestions to facilitate positive, sustainable engagement between police and young people in Oakland.

❖ **Appointments:** The OYC went before City Council to make them aware of the status of the commission applications. By speaking up, City Council ensured that the Mayor's Office appointed these youth.

PROJECTS/PROGRAMS

❖ **Y-Files:** Completed interviews with more than 90% of the candidates running for school board, Mayor and City Council about their stance on youth issues in Oakland. Compiled information into Y-Files publication.

❖ **Youth Recognition Day:** Built relationships with youth leaders throughout Oakland and city departments by implementing the city's annual Youth Recognition Day in conjunction with the Office of Parks and Recreation's International Youth Day. Youth put forth a resolution to honor these young people.

EDUCATION/TRAINING

❖ **Overnight Retreat:** Organized two annual overnight retreats at Bodega Bay and the Marin Headlands to focus on leadership development, political education, team-building and planning for the year.

❖ **Workshops:** Implemented diverse workshops on facilitation training, being a community trustee, community organizing, planning, creating a vision, youth issues, youth empowerment, political power, writing city resolutions, and youth commission 101 to prepare youth for their responsibilities as commissioners.

❖ **Bylaws One-Day Retreat:** Created and passed first ever youth commission bylaws modeled after the San Francisco Youth Commission

❖ **Rotating Facilitator & Leadership roles:** Youth Commission meetings are facilitated and led by a different youth commissioner each week. The commission has elected the following officers: Chair, Government Affairs Officer, Community Affairs Officer, Operations Officer, Media & Public Relations Officer, and Secretary. The organization is youth-led.

OUTREACH

- ❖ Successfully conducted outreach to over 40+ schools and community organizations in Oakland by attending events, conducting outreach presentations, utilizing online listservs and meeting with key individuals.
- ❖ Improved publicity efforts by creating a Public Service Announcement with K-TOP that continues to air on the public network.
- ❖ Maintained Commission's accessibility by updating website which includes all information on applying for the youth commission, agendas and minutes and general information.

COMMUNITY ED.

❖ **Community Organizations:** Oakland organizations conducted workshops at OYC retreats and meetings about youth issues. Organizations included: Youth Media Council, Asian Youth Promoting Advocacy and Leadership, Youth Together, Ella Baker Center, EPIC, etc.

❖ **Community Events:** OYC attended various community events on issues affecting youth including Youth Media Council Town Hall Meeting, Get Hyphee for Education event, Ella Baker Center Solutions Salon, etc.

❖ **Conferences:** OYC members and/or staff attended the Coalition of Community Foundations for Youth Conference on Youth Engagement for Community Change, Restorative Justice for Oakland Youth Conference on Healing Circles, Ella Baker Center Conference on their Reclaiming the Future Campaign, UC Berkeley's "On the Frontlines" Conference on Counter-militarization, etc.

❖ **Field Trip to SF Youth Commission Meeting:** Networked and learned from the SF Youth Commission by attending meeting.

1. After educational and community workshops, dialogue among commissioners, the OYC chose three major issues to focus on this year: youth violence prevention, public education improvements and youth engagement in city government. The OYC will maintain three committees to address each of these issues.
2. The OYC will build community awareness around youth violence prevention and public education through events and public meetings throughout the year.
3. By the Spring of 2007 the OYC will create Youth Budget Recommendations for 2007-2009 after conducting research & youth community meetings.

1. The OYC will continue to support the research and policy recommendation of EPIC youth on how to decrease underage drinking in Oakland and will ensure that they are taken seriously by City Council.
2. The OYC urges City Council to ensure that Mayoral Appointments for commissions, boards and committees are done in a timely manner. Currently, there are 11 youth applicants and 2 adult advisors awaiting appointment to the OYC.
3. The OYC urges City Council to actively seek youth input on youth policy issues and build a working relationship with the Oakland Youth Commission.