



CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. _____ C.M.S.

INTRODUCED BY VICE MAYOR REBECCA KAPLAN, COUNCIL PRESIDENT
NIKKI FORTUNATO BAS & COUNCILMEMBER CARROLL FIFE

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE CREATION OF A COUNTYWIDE, COLLABORATIVE, COMMUNITY-BASED PLANNING PROCESS TO REIMAGINE ALAMEDA COUNTY'S APPROACH TO YOUTH JUSTICE AS PROPOSED BY THE FREE OUR KIDS (FOK) COALITION AND THE COUNTY'S JUVENILE JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL (JJCC) REALIGNMENT SUBCOMMITTEE CREATED PURSUANT TO CALIFORNIA SENATE BILL 823

WHEREAS, 42% of all youth referred to the justice system in Alameda County come from Oakland¹; and

WHEREAS, Alameda County is currently spending between \$500,000 and \$800,000 per year to keep one youth in detention²; and

WHEREAS, Black youth from the City of Oakland are approximately 113 times more likely than white youth to be criminalized and arrested³; and

WHEREAS, youth of color represent 92% of youth under probation supervision in Alameda County, and for youth from Oakland under probation supervision, youth of color represent 99% of all youth under probation supervision⁴; and

WHEREAS, as of 2020, Black youth were 65 times more likely to be detained at Camp Sweeney than their white counterparts; and

¹ "Alco Data Portal" located at <https://data.acgov.org/search?collection=Dataset&q=prb>. Accessed August 10, 2022.

² "Alameda County Budget" located at <http://acgov.org/MS/OpenBudget/budget.htm> & "Juvenile Detention Profile Survey" located at https://bscc.ca.gov/s_fsojuveniledetentionprofile/. Accessed September 13, 2022.

³ "Alco Data Portal" located at <https://data.acgov.org/search?collection=Dataset&q=prb>. Accessed August 10, 2022.

⁴ Ibid.

WHEREAS, the State closed the Division of Juvenile Justice following the passage of Senate Bill (SB) 823 (2020); the intent of this change was to align the rehabilitative mission of the state's juvenile justice system with trauma-informed and developmentally appropriate services; and

WHEREAS, following the passage of SB 823, Alameda County hosted a Reimagining Juvenile Justice Forum in fall of 2020 to provide information about the landscape of juvenile justice, efforts around reform, juvenile demographic data, and to brainstorm ways to best serve youth and communities; and

WHEREAS, despite reforms that have reduced the number of youth involved in the criminal legal system in the City of Oakland and County of Alameda, youth of color are significantly more likely than white youth to be referred to and processed through the system; and

WHEREAS, the City of Oakland understands the criminal and juvenile legal systems disproportionately impact youth with early childhood trauma and that education, welfare, health, and youth justice systems fail and retraumatize those youth; and

WHEREAS, the current criminal legal system in the City of Oakland and County of Alameda does not adequately address the needs of girls, gender expansive youth, and trans people; and

WHEREAS, research affirms the dangerous effects of incarceration on young people; and community-based alternatives and interventions across the United States and in the Bay Area have demonstrated significant potential as alternative models of accountability; and

WHEREAS, the City of Oakland prioritizes providing recreational, educational, and employment opportunities for youth to prevent contact with the legal system; and

WHEREAS, the City of Oakland believes it must lead with practices that support healing to allow youth to take responsibility for their mistakes and improve community safety by supporting the growth and wellbeing of our young people; and

WHEREAS, community-based is defined as an approach in which communities who have been impacted by the issues being discussed have an active role and participate in highlighting and addressing the issues that matter to them; community-based means being in the community that you serve, geographically and philosophically; a community-based approach invites communities to actively design, develop, and deliver their own culturally responsive prevention and intervention strategies; and

WHEREAS, the City of Oakland believes it should assess whether aspects of the current criminal legal system practices need to be re-imagined to better support healing and opportunity; and

WHEREAS, the City of Oakland believes any process to re-imagine justice should be collaborative and give space for community members and directly impacted families to take leadership and have their perspectives impact the process; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That the City of Oakland supports a multi-sector, multi-agency, and community-based approach to assess and reimagine youth justice in Alameda County; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That the City of Oakland supports restructuring Alameda County’s youth justice system by using a public health approach to address the underlying conditions that create violence.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA,

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES - FIFE, GALLO, KALB, KAPLAN, REID, TAYLOR, THAO AND
PRESIDENT FORTUNATO BAS

NOES –

ABSENT –

ABSTENTION –

ATTEST: _____

ASHA REED
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council of the
City of Oakland, California