

2020

# OAKLAND

## PROGRESSIVE VOTER GUIDE



In the midst of a triple crisis in our community: COVID, the wildfires, and threats to our democracy, we must fight to have our voices heard.



**NOVEMBER 3RD, 2020 ELECTION**  
**Register to Vote & Vote Early!**

We are facing a triple crisis: COVID, the wildfires, and threats to our democracy - all of which expose Oakland's enormous economic and racial disparities in health, housing, public safety, education, and jobs. Communities of color, low-income workers, and local businesses struggle to survive, and inequity is crippling our entire city. Oakland Rising Action is working to elect leaders who will drive bold, progressive change to weather this crisis and emerge as a city that champions our shared values of racial, economic, and environmental justice.

# VOTER REGISTRATION & ABSENTEE BALLOTS

Given the pandemic and the threats to our democracy with Trump's cuts to the post office, we recommend you vote early by October 15th. All registered voters will be sent an absentee ballot automatically to limit COVID exposure. You must be registered! You can vote in person or drop off your ballot at the Alameda County Registrar of Voters 1225 Fallon Street, Room G1, Oakland, or put it into one of the official 24-hour drop boxes anytime by November 3rd 8pm. **We urge you cast your ballot at the closest 24-hour drop box @ [bit.ly/24hourdrop](https://bit.ly/24hourdrop) or by USPS by October 15!**

## KEY DATES: ENSURE YOU ARE REGISTERED TO VOTE

**ASAP:** Verify you are registered to vote @ [bit.ly/ACvoterstatus](https://bit.ly/ACvoterstatus)

**Oct. 5th-Oct. 10th:** All REGISTERED voters will have ballots mailed to your home

**Oct. 19th:** Last day for regular online voter registration @ [bit.ly/ACregisternow](https://bit.ly/ACregisternow)

**Oct. 20th-Nov. 3rd:** You can do same day registration/voting @ [bit.ly/ACsameday](https://bit.ly/ACsameday)

## RECOMMENDATION: VOTE EARLY BY OCTOBER 15TH

**At a Voting Center:** Given the potential for delays in counting ballots, we urge you to vote early in-person or drop off your ballot at the Alameda County Registrar of Voters: 1225 Fallon Street, Room G1, Oakland before Nov. 3rd

**Into a 24-hour drop box:** (not a USPS mailbox) before Nov. 3rd 8PM, find one @ [bit.ly/24hourdrop](https://bit.ly/24hourdrop)

**At your polling place:** on November 3rd, you can vote in person or drop your ballot off BY 8PM

**Send via USPS:** postmarked by November 3rd - All ballots have pre-paid postage and do not need a stamp

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## November 3rd ELECTION DAY!

Vote in person or drop off ballots  
by 8pm at your polling place or the  
Alameda County Registrar of Voters

# OAKLAND <sup>2020</sup> PROGRESSIVE VOTER GUIDE



## CRITICAL ELECTION IN UNPRECEDENTED TIMES

### Endorsements Driven by Grassroots Leaders & Our Values

Oakland Rising Action's endorsement process is community-led. Working-class, immigrant, and people of color leaders; Flatlands voters; Oakland natives; and progressive policy experts identify candidates who most align with our values, vision, and strategy for our city. We then get out the vote in Oakland's disenfranchised communities through voter education, mobilization, and turnout. Join us in transforming Oakland into a city that champions equity and centers residents most impacted by systemic racism, poverty, environmental hazards, policing, and mass incarceration.

### We Support Elected Leaders Who:

- Fight for bold, progressive systemic change
- Prioritize economic, racial, and environmental justice
- Possess a clear racial analysis and understand the roots of systemic oppression
- Center low-income folks, people of color, immigrants, incarcerated and other disenfranchised communities
- Champion a community-investment budget, particularly for the COVID crisis and recovery
- Advocate for just development, tenants, long-term residents, workers, and the homeless
- Bring a community-driven perspective on safety, focused on prevention and police accountability
- Take an organizing approach to politics with strong roots in flatlands neighborhoods

#### Notice to Voters

(Required by the City of Oakland)

This mailing was not authorized, approved or paid for by a candidate for City office, a committee controlled by a candidate for City office, or an election official.

