Planning Commission Briefing

March 22, 2022
Overview

• Planning Commission Timeline
• Project team and planning process
• Engagement summary + Equity strategy
• Major themes
• Community
• Mobility
• Infrastructure
• Timeline
Planning Commission Timeline

Today

- The Oakland Plan: Introduction, Community, Mobility, and Infrastructure

April 5, 2022 Briefing

- The Oakland Plan: Development
- Packages of Zoning Amendments
  - Mandatory Inclusionary Zoning – Oakland-wide
  - New Proposed Zoning Districts

April 19, 2022 Hearing and Action

- The Oakland Plan
- Packages of Zoning Amendments
Staff Team and Consultants

**Staff:**

- Project management: Stephanie Joy Everett (DCP) and Derek Dauphin (former, DCP)
- Project coordination: Thomas Scharff (DCP) and Sophie Robison (former, DCP)
- Community Action Team: Josiah Gilliam (Office of Equity), Sophie Robison (former, DCP), and Alyssa Lyon (former, GBA)
- Development Action Team: Derek Dauphin (DCP), Gordon Hall (URA), and Nick Fedorek (former, URA)
- Mobility: Steve Auterman (DOMI), David Munson (DOMI), Moira Egler (PAAC), Dara Braitman (former, DOMI), and Breen Masciotra (former, PAAC)
- Infrastructure: Megan Zeigler (GBA), Flore Marion (DCP), Sarah Yeager (DCP), and Kara Smith (former, DCP)

**Supporting Consultants:**

- Economic Development and Urban Design: Goody Clancy, Ninigret Partners, W-ZHA, CHIPlanning
- Mobility: Kittelson and Associates, CHIPlanning
Planning Process

Summer/Fall 2020
Online open house

Fall 2021
In-person events, online engagement

Past Event
URBAN DESIGN WORKSHOP & PLANNING EDUCATION SERIES
2019
SUMMER
FALL
WINTER
SPRING
2020

Online open house + Technical Advisory Groups, Focus Groups

STEERING COMMITTEE
Create Public Engagement Plan
Develop Knowledge, Identify Challenges & Opportunities

ACTION TEAMS
Issue Identification
Research
Draft Proposals
Refine Proposals
Integrate Proposals into Draft Plan

ROLE OF PUBLIC
Co-creation through regular work sessions, activities. Participate in periodic equity workshops.

Adoption of Oakland Plan
### Who's Who and What They Do

**Steering Committee**
Advisory body with up to 30 member organizations that represent most stakeholder groups.

**Community**
A person with an interest or concern in the neighborhood.

**Action Teams**
Team comprised of Steering Committee members, residents, other stakeholders, and public agency staff.

**Technical Advisory Group**
Group composed of experts that focus on complex topic(s).

**Staff**
Professional staff from public, non-profit, and private sector organizations that manage the planning process.

### What

- **Steering Committee**: They engage the stakeholder group representatives, produce elements of the plan, and integrate the work of the Action Teams.
- **Community**: They provide input and feedback throughout the planning process.
- **Action Teams**: They identify issues and conduct research to fully understand topics, and develop actions and identify resources to address them.
- **Technical Advisory Group**: They support work of Action Teams by providing clarity and detail for complex topics.
- **Staff**: They work to achieve full community and stakeholder participation in the planning process.

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Steering Committee Members

Allegeny County
Bellefield Area Citizens Association
Carlow University (Administration)
Carnegie Library
Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh
Carnegie Mellon University (Administration)
Community Human Services
Councilperson Kraus's Office
Councilperson Lavelle's Office
Councilperson Strassburger’s Office
Faculty of Carlow University
Faculty of Carnegie Mellon University
Faculty of University of Pittsburgh
InnovatePGH/Avenu
Oakcliffe Community Organization
Oakland Business Improvement District (OBID)
Oakland Planning and Development Corporation (OPDC)
Oakland Transportation Management Association (OTMA)
Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens
Schenley Farms Civic Association
Soldiers & Sailors Memorial Hall & Museum
South Oakland Neighborhood Group
State House Representative Frankel
State House Representative Wheatley
State Senator Jay Costa
Students of Carlow University
Students of Carnegie Mellon University
Students of the University of Pittsburgh
University of Pittsburgh (Administration)
UPMC
West Oakland Neighborhood Council
Action Teams

• Focused on one of the chapters of the plan: Community, Development, Mobility, and Infrastructure. Membership open to the public.

