

# **COMMUNITY UPDATE**

## **Repairing Alameda's Aging Infrastructure**



**Winter 2017**



# Why Are We Here?

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- The City conducted its annual community survey to assess satisfaction with the services we provide, and the public's current service priorities
- Nearly 2/3s of respondents approved of the job City Government is doing, and by more than a 2 to 1 margin, feel the City is going in the right direction
- Respondents want the City to address issues related to our **aging infrastructure**, the **rising cost of housing**, and **traffic congestion**
- As much as 77% of respondents are interested in local funding options to address these needs
- Today, we want the opportunity to hear from you!





# Rising Cost of Housing

- Rent Stabilization: Ordinance 3148 effective March 31, 2016
  - Rent increases over 5% are subject to review by the Rent Review Advisory Committee
  - Relocation fees are required for no fault evictions, and the rent offered to the new tenant cannot be more than 5% above the prior tenant's rent
- New housing supply with affordable housing
- Workforce housing is a priority
- Senior Housing: applications open for 1301 Buena Vista Avenue
- In June 2016, voters passed Measure A1, the Alameda County housing bond to increase affordable housing county-wide



# Traffic Congestion

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- Transportation Choices Plan: A comprehensive 2-year planning effort to provide greater transportation options while reducing congestion and pollution
  - Estuary Crossings: Decrease drive alone trips at estuary crossings, especially in peak times
  - Within Alameda: Increase walking, biking, bus, and carpool trips within Alameda
  - Explore Long-term Options
    - Another Tube
    - Bike/Pedestrian Bridge



# Our Objective

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- We are engaging residents, businesses, and community stakeholders around our shared priorities and needs
- We want to get as many community perspectives as possible to maintain Alameda's quality of life
- The City will continue to address housing and transportation issues
- While the City has a balanced budget, we do not have enough funding to address all of the aging infrastructure needs identified by the public, and are developing a plan to address these needs



# What is the City's Vision?

- Maintain the local quality of life we all value
- Address a backlog in repairs and maintenance to Alameda's aging infrastructure
- Maintain the condition of Alameda's neighborhood parks and shoreline
- Effectively prepare for any natural disaster
- Keep pollution out of the Bay and off our beaches, and maintain the natural beauty that makes living here special





# What is the Issue?

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- The City has a tradition of fiscal prudence with balanced budgets and emergency reserves
- But with over \$200 million in unfunded infrastructure needs, there is inadequate money to address aging, deteriorating infrastructure, such as our utilities, storm drains, streets, sidewalks, and parks
- Proper maintenance of this infrastructure keeps Alamedans safe from flooding and disasters, helps with traffic flow, and addresses needs before they become even more expensive in the future

# What Have We Heard?

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We value the public's feedback! Top infrastructure priorities we've heard so far include:

- Repairing potholes and sidewalks
- Maintaining/repairing public storm drains to prevent flooding and keep pollution from the Bay
- Maintaining the condition of neighborhood parks
- Improving traffic safety/flow





# Alameda Street Facts

- The City oversees:
  - 125 miles of publicly maintained streets
  - 260 miles of sidewalks
  - 25,854,000 square feet of pavement
- 68% of survey respondents identified repairing potholes as a priority the City should continue to address
- This repair will also assist with better traffic safety and flow





# Alameda's Parks & Beaches

- Many people don't know that Alameda is home to 21 community and neighborhood parks and beaches—which maintain our quality of life and makes living here special
- We are the third oldest park system in the country!
- We must keep our parks, beaches, and shoreline clean and safe for all residents to enjoy.
- Maintenance needs include:
  - Upgrading/repairing park facilities, such as our recreation centers
  - Maintaining the public's access to water and quality community spaces
  - Addressing necessary earthquake retrofit and ADA issues



# Storm Drain Overview

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- Despite changing national conservation policies, Alameda should continue to work to preserve our natural resources and keep our Bay and waterways clean
- State Water Board regulations require proper repairs and maintenance to our deteriorating storm drains -- doing so prevents costly fines, while also preventing flooding and Bay pollution





# Storm Drain Needs

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- Alameda's storm drains are aging and struggling to handle heavy rainfall like we had last winter
- Properly maintained storm drains:
  - Prevent flooding
  - Maintain local property values
  - Protect marine life and bird sanctuary
  - Conserve clean water in the Bay and lagoons





# Community Feedback

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- Evaluating the community's needs and priorities is part of our responsible city planning process
- We are outreaching to residents, businesses, and community stakeholders to continue to hear your priorities for what infrastructure needs should be addressed
- The most important input into this process comes from YOU!



An aerial photograph of the Alameda Corridor Bridge, a large green steel truss bridge spanning the San Francisco Bay. The bridge is filled with cars, and the sun is setting behind it, creating a bright glow and reflecting on the water. In the background, the city of Alameda is visible, including residential houses and industrial buildings. The text "How Can You Join the Conversation?" is overlaid in large white letters.

# How Can You Join the Conversation?

- ✓ Let us know your priorities today!
- ✓ Do you belong to other organizations that would like this information? Please let us know!
- ✓ Stay informed by visiting:  
[alamedaca.gov/JointheConversation](http://alamedaca.gov/JointheConversation)