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# OAKLAND RISING ACTION OFFICIAL VOTER GUIDE

## OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL ENDORSEMENTS

City Council District 1	Dan Kalb
City Council District 3	Carroll Fife
City Council District 5	Richard Santos Raya
City Council District 7	Treva Reid
City Council At Large	Rebecca Kaplan

## BART ENDORSEMENT

BART Board of Directors	Lateefah Simon
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## SCHOOL BOARD ENDORSEMENTS

School Board District 1	Ranked Choice: 1) Stacy Thomas, 2) Sam Davis
School Board District 3	Ranked Choice: 1) Cherisse Gash, 2) VanCedric Williams
School Board District 5	Mike Hutchinson
School Board District 7	Ranked Choice: 1) Kristina Molina, 2) Victor Valerio

## OAKLAND BALLOT MEASURES



### Measure QQ

Allow 16- and 17-Year-Olds to Vote for School Boards



### Measure RR

Remove \$1000 Limit on Fines for Code Violations



### Measure S1

Strengthen Police Commission

## ALAMEDA COUNTY BALLOT MEASURES



**Measure V** Continue Pitching in on Utilities in Unincorporated Areas



### Measure W

Fund Mental Health, Housing, and Job Training



### Measure X

Borrow Funds to Fund County Fire Department



**Measure Y** Borrow Funds to Repair and Upgrade School Buildings

## CALIFORNIA PROPOSITIONS



### Prop 14

Increase Bond Funding for Stem Cell Research



### Prop 15

Put Schools and Communities First



### Prop 16

End the Ban on Affirmative Action



### Prop 17

Free the Vote for People on Parole



### Prop 18

Allow 17-Year-Olds to Vote in Primary Elections



### Prop 19

Prevent Deeper Housing Inequality



**Prop 20** Protect Progress We've Made to Undo Mass Incarceration



### Prop 21

Allow Local Communities to Expand Rent Control



**Prop 22** Protect Gig Workers and Make Sure Drivers Get a Fair Share



### Prop 23

Regulate Kidney Dialysis Clinics for Safety



### Prop 24

Protect Your Data from Tech Corporations



**Prop 25 (neutral)** Switch Cash Bail with System Based on "Public Safety Risk"



## GAME CHANGER CANDIDATE

### **CARROLL FIFE** District 3 City Council

Carroll is the definition of an unapologetic, bold, proactive and values-driven leader. She brings a track record of working for - and winning - progressive policies rooted in racial justice and self-determination.

- Carroll has a track record of working across coalitions to:
- Pass California's strongest city-level eviction moratorium for renters, small businesses, and nonprofits
- Prevent the rezoning of the Oakland Coliseum to save 8,000 jobs
- Create the Department of Race and Equity at the City of Oakland
- Develop Oakland's groundbreaking cannabis equity program

District 3 desperately needs Carroll's leadership to overcome years of poor decision making under Lynnette Gibson McElhaney, who puts profits before people. McElhaney has invited market rate development, fueling the displacement of Black and low-income residents. She has consistently voted against Oakland's workers: opposing minimum wage increases, raises for city workers, and fair contracts with union labor. And she has violated city ethics rules for moving policies for personal financial gain.

By contrast, Carroll walks the talk. She led the Moms4Housing movement that changed the city, country, and world's conversations around affordable housing. She is the executive director of ACCE and leads the ReFund Oakland Coalition, developing countless policies to improve our lives.

And most importantly, Carroll has a vision for an equitable Oakland. Her platform to advance a Black New Deal, divest from policing, and meet the housing crisis head-on is the vision our community needs. We can't wait to see it happen. Vote for Carroll who will be a game changer for Oakland!



## GAME CHANGER CANDIDATE

### **RICHARD SANTOS RAYA** District 5 City Council

Richard is a real values-driven leader. Bringing a fresh perspective, he partners with the community to create systemic solutions to Oakland's challenges. We are excited to see his innovative vision for the city, which includes a commitment to:

- Participatory budgeting so the people get a say in the city budget
- The Black New Deal to reinvigorate the economy and racial justice
- Defunding police and reinvesting in community, education, and job-training
- Investing in Oakland public schools and teachers
- Developing a cultural corridor to highlight Oakland's vibrant cultural history

Richard has a track record of working with local community organizations dedicated to improving the lives of working families. Meanwhile, his opponent and current seat holder, Noel Gallo, has proven himself to be weak when it comes to making systemic changes. We need a councilmember like Richard who will stay true to the progressive values of this city. We look forward to his fresh voice.





## **DAN KALB** City Council District 1

Dan is a steadfast leader who has proven his commitment to environmental stewardship, affordable housing for all, and evidence-based policymaking throughout his tenure as councilmember. He has led key initiatives including:

- Banning the storage and moving of coal through the Port of Oakland
- Developing the Tenant Protection Ordinance of 2014
- Securing millions of dollars for affordable housing

Dan is widely recognized for being one of the most effective policymakers in Oakland, and we look forward to seeing his vision of resolving the housing crisis, protecting the environment, and strengthening our public schools.