• Typical attendance of 20-30 members per meeting ranging from residents to professionals working in the neighborhood and citywide experts.

• Process varied by topic area, but most worked through their topics from the Neighborhood Plan Guide, identifying issues and opportunities and hearing from local and national experts on the topics.

• Research, tours, workshops, and other engagement activities followed to inform the final strategies forwarded on the the Steering Committee.
Technical Advisory Groups (TAGs)

• Assembled to dive deeper into strategies developed by the Action Teams.
• Two TAGs were needed: Arts, Culture, and Design; and Equity.
• Typically 10-15 expert members.
• Each TAG met 3-4 times over the course of 1-2 months.
• Additionally, three focus groups are being convened for one-time events to support the Zoning Code amendments: Housing, Workforce Development, and Urban Design and development.
COVID-19 Impacts

• Staff worked with Steering Committee through January 2020 to craft the initial Public Engagement Plan (PEP) for the project.

• By the end of February 2020, Steering Committee meetings were conducted via Zoom which continued through the end of the project. The PEP was updated.

• The Steering Committee spent spring 2020 working with staff on elements of the Plan’s Equity Strategy and level setting on the major topic areas of the plan.

• Planned spring block parties were canceled and project staff researched and selected an online engagement platform called The Hive. The summer 2020 open house launched the platform in August 2020 which has since grown to a full citywide engagement portal called EngagePGH.

• Most engagement has been a combination of EngagePGH activities, Zoom meetings, and outdoor in-person activities (block parties, tours, outdoor discussions, etc.).
Engagement Summary

- **Steering Committee:** ~30 members representing diverse interests of Oakland from residents and non-profits to cultural institutions, businesses, the universities and UPMC. Have met monthly since October 2019, worked with staff to draft vision statement, goals, public engagement plan, Interim Development Goals Letter. Currently working on details of the strategies, the last component of the plan content.

- **Action Teams:** four focus groups that met monthly between September 2020 and October 2021 to develop strategies for the plan. Open to everyone, typically had 20-30 members each.

- **Online engagement:** EngagePGH was launched in-part to support Oakland Plan engagement through the pandemic. An online open house in the summer of 2020 received 2,500 visits and 800 comments. A fall online open house with draft strategies had 2,400 visits and 550 comments.

- **In-person engagement:** staff led and participated in nearly a dozen in-person events from May from Fall 2021 including site tours and workshops, block parties hosted by the University of Pittsburgh, walking tours, and small scale neighborhood meetings. Approximately 1,600 people attended these events. Online equivalents were provided for all in-person events.
**Engagement Summary (continued)**

- **Technical Advisory Groups**: the planning process established two committees of 10-15 experts that helped staff to craft strategies around equity, and arts, culture, and design. Additionally, focus groups focusing on Housing, Workforce Development, and Urban Design and Development are supporting the Zoning Code work.

- **Other forms of input**: staff and consultants conducted hundreds of interviews to craft the plan. These included interviews with Oakland leaders, developers, brokers, experts in data and affordable housing, and national experts in topics related to the strategies identified by the Action Teams. Many of these interviews led to experts being involved in discussions with the Action Teams and Steering Committee.

- **How do we get the word out?** Steering Committee members share updates with those they represent, attending neighborhood association on a quarterly basis, postcards to all addresses in Oakland and physical signage for both summer 2020 and fall 2021 open house events, flyering all adjacent addresses for workshop events, email lists, social media, EngagePGH site, targeted media coverage.
Equity Strategy

During winter 2020, the project team worked with the Steering Committee to establish shared goals for diversity, equity, and inclusion in the planning process. These discussions led to an equity strategy that was integrated into the planning and process and intentionally engaged underrepresented and marginalized groups in Oakland.

