



Oakland Parks and Recreation Foundation

Providing financial and volunteer resources, and advocacy for Recreation programs and Parks in Oakland

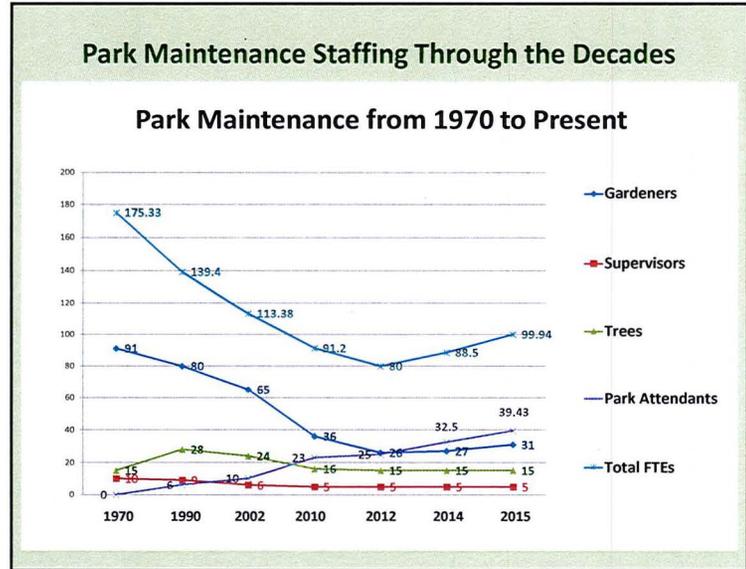
- Oakland Parks Coalition merged with Friends of Oakland Parks and Recreation in January, 2015, to form Oakland Parks and Recreation Foundation.
- 2015 was the 10th consecutive year of the annual park survey and report and the first year of its production under the banner of OPRF.

Healthy, Attractive Parks and Medians provide health, economic and social benefits.

Public Works maintains....

- 130 parks, regional-serving, community, neighborhood, pocket parks, tot-lots
- 45 landscaped areas at public buildings
- 10 plazas
- 14 parking lots with landscaping
- 126 medians

Let us commit to protecting these resources for future generations.



Why do we conduct an annual survey of Oakland parks?

- To bring urgent problems to the attention of Oakland Public Works.
- To synthesize and analyze the survey data and describe our findings about park conditions in the annual report to our City.
- To make recommendations which we feel would enhance the park experience.
- To drive home the principle that parks are key to the social and economic health of our city and need a sufficient and stable source of maintenance funding to keep them viable.

Love Your Park Day Survey

- OPRF stewards and volunteers surveyed a total of 113 parks, plazas and landscaped areas in the month of September. The final survey sweep was conducted by these volunteers on October 3, 2015.