## **TREVA REID** City Council District 7

Treva has a firm commitment to the East Oakland community. She has government experience and is an advocate for ending gun violence, investing in affordable housing, and creating good jobs.

We are curious about Treva's recent role as a representative for PG&E during the wildfires and her stance towards development (she's for it). At Oakland Rising Action we know that we can't develop our way out of the housing crisis. But Treva's values of equity and inclusion are there. Once elected, let's hold her accountable to ensure that she continues to make decisions with the community benefit in mind. We hope to see Treva grow into a champion of systemic change.



## **REBECCA KAPLAN** City Council At Large

Rebecca is a proven advocate for racial and economic justice, and has been a strong ally on Council. Her wide array of initiatives to improve quality of life, jobs, and safety throughout the city speak to her values of equity and justice.

Rebecca's opponent, on the other hand, has opposed commonsense policies such as paid sick days for Oakland workers and received substantial donations from big business interests. In the wake of a pandemic and climate disaster, we cannot afford to lose Rebecca's leadership. She is the candidate who is open to accountability, sticks with the community and puts working families first. Let's vote for a leader with a strong track record who we can trust.



## **LATEEFAH SIMON** BART Board of Directors

Lateefah is a nationally recognized advocate for civil and racial justice. She is also a single mother who relies on public transit each day and intimately understands the experiences of BART passengers.

As the current president of the BART board of directors, Lateefah has been unwavering in her values to make BART accessible, affordable, accountable, and functional for working families. By contrast, her police-union backed opponent in the BART race does not share her visionary commitment to public safety or her skillful leadership. A vote for Lateefah is a vote for transit justice.

# SCHOOL BOARD ENDORSEMENTS

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With schools shifting to remote learning, kids from low-income families are falling further behind. Low-income parents tend to work outside of the home in essential jobs like package delivery, food service, and grocery stores. They have the added cost of childcare and cannot be home during class time. Oakland's school board cannot operate in a silo and must address how income inequality impacts education. With no incumbents running, we have the opportunity to elect a new board that will fight to level the education playing field, close the racial gap, and ensure all children receive a quality education. Our board must push the city and state for an equitable COVID response and recovery; create real budget accountability and transparency; fight corporate privatization; and have a deep belief in upholding public education.

## 1 STACY THOMAS 2 SAM DAVIS District 1 Ranked Choice



Both candidates support budget accountability, and oppose school closures, publicly-owned property sales, and charter school expansion. Stacy is more adamant about abolishing the presence of police in schools. They both need more support on seeing the impact of privatization beyond the school system, its connection to gentrification, and how to address the impacts of gentrification within the schools.

## 1 CHERISSE GASH 2 VANCEDRIC WILLIAMS District 3 Ranked Choice



Cherisse is a parent, grew up in District 3, and has deep ties to the community. She has a strong vision and track record of leadership mobilizing parents around school closures. VanCedric has a long history of teaching and organizing in the Bay Area and is committed to budget transparency and racial justice. Their main opponent, Maiya Edgerly, has money coming in from the charters. We need leaders who are committed to the public school system, not corporate privatization.

## MIKE HUTCHINSON District 5



Mike is an educator and organizer who has a strong commitment to the school district. He believes, and so do we, that our city needs to stop the privatization of our public schools and remove the harmful presence of police in the place where our kids are learning. Mike's platform includes putting a stop to school closures, a full audit of OUSD, and stopping the spread of charter schools throughout the city.

## 1 KRISTINA MOLINA 2 VICTOR VALERIO District 7 Ranked Choice



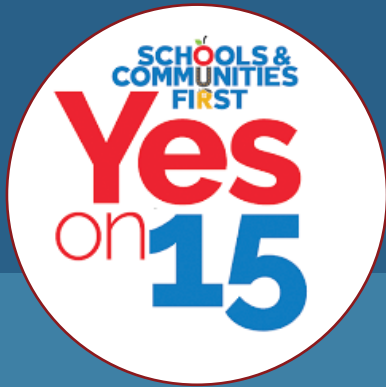
Kristina is a dedicated parent leader who has won improvements for Oakland schools and wants clear accountability around the OUSD budget, beginning with an audit. In our opinion, no other candidate compares in terms of values, commitment, and track record. Victor grew up in OUSD and has experience with OUSD Budget Oversight. While we think some of his policy proposals could be stronger, we are impressed with his platform to improve public schools in Oakland.



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**For more information, visit [oaklandrisingaction.org/2020-voter-guide/](http://oaklandrisingaction.org/2020-voter-guide/)**



**District 3 City Council  
CARROLL FIFE**

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For Game Changing Leaders & Policies



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