

# CITY OF OAKLAND



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November 4, 2025

HONORABLE CITY COUNCIL  
Oakland, California

**Subject: Claim of Saba Grocers Initiative  
City Attorney File No. C37739  
(City Administrator – Contract/Promissory Estoppel)**

President Jenkins and Members of the City Council:

Pursuant to Section 401 of the Charter, the City Attorney has prepared and requests your approval of a resolution authorizing compromise and settlement of the above-entitled claim for the sum of five hundred thousand dollars and zero cents (\$500,000.00), payable to Saba Grocers Initiative.

This action arises out of a claim of promissory estoppel made by Saba Grocers Initiative, a nonprofit promoting access to healthy foods. Saba alleges that it relied on the City's representations and spent a \$500,000 federal grant with matching requirements in anticipation of receiving City funds in 2023 and 2024. The City's grant agreement was never executed and the City funds were not disbursed due to budget constraints. The City has determined that, without admitting liability and to avoid further litigation, settlement in the amount of \$500,000.00 to Saba, is in the best interest of the City.

The City Council authorized settlement of this case in Closed Session on Thursday, October 23, 2025 (moved by President Pro Tem Noel Gallo and seconded by Council President Kevin Jenkins - 4 Ayes, 1 No – Councilmember Ken Houston, 3 Excused – Councilmembers Rowena Brown, Carroll Fife and Janani Ramachandran).

Respectfully submitted,

  
RYAN RICHARDSON  
City Attorney

Assigned Attorney:  
Christina Lum