RATING RANGE

WORST = 1 2 3 4 5 = BEST

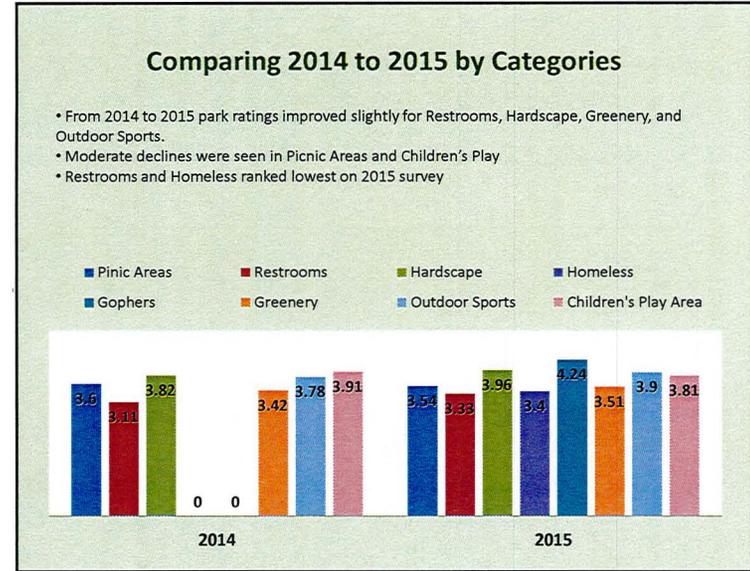
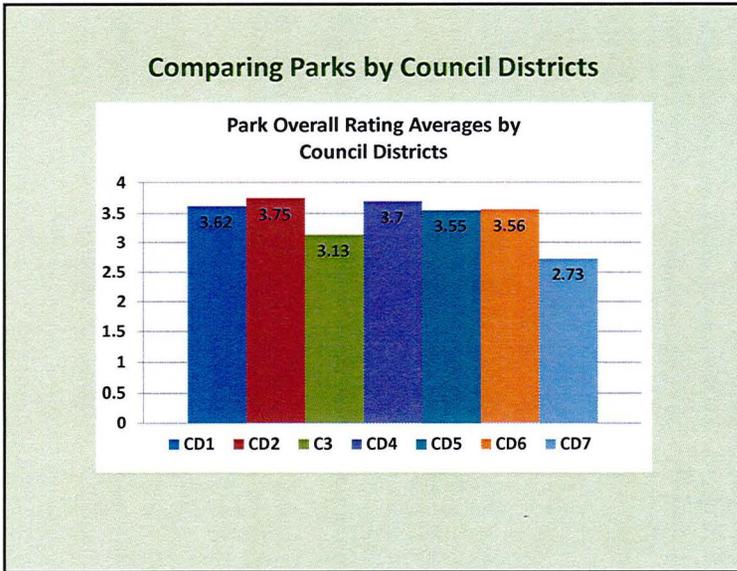
2015 Love Your Parks Day Survey	
1. HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE STATE OF MAINTENANCE IN YOUR LOCAL PARK?	1 2 3 4 5 N/A
2. HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE STATE OF MAINTENANCE IN YOUR LOCAL PLAZA?	1 2 3 4 5 N/A
3. HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE STATE OF MAINTENANCE IN YOUR LOCAL LANDSCAPED AREA?	1 2 3 4 5 N/A
4. HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE STATE OF MAINTENANCE IN YOUR LOCAL TRAIL?	1 2 3 4 5 N/A
5. HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE STATE OF MAINTENANCE IN YOUR LOCAL PLAY AREA?	1 2 3 4 5 N/A
6. HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE STATE OF MAINTENANCE IN YOUR LOCAL BIKEWAY?	1 2 3 4 5 N/A
7. HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE STATE OF MAINTENANCE IN YOUR LOCAL WATERWAY?	1 2 3 4 5 N/A
8. HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE STATE OF MAINTENANCE IN YOUR LOCAL GOLF COURSE?	1 2 3 4 5 N/A
9. HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE STATE OF MAINTENANCE IN YOUR LOCAL TENNIS COURT?	1 2 3 4 5 N/A
10. HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE STATE OF MAINTENANCE IN YOUR LOCAL BASKETBALL COURT?	1 2 3 4 5 N/A
11. HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE STATE OF MAINTENANCE IN YOUR LOCAL SOFTBALL FIELD?	1 2 3 4 5 N/A
12. HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE STATE OF MAINTENANCE IN YOUR LOCAL BASEBALL FIELD?	1 2 3 4 5 N/A
13. HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE STATE OF MAINTENANCE IN YOUR LOCAL STADIUM?	1 2 3 4 5 N/A
14. HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE STATE OF MAINTENANCE IN YOUR LOCAL GYMNASIUM?	1 2 3 4 5 N/A
15. HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE STATE OF MAINTENANCE IN YOUR LOCAL ICE SKATING RINK?	1 2 3 4 5 N/A
16. HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE STATE OF MAINTENANCE IN YOUR LOCAL SKI LIFT?	1 2 3 4 5 N/A
17. HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE STATE OF MAINTENANCE IN YOUR LOCAL SKI AREA?	1 2 3 4 5 N/A
18. HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE STATE OF MAINTENANCE IN YOUR LOCAL SNOWMAKING AREA?	1 2 3 4 5 N/A
19. HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE STATE OF MAINTENANCE IN YOUR LOCAL HANGAR?	1 2 3 4 5 N/A
20. HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE STATE OF MAINTENANCE IN YOUR LOCAL GARAGE?	1 2 3 4 5 N/A
21. HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE STATE OF MAINTENANCE IN YOUR LOCAL DRIVEWAY?	1 2 3 4 5 N/A
22. HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE STATE OF MAINTENANCE IN YOUR LOCAL SIDEWALK?	1 2 3 4 5 N/A
23. HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE STATE OF MAINTENANCE IN YOUR LOCAL CURB?	1 2 3 4 5 N/A
24. HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE STATE OF MAINTENANCE IN YOUR LOCAL STREET?	1 2 3 4 5 N/A
25. HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE STATE OF MAINTENANCE IN YOUR LOCAL HIGHWAY?	1 2 3 4 5 N/A
26. HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE STATE OF MAINTENANCE IN YOUR LOCAL BRIDGE?	1 2 3 4 5 N/A
27. HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE STATE OF MAINTENANCE IN YOUR LOCAL TUNNEL?	1 2 3 4 5 N/A
28. HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE STATE OF MAINTENANCE IN YOUR LOCAL UNDERPASS?	1 2 3 4 5 N/A
29. HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE STATE OF MAINTENANCE IN YOUR LOCAL OVERPASS?	1 2 3 4 5 N/A
30. HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE STATE OF MAINTENANCE IN YOUR LOCAL RAMP?	1 2 3 4 5 N/A
31. HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE STATE OF MAINTENANCE IN YOUR LOCAL ON-RAMP?	1 2 3 4 5 N/A
32. HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE STATE OF MAINTENANCE IN YOUR LOCAL OFF-RAMP?	1 2 3 4 5 N/A
33. HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE STATE OF MAINTENANCE IN YOUR LOCAL INTERCHANGE?	1 2 3 4 5 N/A
34. HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE STATE OF MAINTENANCE IN YOUR LOCAL JUNCTION?	1 2 3 4 5 N/A
35. HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE STATE OF MAINTENANCE IN YOUR LOCAL ROUNDABOUT?	1 2 3 4 5 N/A
36. HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE STATE OF MAINTENANCE IN YOUR LOCAL TRAFFIC SIGNAL?	1 2 3 4 5 N/A
37. HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE STATE OF MAINTENANCE IN YOUR LOCAL STOP SIGN?	1 2 3 4 5 N/A
38. HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE STATE OF MAINTENANCE IN YOUR LOCAL YIELD SIGN?	1 2 3 4 5 N/A
39. HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE STATE OF MAINTENANCE IN YOUR LOCAL STOP SIGN WITH FLUORESCENT YELLOW CENTER?	1 2 3 4 5 N/A
40. HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE STATE OF MAINTENANCE IN YOUR LOCAL STOP SIGN WITH FLUORESCENT YELLOW CENTER AND WHITE BORDER?	1 2 3 4 5 N/A
41. HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE STATE OF MAINTENANCE IN YOUR LOCAL STOP SIGN WITH FLUORESCENT YELLOW CENTER AND WHITE BORDER AND WHITE REFLECTIVE SHEETING?	1 2 3 4 5 N/A
42. HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE STATE OF MAINTENANCE IN YOUR LOCAL STOP SIGN WITH FLUORESCENT YELLOW CENTER AND WHITE BORDER AND WHITE REFLECTIVE SHEETING AND WHITE REFLECTIVE SHEETING?	1 2 3 4 5 N/A
43. HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE STATE OF MAINTENANCE IN YOUR LOCAL STOP SIGN WITH FLUORESCENT YELLOW CENTER AND WHITE BORDER AND WHITE REFLECTIVE SHEETING AND WHITE REFLECTIVE SHEETING AND WHITE REFLECTIVE SHEETING?	1 2 3 4 5 N/A
44. HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE STATE OF MAINTENANCE IN YOUR LOCAL STOP SIGN WITH FLUORESCENT YELLOW CENTER AND WHITE BORDER AND WHITE REFLECTIVE SHEETING AND WHITE REFLECTIVE SHEETING AND WHITE REFLECTIVE SHEETING AND WHITE REFLECTIVE SHEETING?	1 2 3 4 5 N/A
45. HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE STATE OF MAINTENANCE IN YOUR LOCAL STOP SIGN WITH FLUORESCENT YELLOW CENTER AND WHITE BORDER AND WHITE REFLECTIVE SHEETING AND WHITE REFLECTIVE SHEETING AND WHITE REFLECTIVE SHEETING AND WHITE REFLECTIVE SHEETING AND WHITE REFLECTIVE SHEETING?	1 2 3 4 5 N/A
46. HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE STATE OF MAINTENANCE IN YOUR LOCAL STOP SIGN WITH FLUORESCENT YELLOW CENTER AND WHITE BORDER AND WHITE REFLECTIVE SHEETING AND WHITE REFLECTIVE SHEETING?	1 2 3 4 5 N/A
47. HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE STATE OF MAINTENANCE IN YOUR LOCAL STOP SIGN WITH FLUORESCENT YELLOW CENTER AND WHITE BORDER AND WHITE REFLECTIVE SHEETING AND WHITE REFLECTIVE SHEETING?	1 2 3 4 5 N/A
48. HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE STATE OF MAINTENANCE IN YOUR LOCAL STOP SIGN WITH FLUORESCENT YELLOW CENTER AND WHITE BORDER AND WHITE REFLECTIVE SHEETING AND WHITE REFLECTIVE SHEETING?	1 2 3 4 5 N/A
49. HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE STATE OF MAINTENANCE IN YOUR LOCAL STOP SIGN WITH FLUORESCENT YELLOW CENTER AND WHITE BORDER AND WHITE REFLECTIVE SHEETING AND WHITE REFLECTIVE SHEETING?	1 2 3 4 5 N/A
50. HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE STATE OF MAINTENANCE IN YOUR LOCAL STOP SIGN WITH FLUORESCENT YELLOW CENTER AND WHITE BORDER AND WHITE REFLECTIVE SHEETING AND WHITE REFLECTIVE SHEETING?	1 2 3 4 5 N/A