Groups identified in Oakland include:

• African-American residents
• University students
• Immigrants and newcomers

Oakland Plan Equity Strategy: https://engage.pittsburghpa.gov/oakland/oakland-plan-equity
The Oakland Plan's equity strategy includes the following components to understand and plan to overcome inequities for the identified groups:

- **Staff**: Staff from the Office of Equity and Green Building Alliance took on this important work. In addition to the items below, staff are working to understand how programs and partnerships can benefit this work such as the City of Pittsburgh's role in the Government Alliance on Race and Equity (GARE) and Welcoming Pittsburgh.

- **Technical Advisory Group**: Convening a Technical Advisory Group that consists of interested Oakland stakeholders and citywide professionals working on behalf these groups to provide advice as needed on how equity should be incorporated into various aspects of the planning process.

- **Equity Workshops**: Specific events are being planned throughout the planning process as a way for Action Teams, staff, and the Steering Committee to learn and develop a strong equity approach.

- **Intentional Language**: The plan's vision statement, goals, and strategies will include language that explicitly calls out inequities and identifies how they will be addressed. These will be highlighted at each stage in the planning process.

- **Advocacy Organizations**: Professional advocacy organizations that represent marginalized and disadvantaged groups were invited to participate in Action Teams and provide their expertise and experiences as a way to improve the outcomes of the planning process.

Plan Format

The planning process and format of the plan follows the Neighborhood Plan Guide (2020).

Established a framework for a smaller, targeted document:

- Policy framework that is formally adopted
- Implementation tables by chapter
- Strategy summaries that serve as scopes for projects and programs in the implementation tables

- Vision statements provide a shared description of what the neighborhood will be in 10 years if the plan is successful.
- Goals are long-term outcomes the plan will achieve by implementing programs, policies, and projects.
- Policies set a preferred direction and describe what must be done to achieve the goals.
- Programs are a set of activities that seek to realize a particular long-term aim.
- Projects are discrete actions for a list of implementation partners to take on and complete.
- Partnerships are commitments by organizations to work together to advance an outcome.
Plan Relationships

- Community organizations have created a number of important plans that are guideposts for this work: OBID Strategic Plan (2020), Oakland 2025 (2012), the Innovation Oakland Master Plan (2010).

- This project has also incorporated past and influenced ongoing institutional master plans at the University of Pittsburgh, Carnegie Mellon University, Carlow University, and UPMC.
Major Themes

• Growing housing and job opportunities in Oakland. New housing is needed to meet a variety of undergraduate student and long-term resident demands. The employment base needs to grow to provide jobs that are available to everyone and coupled with workforce development efforts to create a ladder of opportunity.

• Utilizing public and private investments in Oakland to increase livability through new and improved open spaces, expanded tree canopy, stormwater management systems, and community services and amenities.

• Reimagining mobility systems in Oakland to prioritize the comfort and safety of pedestrians, transit riders, and cyclists.

• Acknowledging and addressing inequities for African-Americans and students in Oakland and creating a welcoming environment for the neighborhood’s growing immigrant and newcomer populations.
This chapter is about supporting Oakland's residents including students, employees, and visitors. The content of this chapter focuses on better meeting basic needs as well as creating opportunities for people to thrive.
Community – Community Programs and livability

Goals

• **C1.A Representation in decision-making.** Civic mindedness is fostered through resident engagement in decision-making processes, and by serving on boards and committees.

• **C1.B Twenty-minute neighborhood.** Ensure residents in every part of Oakland can have access to resources to meet their basic needs within a 20-minute walk or roll from their home.

• **C1.C Neighborhood of choice.** Excellent access to healthcare, educational opportunities, entertainment, and cultural resources make Oakland uniquely desirable for people at all stages of life.

• **C1.D Vital riverfront areas.** Oakland’s riverfront has public amenities that create a unique place for the community to enjoy the Monongahela River. Multiple options exist to safely and comfortably travel from inland areas to the riverfront.

