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Councilmember Nikki Fortunato Bas
CITY OF OAKLAND



CITY HALL, 1 FRANK OGAWA PLAZA, 2ND FLOOR, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA 94612

Memorandum

DATE: November 12, 2019
TO: City Council and Members of the Public
FROM: Councilmember Nikki Fortunato Bas
SUBJECT: Informational Report and Recommendation on The Context, Strategies, Goals, Programs, Partnerships, Outcomes and Best Practices to Address Human Trafficking in the City of Oakland

RECOMMENDATION

The City Council Receive An Informational Report and Recommendation On The Context, Strategies, Goals, Programs, Partnerships, Outcomes and Best Practices to Address Human Trafficking From The Oakland Police Department (including focusing on traffickers and purchasers; “rescuing” and supporting minors and supporting adults; staff training; partnerships with community organizations; collaboration with other agencies including the County and District Attorney); The Human Services Department (including violence prevention; partnerships with community organizations that serve impacted communities); The Administration (including licensing of massage parlors and responding to reports of trafficking); The Office of Public Works and the Department of Transportation (including environmental deterrents).

BACKGROUND

Commercial sexual exploitation, especially of youth and other vulnerable populations is an alarming problem that has persisted in Oakland for decades. According to experts, advocates and direct service providers, Oakland has long been a destination for human trafficking that has devastated our communities and neighborhoods. In 2003, the FBI designated the Bay Area as a “High Intensity Child Prostitution Area.”¹ In Oakland, sex trafficking disproportionately impacts young women of color and African American girls. Nearly 80 percent of the sexually exploited young people in Oakland are African American (2018).²

The problem has been exacerbated by several factors. The ongoing housing affordability and homelessness crisis, as well as rising economic inequality and lack of adequate job training and

¹ <https://www.npr.org/2010/12/07/131757175/arresting-youth-in-sex-trafficking-raises-debate>

² <https://www.kalw.org/post/church-seeks-curb-oaklands-sex-trade-through-prayer#stream/0>

job opportunities, mean that vulnerable communities do not have the basic stability of good jobs and affordable housing. Recent legislation at the national level, including the Fight Online Sex Trafficking Act (FOSTA) and the Stop Enabling Sex Traffickers Act (SESTA), have moved sex trafficking previously occurring online, onto the streets.³

To help address human trafficking in Oakland, CM Bas and CM Gallo request the following information from the City to better understand and improve how the City is prioritizing this issue.

Each department should address the **context, strategies, goals, programs, partnerships, outcomes and best practices** it employs to address human trafficking. In addition, each department should address the following questions in the informational report and/or at the November 12, 2019 Public Safety Committee meeting.

Oakland Police Department (OPD)

1. Please describe enforcement programs and operations that focus on traffickers and purchasers, including goals and outcomes/results; and collaboration with other agencies such as the Alameda County Sheriff's Office and District Attorney, state and federal agencies.
2. Please describe programs and operations that focus on "rescuing" and supporting exploited minors and supporting exploited adults, including goals and outcomes/results; staff training; and partnerships with community organizations.
3. Please explain how the OPD funds human trafficking efforts including:
 - a. What percentage of OPD's budget goes toward human trafficking efforts? Please break down funding sources (GPF, grants); staffing levels; total salaries for the Special Victims Section (SVS), Vice/Child Exploitation Unit (CEU) and any other relevant units; and staff training on human trafficking?
 - b. How many operations took place between 2016 - 2019, and what were the results?
 - c. Please provide a breakdown of the \$127,848 YTD spending on human trafficking efforts per the latest Human Trafficking Monthly Report for September 2019.
4. Please explain how the OPD staffing addresses human trafficking including:
 - a. What is the staffing organization within the SVS and CEU units? What is the percentage of OPD staff dedicated to human trafficking relative to the total level of OPD sworn officers? What is the ratio of male to female officers in OPD's SVS and CEU units?
 - b. How does OPD use gender-based and trauma-informed approaches in human trafficking cases? How many staff are trained in these types of approaches? How many trainings are there annually and which staff access this type of training?
5. Please explain how the OPD addresses trends and data as it relates to human trafficking including:

³ <https://sanfrancisco.cbslocal.com/2019/02/03/new-laws-forced-sex-workers-back-on-sf-streets-caused-170-spike-in-human-trafficking/>

- c. What current data exists about purchasers, including which cities or areas they are coming from? How are we working with other municipalities and law enforcement agencies to address concerns that purchasers are coming from outside Oakland?
- d. How is tracking done for sex trafficked youth, especially in how they are offered and accepting support services? The August 2019 report states that adult sex workers are offered support services, specifically, what kinds of "follow up services and diversion programs" are they offered, and what community groups or staff manage this?

Human Services Department/Department of Violence Prevention/Oakland Unite

1. What is the overall strategy for Oakland Unite's gender-based violence work and how does it address human trafficking? How are Oakland Unite staff and grantees interfacing with OPD's Special Victims Section (SVS) and Vice/Child Exploitation Unit (CEU) and other OPD staff?
2. What funding and opportunities exist to sponsor community trainings for residents living in impacted areas?
3. Please describe what prevention or intervention efforts HSD is currently involved in to address human trafficking in CSEC populations and to deter traffickers?
4. Please explain and describe what Life Coaching or Intensive Case Management opportunities exist through Oakland Unite for human trafficking victims and CSEC?

City Administrator's Office

1. Please describe what resources within the city currently exist to inspect, enforce and prosecute human trafficking operations/businesses, such as massage parlors engaged in human trafficking?
2. How does the City monitor and track human trafficking complaints such as those related to massage parlors? If areas of operation are complaint driven, how is the data collected and which areas are currently being prioritized?
3. What cross-sector training is currently available for city staff who work closely with OPD or who interface with CSEC populations, for instance, OUSD, OPW, or OakDOT? Is this training mandated for any staff outside of OPD?
4. What strategic partnerships exist or could be developed between the Alameda County Dept. of Public Health and the City to address mental health, trauma, reproductive health and other health-related outcomes related to human trafficking?

OPW & OakDOT

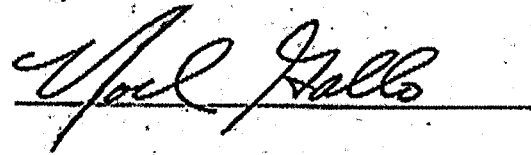
1. How does OPW and OakDOT share information collected through Oak 311 or other venues related to human trafficking?
2. How does OPW and OakDOT prioritize complaints related to human trafficking activities, e.g. tree trimming, lights, cameras, traffic calming, or other environmental deterrents?

For questions regarding this informational request, please contact Lia Azul Salaverry,
Policy Analyst and Community Liaison, Office of Councilmember Nikki Fortunato Bas, at 510-
238-7021.

Respectfully Submitted,



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Councilmember, District 2



Noel Gallo
Councilmember, District 5

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