Presentation Focus

This presentation will touch on some of the findings of the written report and provide additional information on the issues raised.

We will:

1. compare park rating averages by council districts.
2. compare ratings by categories for 2014 and 2015.
3. discuss our most pressing park problems.
4. look at surveyors' top concern.
5. look at parks in jeopardy.
6. make recommendations.



Restrooms Should Be A Priority

San Antonio Park: "Women's open, men's closed, H2O appears turned off, toilets and floor full of toilet paper, no inside trash can, no doors, curtains removed, and bad odor coming from the men's restroom."
-Joyce Stanek and Ruth Tretbar

Cesar Chavez: "There is 1 restroom for each gender. The female Restroom is functioning but extremely dirty and lacking all supplies but water. The male restroom doesn't flush well. They share a trash can that is placed outside the bathrooms. The Bathrooms smell and are littered and full of graffiti."
-Victoria Herrera

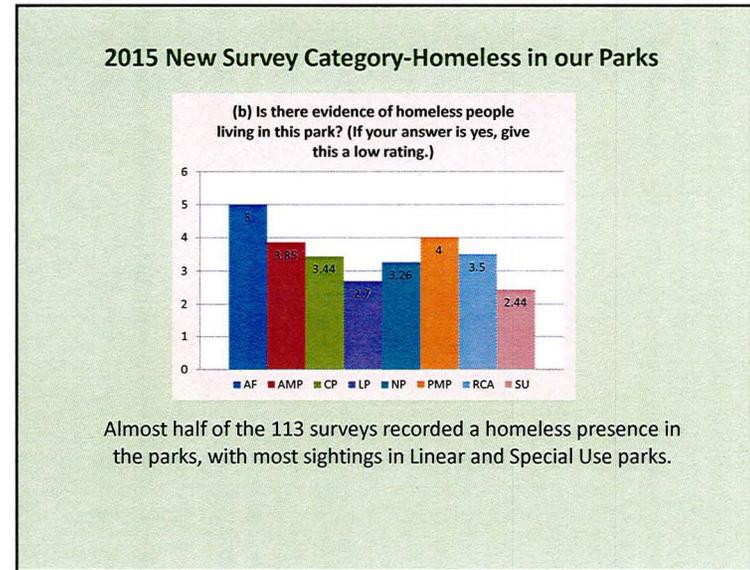
Ira Jinkins: "The restrooms are in great condition because in order to use the outdoor bathroom you have to have a key."
-Dwayne Aikens and Mike Udkow



CD2-Pine Knoll



CD1-Hardy Park



Our Most Pressing Problem-Homelessness in our Parks

Indicate what you observe regarding THE HOMELESS at this park. 1 = worst and 5 = best.