Policies

• **Strengthen civic engagement.** Ensure a broad variety of groups including residents, students, and identity groups, are engaged in decision-making processes where they are impacted through meaningful engagement opportunities

• **Increase access to daily needs.** Housing is close to facilities that offer access to daily essentials such as shopping, education, and recreation.

• **Prioritize people of diverse ages and abilities.** All right-of-way improvements prioritize the needs of seniors, children and their caretakers, and the disability community.
Community – Cultural Heritage and Preservation

Goals

• C2.A Preservation supports housing goals. Existing structures are part of the strategy to provide affordable housing and different living opportunities in Oakland.

• C2.B Celebrate Oakland’s diversity. Valuing heritage and overcoming institutional racism today are viewed as complementary and not in conflict.

Policies

• Center equity in preservation. Ensure affordability and economic inclusion throughout historic preservation processes.

• Preserve Oakland’s distinct character. Thoroughly study and preserve existing art outside and inside historic buildings in Oakland. This could be traditional historic preservation of buildings, but also the reuse and repurposing of building elements and artistic features.

• Blend historic and new development. Development projects reuse existing buildings whenever possible including building onto and around structures as part of larger-scale developments. Resulting structures maintain Oakland's existing character and fabric while allowing development that meets modern needs.
Community – Public Art

Goals

• **C3.A Public art around every corner.** Public art of all forms is found throughout Oakland to enhance the experience of living in, working in, and visiting Oakland. Art and design should be integrated into all private and public investments.

• **C3.B Art expresses diversity.** Oakland is a place where the diversity of its artists and modes of artistic expression is valued.

Policies

• **Increase art installations throughout Oakland.** Public and private investments incorporate art into public spaces, buildings, and infrastructure.

• **Support diverse local artists.** Ensure communities of color and immigrants are included in the creation of art within the neighborhood.
**Community – Public Safety**

**Goals**

- **C4.A Public safety as community well-being.** Public safety decisions consider and address potential impacts on community well-being, racial equity, and gender equity.

- **C4.B Open dialogue on community health.** Programs and projects that seek to improve community health and safety involve individuals and organizations representing diverse perspectives and identities.

**Policies**

- **Improve nighttime safety.** Infrastructure, mobility, and development projects incorporate elements that collectively improve safety outcomes for those traveling while it is dark outside through better lighting, mobility options, and emergency services. Women and people of color are involved in the design of these facilities.

- **Increase engagement around public safety.** Include stakeholders with diverse perspectives in discussions with public safety officials.
Community – Public Facilities and Services

Goals

• **C5.A Design places for children.** All spaces should take into consideration the needs of Oakland’s children and their caretakers.

• **C5.B Recreation and community facilities.** Facilities that support community gatherings and recreation are present throughout Oakland.

Policies

• **Invest in community and recreational facilities.** Increase the number of public facilities, including open spaces, recreation centers, policy and fire stations, to ensure adequate services are provided to the neighborhood.

• **Design public facilities for diverse ages and abilities.** Ensure open spaces, and sport and recreational facilities are nearby and accessible for all residents of Oakland, particularly seniors, children and their caretakers, and the disability community.
Community – Public Health

Goals

• **C6.A Social determinants of health.** Public health efforts are seen in the context of social determinants of health to maximize the impact of each intervention, especially as it relates to access to affordable, quality food, childcare, and healthcare.

• **C6.B Healthy spaces.** Private and public investments in commercial and residential areas are leveraged to make the neighborhood more healthy, enjoyable, and sustainable. Open spaces and pedestrian connections should be designed to host exercise activities, sanitary facilities, and community programming.

• **C6.C Challenge institutional racism.** Institutional racism is recognized and addressed to reduce inequality and the wealth gap between white people, Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC), and other marginalized communities.

• **C6.D Access to local food hubs.** Provide a diversity of local, affordable, accessible food options, including grocery stores, particularly as a part of transit-oriented developments and as part of development on publicly owned property or where public investments are utilized.

