

**From:** Reid, Treva <TReid@oaklandca.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 12, 2023 3:25 PM  
**To:** Lake, Betsy <[REDACTED]>; 'Melinda Howard-Herrarte'  
[REDACTED]; Livsey, Ben [REDACTED]; ReceptionDesk@BCDC  
<reception@bcdc.ca.gov>; Lena Tam [REDACTED]; El-Tawansy, Dina@DOT [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]; Ambuehl, David@DOT [REDACTED]; Beauduy,  
Derek [REDACTED]; Kalyan, Imtiaz-Ali [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]; Lichten,  
[REDACTED]; Kalb, Dan [REDACTED]; Office of the Mayor  
[REDACTED]; Gallo, Noel [REDACTED]; Duffey, Harold  
[REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Northern Alameda County Group Conservation Committee [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]; aund [REDACTED]; David Lewis [REDACTED]  
Johnson, Justin [REDACTED]; Hester, Haley [REDACTED]

**Subject:** Re: Sierra Club Letter re: Oakland Trash Diversion

Hello Melinda,

I serve as the Council Member for District 7 which includes the Martin Luther King Jr. Regional Shoreline Park and welcome an opportunity to meet with you/your team regarding these concerns and our efforts to resolve them. I have been in contact throughout the year with members of the Sierra Club and have addressed the legislative priorities presented. I was not aware of outreach on the concerns noted and look forward to working with the Sierra Club on our community priorities, including those progressing with our East Oakland AB 617 Community Steering Committee.

Kind regards,  
Treva

**Treva Reid**  
City of Oakland | Council Member, District 7

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**From:** Lake, Betsy <ELake@oaklandca.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 12, 2023 11:38 AM  
**To:** 'Melinda Howard-Herrarte' [REDACTED]; Livsey, Ben  
[REDACTED]; info@bcdc.ca.gov <info@bcdc.ca.gov>; Lena Tam  
[REDACTED]; Dina El-Tawansy [REDACTED]; David Ambuehl  
<david.ambuehl@oaklandca.gov>; Beauduy, Derek [REDACTED]  
<Derek.Beauduy@oaklandca.gov>; Imtiaz-Ali.Kalyan [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]; Keith.Lichten [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]; Reid, Treva [REDACTED]; Kalb, Dan  
[REDACTED]; Office of the Mayor <OfficeoftheMayor@oaklandca.gov>; Gallo, Noel  
[REDACTED]; Duffey, Harold [REDACTED]

**Cc:** Northern Alameda County Group Conservation Committee <SFBAY-NACG-

[REDACTED]; [REDACTED] David Lewis

[REDACTED] Johnson, Justin [REDACTED]

**Subject:** RE: Sierra Club Letter re: Oakland Trash Diversion

I am confirming receipt of this letter. The City Administrator's Office will work with Harold Duffey, Director of Oakland Public Works, upon his return the week of October 23rd to respond to these questions promptly thereafter. Thank you for your patience.

**Elizabeth A. Lake**

Assistant City Administrator | City of Oakland | City Administrator's Office | One Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor | Oakland, CA 94612 |

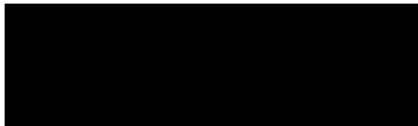
**From:** [Melinda Howard-Herrarte](#)  
**To:** [blivsey@](#); [ReceptionDesk@](#); [Lena Tam](#); [El-Tawansy, Dina@](#); [Ambuehl, David@](#); [Beauduy, Derek@](#); [Kalyan, Imtiaz-Ali@](#); [Lichten, Keith@](#); [elake@](#); [treid@](#); [dkalb@](#); [officeofthemayor@](#); [ngallo@](#); [hduffy@](#)  
**Cc:** [Northern Alameda County Group Conservation Committee](#); [aundi@](#) [David Lewis](#)  
**Subject:** Sierra Club Letter re: Oakland Trash Diversion  
**Date:** Wednesday, October 11, 2023 4:30:10 PM  
**Attachments:** [20231011 Oakland Trash Diversion .pdf](#)

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Dear Mayor Thao, Councilmembers, Boardmembers, and Commissioners:

Please find a letter enclosed with recommendations regarding trash collection and diversion in Oakland. This is a follow-up to our letter to the Council and Public Works Committee dated February 20, 2023. We'd appreciate your response confirming receipt of this email. Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Melinda Howard-Herrarte  
Chair, Northern Alameda County Group  
San Francisco Bay Chapter





**SIERRA CLUB**  
SAN FRANCISCO BAY

**NORTHERN ALAMEDA COUNTY GROUP**

ALAMEDA ALBANY BERKELEY EMERYVILLE OAKLAND PIEDMONT SAN LEANDRO

October 11, 2023

To: City of Oakland Public Works, Oakland City Council and Mayor's Office, San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board, Bay Conservation and Development Commission

CC: San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board, CA Coastal Commission, SF Baykeeper, Save the Bay

Dear Mayor Thao, Councilmembers, Boardmembers, and Commissioners:

On behalf of the Northern Alameda County Group of the San Francisco Bay Chapter of the Sierra Club, I am writing regarding the accumulation of trash and debris along the Martin Luther King Jr. Regional Shoreline and other parts of the East Bay. The Chapter held three cleanup events at the Shoreline in the spring of this year. Each time, we collected hundreds of pounds of trash. This trash did not come primarily from ships or from other cities; it came from our neighborhoods and our streets, washed out through Oakland's sewer system and via the local waterways like East Creek and Damon Slough. We realize the problem of trash and dumping has plagued Oakland for a long time. However, in recent years, the problem has become acute.

To better understand the problem and determine what can be done, three of our volunteer leaders met with representatives of the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board as well as City of Oakland Public Works (Watershed Program Specialist, Ben Livsey) in June at the MLK Regional Shoreline for a walking tour and conversation. We looked at East Creek and discussed the challenges as well as potential local solutions for keeping trash from piling up there, especially in winter when it rains.

We were encouraged that the City of Oakland is planning to prioritize and identify storm drain inlets that will be treated with trash capture devices. We were told that up to 1,800 devices would be installed in the next two years. Oakland Public Works are determining stormwater drain placement priorities this fall and winter. We pointed out that the location of these planned devices does not always correspond with where most of the trash is originating and/or being washed into the gutter (flatlands area along International Blvd.) We advocated for **prioritizing East Oakland locations for Trash Full Capture Locations**, upstream of the creeks flowing into MLK Jr. Shoreline Park and then the Bay. This Trash Full Capture area would stretch from High Street to 98th Avenue- areas impacted by illegal dumping and lack of sanitary services for unhoused people's encampments. The Flatlands has a higher population density than the Oakland Hills, has fewer green spaces, and is home to historically disadvantaged communities, so it warrants more trash capture devices and more resources devoted to trash reduction and diversion.

On behalf of the Northern Alameda County Group, I previously wrote many of you regarding this topic in February 2023, but we have not heard back from any councilmembers or City representatives, so we are writing again to ask the following:

- Fund installation of more Full Capture Locations in East Oakland upstream of MLK Regional Shoreline
- Increase frequency of clean-ups of illegal trash dumps
- Offer more free days and more flexibility for small construction contractors to dispose of their trash legally (e.g., more free trash days at Edgewater Dr.)
- Recruit and hire at least two full time illegal dumping enforcement officers to identify and penalize illegal dumpers in the City of Oakland.
- Enlist support of the unhoused in separating belongings from trash and then ensuring regular trash pick-up at the encampments. They are targets for illegal dumping.
- Consider solutions implemented in nearby cities to work with homeless on collecting and sorting trash
- Improve existing trash receptacles in the City of Oakland (they are in a serious state of disrepair and neglect)
- Fund a Public Education Program to discourage individuals from throwing trash in streets, gutters, and medians. A campaign might be called "Don't Trash Oakland."

While we understand that Oakland is struggling with a number of problems, blight begets more blight. We believe the best solution is one that enables city workers and residents to do their part to help keep our city clean. Let's fund common sense trash mitigation and diversion efforts and devices and implement solutions that work.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Melinda Howard-Herrarte". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "M".

Melinda Howard-Herrarte  
Chair, Northern Alameda County Group, Sierra Club San Francisco Bay Chapter