Answer Options	1-worst	2	3	4	5-best	N/A	Rating Average
(a) Is there evidence of homeless people using this park? (If your answer is yes, give this a low rating.)	27	9	15	9	41	12	3.28
(b) Is there evidence of homeless people living in this park? (If your answer is yes, give this a low rating.)	19	11	17	5	47	14	3.51



CD 1: FROG Park



CD3: Lafayette Square



CD7: Eula Brinson (85th Street Mini)

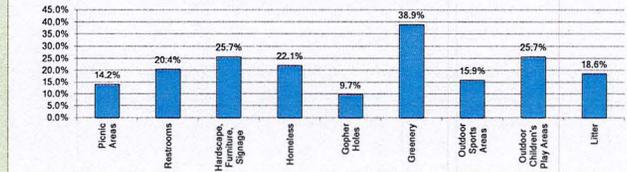
Bring Back the Park Rangers

- The activity around homeless encampments is not compatible with safe and enjoyable use of our parks.
- Our Park Rangers were trained to deal with the homeless and they did it well, but we phased them out to save OPD jobs. Now, the burden of dealing with the homeless falls to OPW and radically cuts into their time to carry out routine maintenance.
- We understand the reasons for cutting them but circumstances have changed and it's time to bring them back.

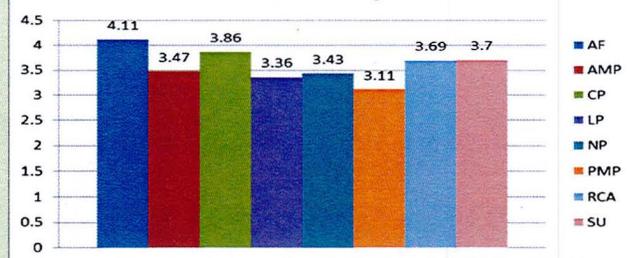
Ongoing, but Growing Park Problems: Theft, Dumping and Vandalism

- Carter Gilmore/Greenman Field restroom, the necklace of lights around Lake Merritt, Mandela Parkway, all have fallen victim to wire theft.
- The restrooms at Arroyo and Sobrante Parks have been vandalized.
- Cesar Chavez (a recently renovated park) 160 plants were stolen and holes in the soccer field had to be repaired.
- Dumping is rampant at Union Point and Oak Port
- Homeless people have put down stakes at Lafayette Square and St. Andrews Square.

Areas of Greatest Concern



Greenery



Parks In Jeopardy



CD3: Cypress Memorial



CD3: St. Andrews Square



CD3: Willow



CD7: 88th Mini



CD7: Columbian Gardens



CD7: Holly Mini

Parks Need Neighborhood Support



Oakland is indeed fortunate to have many citizens who volunteer in their parks. Some work alone, picking up litter, weeding; others establish or join neighborhood groups to conduct clean-ups. Others even build parks. The Rockridge Temescal Greenbelt (aka FROG Park) was built by over 1300 volunteers in 2001 and has been supported by volunteer workdays and generous donations ever since.

Recommendations

- Restore Funding for Park Maintenance that has been eroded through the decades.
- Bring Back the Park Rangers.
- Provide a Long-Term Funding Solution for Maintenance of Measure DD Improvements Around the Lake.
- Find a More Effective Way to Deal with the Homeless.
- Increase Support to Neighborhood Park Groups and Stewards.
- Find New Approaches for Parks in Jeopardy.
- Stay Creative Regarding Funding for Park Maintenance.



OPRF Park Stewardship Program

Your parks need your help.
Become an official OPRF steward of your neighborhood park, plaza or median.
Visit: www.oaklandparks.org
and sign the Stewardship Pledge.
OPRF offers you support and appreciation for the wonderful work you do.