Policies

• **Center universal design.** Ensure design is friendly to all ages and supports a universally designed, age-in-place neighborhood. Reinforce this built experience with health and supportive services such as case management support, mental health resources, health programming and education.

• **Increase food access.** Reduce food insecurity among all Oakland residents, particularly students, people experiencing homelessness, families, and people of color, by prioritizing access to quality, healthy, diverse food options at locations such as food pantries, farmers markets, corner stores, and grocery stores of all scales.
Community – Community Uses in the Right-of-Way

Goals

• **C7.A Programming that builds community.** Establish new and grow existing programs to support community-building events in the streets such as block parties, street festivals, farmers markets, and street vendors as well as the provision of commercial and community services that spill into the public realm.

Policies

• **Enliven public streets.** Public streets in Oakland incorporate temporary and/or permanent functions that support community activities that take precedence over their transportation function.
Community – Nuisance and Enforcement Issues

Goals

• **C8.A Reduce public nuisances.** The City, institutions, and community members collaborate to reduce the many public nuisances that are in or viewable from the right-of-way through code enforcement, education, community programs, and service provision.

• **C8.B Improve standards for renters.** Renters, and particularly student renters, have safe, healthy living conditions and are given access to resources to help them determine the livability of a space prior to signing a lease.

Policies

• **Enforce the Rental Registry Program.** Ensure rental units meet all applicable building, existing structures, fire, health, safety, and zoning codes.

• **Manage occupancy issues.** Occupancy issues are appropriately, consistently, and equitably managed.
Example Community Strategy – Community Service Hubs

Combine community centers, daycares, career services, educational programming, and free wifi in a single location.
This chapter is about making getting around easier, safer, and more enjoyable. The content of this chapter strengthens transportation systems by making targeted investments throughout the neighborhood and establishing new programs.
Mobility – Transit Service and Stations

Goals

• **M1.A Maximize the value of shuttles and transit.** Public and institutional transportation services are part of an efficient system that serves both economic development and resident needs.

• **M1.B Oakland as transit hub.** Oakland is a hub of the regional transit system, on par with downtown, to ensure equitable access to the jobs and activities that are growing here.

• **M1.C Transit is a mode of choice.** Stops and station areas are attractive hubs of activity and buses provide the safest, most comfortable, and enjoyable way to get where you’re going.

Policies

• **Amenities for riders.** Ensure well-used bus stops have appropriate amenities for riders such as shade, seating, lighting, public art, and green features.

• **Access to local transit in five minute walk.** All people in Oakland are within a five minute walk of local transit service.

• **Safety and accessibility.** All bus stops in Oakland meet PAAC design guidelines for safety and accessibility.

• **Access to rapid transit in 10 minutes.** All people in Oakland are within 10 minutes of rapid transit service.

• **Multimodal connectivity.** Ensure multimodal connectivity in the mobility network to, from, and around the neighborhood.

• **Resources for TDM.** All employers have access to TDM resources, whether offered by the City, locally, or within their company.

• **Fewer trips with only one passenger.** Reduce single-occupancy vehicle trips to, from, and around Oakland.
Mobility – Pedestrian Access, Safety, Circulation

Goals

• **M2.A Pedestrian priority.** Streets are designed as a system to provide safe, accessible, and comfortable pedestrian environments.

• **M2.B Circulation.** Accessways through and between buildings and open spaces follow pedestrian desire lines.

Policies

• **Open space uses in the rights-of-way.** Repurpose portions of streets to create places for community activities, leisure, and commerce. Successful pilot projects should be translated into permanent open spaces with thoughtful designs that incorporate stormwater management and other functions. Access to adjacent parking should be limited with new development and existing access points slowly migrated to other streets or alleys.

• **Pedestrian and bicycle priority.** In all projects, prioritize elements that improve pedestrian and bicycle safety over vehicular mobility.

• **Leading pedestrian intervals.** Intersections with high-volumes of pedestrians crossing offer leading pedestrian intervals.

• **Sidewalks are clear.** Sidewalks remain clear of vehicles and other obstacles (temporary and/or movable).

• **Pedestrian friendly.** Enhance the pedestrian environment and design for pedestrian scale.

• **Reduce curb cuts.** Reduce curb cuts to minimize conflicts with users of the sidewalk.

• **Sidewalk experience improved.** Ensure a safe, connected, and accessible network for all users of the sidewalk.

• **Ample lighting for bikers and walkers.** Ensure ample lighting along high-volume pedestrian and bicycle corridors.

• **Complete streets.** Identify priority corridors for Complete Streets enhancements.
Mobility - Accessibility

Goals

• **M3.A Accessibility without bounds.** True accessibility results from intentional design on the part of public and private investments in the right-of-way and in buildings.

• **M3.B Accessible network.** The rights-of-way are improved to create an accessible network of ways to get to and around Oakland.

Policies

• **Identify ADA sidewalk needs.** Work with the community to identify high-priority corridors and intersections to bring in compliance with ADA standards.

• **Collaborate with ADA community.** Work with ADA community to ensure that designated on-street parking is appropriately sited.
Mobility – Bicycle Infrastructure

Goals

• **M4.A Bike networks.** A network of bike facilities gets people to and around Oakland safely, and conveniently, without gaps or the need to divert out of the way. The bike and transit networks are integrated.

• **M4.B Bicycle-oriented development.** Activities and facilities in the ground floors of buildings and public right-of-way support and are supported by cyclists.

Policies

• **Bicycle supporting resources.** Bike shops, repair stations, and other supportive resources are located throughout Oakland, particularly where on-street bicycle improvements have been prioritized.

• **Bike(+) Plan.** Implement the Bike(+) Plan for Oakland.

• **Site Healthy Ride stations and mobility hubs.** Work with the community and other partners to appropriately site Healthy Ride stations and other mobility hubs.

• **Bike(+) experience improved.** Ensure a safe, connected, and accessible network for all bike(+) users.
Mobility – Traffic Safety

Goals

• **M5.A Zero fatalities.** No one dies or is seriously injured on city streets.

• **M5.B Unbiased enforcement.** Safe, equitable, and just outcome in traffic stop and enforcement interactions.

Policies

• **Calm traffic.** Implement traffic calming measures to reduce the speed of vehicular traffic traveling to, from, and around Oakland.
Mobility - Parking

Goals

• **M6.A Comprehensive parking strategy.** On- and off-street parking are continuously managed as a system to meet a variety of changing needs with the minimum space dedicated to parked vehicles.

• **M6.B Transition parking.** Development that incorporates significant amounts of parking is carefully designed so that parking structures can be converted to other uses and circulation between buildings can be efficiently reprogrammed for non-auto uses.

Policies

• **Reduce parking demand.** Reduce parking demand (residential, visitor, and commuter) to achieve 85% occupancy (industry standard) throughout the neighborhood.

• **Off-site parking.** Combine pedestrian infrastructure improvements with wayfinding and a marketing campaign to encourage visitors to Oakland to utilize off-site parking lots.

• **Surface parking.** Prohibit all new surface parking lots and paving of yards and other landscaped areas to serve as parking. Systematically eliminate illegal paved surface parking in residential areas.
Mobility – Freight Operations

Goals

• **M7.A Freight systems.** Delivery of goods to Oakland and movement of trucks through the area needs to be carefully managed to support employment activities and improve safety to other street users.

• **M7.B Safe delivery.** Loading and unloading of trucks happens in designated spaces and times to ensure efficient and safe operations.

Policies

• **Curbside management.** Ensure efficient use of the curb for all users on the block including consideration for activities occurring during specific times of day.
Example Mobility Strategy – Reimagine Boulevard of the Allies (M-10)

Multimodal improvements to serve all users between Bates Street and Schenley Park.
Example Mobility Strategy – Reimagine Boulevard of the Allies (M-10)

Multimodal improvements to serve all users between Bates Street and Schenley Park.
Example Mobility Strategy – Bike Route Improvements (M-16)

Fill critical gaps in Oakland’s bicycle network through the installation of safe, convenient bicycle facilities that would make biking a reasonable transportation option for thousands more people.
Create a curbside management program to systematically improve the mobility, safety, and livability of the community through the proactive planning and use of curb space in commercial areas throughout Oakland.
This chapter is about improving the systems that nourish the neighborhood. The content of this chapter uses infrastructure to create a more healthy, sustainable, and equitable community.
Infrastructure - Stormwater Management

Goals

• **I1.A Manage stormwater effectively to mitigate downstream impacts.** Encourage innovative and site-specific stormwater management techniques to mitigate flooding, ease the burden on sewer systems, reduce landslide and erosion risk, restore habitat, and improve the urban landscape.

• **I1.B Integrated infrastructure planning.** Above- and below-ground infrastructure projects are coordinated far in advance of implementation to improve efficiency, functionality, and predictability of investments while addressing community needs.

Policies

• **Depave Oakland.** Eliminate paved surfaces throughout Oakland to support stormwater management goals, reduce heat island, and create more green space.

• **Construction coordination.** Coordinate all major infrastructure products to reduce impacts and make more efficient use of resources.

• **Rainwater education.** Educate developers and residents about stormwater management goals, best practices, and regulations.
Infrastructure – Open Space

Goals

• **I2.A View hillsides as open space.** Make use of hillsides as open space amenities that also manage invasive species and reduce landslide risk.

• **I2.B Open space network.** Parks and other open spaces are located throughout Oakland and provide enriching experiences. Together open spaces form a network that create connections between parts of the neighborhood and to surrounding areas.

Policies

• **Functional open spaces.** Assess open space needs of nearby residents, employees, and visitors, and make investments to parks and other open spaces to meet these needs.

• **Integrate green.** Integrate plantings into all investments to improve access and experiences with nature and serve important environmental functions.
Infrastructure - Tree Canopy

Goals

• **15.A Community building through neighborhood greening.** Oakland's institutions, non-profit organizations, businesses, students and residents work together to build up community initiatives that connect people while making the neighborhood more sustainable, healthy, and equitable.

• **15.B Innovate around urban tree science.** Oakland is a living laboratory for urban tree science and practices.

• **15.C Value trees as infrastructure.** Preserve existing trees and plant new trees to bring their benefits to all parts of Oakland. Collaborate on tree maintenance to support their continued health and function.

• **15.D Access to trees.** Expand access to urban trees and their benefits for all Oakland residents.

Policies

• **All hands on deck to grow the tree canopy.** Go beyond regulatory requirements through programs and advocacy around planting new trees and retaining existing mature trees on private and public property.

• **Measure canopy.** Ensure inventories, tree plantings, and retention efforts consider the value of tree canopy.

• **Diverse native tree populations.** Plant trees to increase the number and variety of trees to improve habitat function and increase survivability.

• **Engagement around trees.** Improve civic engagement around tree canopy and development by leveraging partnerships with local organizations and providing volunteer opportunities.

• **Shade parks.** Respond to climate change by moving from a model of sunny, grassy parklands to open spaces that are shaded by trees to provide functional spaces enjoyable during longer summers and to provide more habitat function.
Infrastructure – Habitat Restoration

Goals

• **16.A Biophilic design.** Nature and natural spaces are integrated throughout Oakland to improve people’s physical and mental health, fitness, and wellbeing.

• **16.B Diversify landscapes.** The public sector, institutions, developers, and property owners collaborate to improve the permeability of landscapes and increase biodiversity.

Policies

• **Hillside management.** Remove existing buildings and proactively replant steeply sloped hillsides with natives as a way to avoid high cost landslide remediation and restore significant tracts of habitat.

• **Understory plantings.** Augment tree plantings with the planting of native understory plants to improve habitat function and beautify areas.

• **Value and enjoy habitat.** Encourage educational programming and community development activities that expand who cares for and supports habitat restoration efforts.

• **Bird friendly design.** Design all buildings and infrastructure projects to reduce impacts to birds and other non-human species through best practices such as bird safe glazing and Dark Skies compliant lighting.
Infrastrucutre – Energy System Planning

Goals

• **I3.A Reduce energy burden.** Reduce energy burden today to fight displacement, while making investments in structures to permanently reduce energy demand.

• **I3.B Expand access to renewables.** Transition energy use for all structures to renewable sources including those generating on sites in Oakland and district energy systems.

Policies

• **Efficient and resilient systems.** Upgrade and manage shared energy systems in Oakland to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, costs for users, and system failures.

• **Energy burden.** Reduce the costs of heating and cooling homes for low-income residents to improve public health outcomes and avoid displacement.

• **Bury lines.** Replace above ground infrastructure like power and data lines with below-ground solutions as part of infrastructure and development investments.

• **Convert to renewables.** Support the transition of all users to purchasing renewable electricity.

• **Update infrastructure during development.** Ensure development projects update relevant infrastructure and minimize disruptions.
Infrastructure – Waste Management and Recycling

**Goals**

- **I4.A Zero waste community.** Become a zero waste community by pursuing responsible waste practices, reducing overall waste production, and investing in innovative waste management and upcycling.

**Policies**

- **Prioritize reuse.** Preserve historic buildings to retain character and history of areas, sustainably reuse buildings, and create attractive, unique places.

- **Material reuse.** Reduce the carbon footprint of redevelopment that involves demolition by reusing as much of the building materials on-site or through resale to third parties.

- **Circular economy.** Collaboratively establish systems of production and use that ensure by-products and wastes are productively utilized.
Infrastructure – Digital Network

Goals

• **I7.A Meet all technology needs.** Students and other residents have access to the technology and internet they need to succeed.

Policies

• **Expand free internet.** Provide free wifi in open spaces and through infrastructure investments to expand access to the internet throughout the neighborhood.

• **Knowledge and comfort with technology.** Ensure all Oakland residents receive trainings and support that gives them the basic knowledge of technology they need to access jobs and services.
Infrastructure – Urban Agriculture

**Goals**

- **18.A Grow food in the neighborhood.** Consistent with Oakland’s immigrant history, food gardens are integrated into residential areas to improve access to healthy food options as well as the fitness benefits of gardening.

- **18.B Local food networks.** Locally grown food is served in Oakland’s restaurants and used to make food-based products through innovative collaborations and partnerships.

**Policies**

- **Growing food.** Provide opportunities for residents and employees to spend time growing food as a means of increasing mental and public health while building community.
Infrastructure – Air

Goals

• **19.A Air policy advocacy.** Institutions, non-profits, and residents, including students, work together to advocate for better air quality both as a quality of life issue and as one that impacts the economic development of Oakland and Pittsburgh.

• **19.B Improve air quality.** Trees, open spaces, and other greening efforts measurably improve neighborhood air quality, with species chosen in part based on their ability to remove pollutants from the air.

Policies

• **Integrate air quality in decisions.** Ensure that impacts to air quality are part of decisions made about transportation investments, development activities, and plantings.

• **Innovative technology.** Test innovative new technologies in Oakland that can improve air quality and reduce atmospheric greenhouse gases.
Example Infrastructure Strategy – Green Street Network

Identify and make improvements on high-capture streets and alleys that can safely convey stormwater, improve pedestrian and bicycle safety, and add tree canopy through coordinated and intentional infrastructure. Projects should be in alignment with current stormwater code updates and include above ground green infrastructure where technically feasible.
Example Infrastructure Strategy – Energy Strategy

Establish a long-range energy plan that meets the needs of Oakland’s major energy users, reduces energy burden for residents, and decarbonizes buildings and energy sources.
To Be Continued...

April 5, 2022 Briefing
• The Oakland Plan: Development
• Packages of Zoning Amendments
  • Mandatory Inclusionary Zoning – Oakland-wide
  • New Proposed Zoning Districts

April 19, 2022 Hearing and Action
• The Oakland Plan
• Packages of Zoning Amendments
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