

LARA WEISIGER

From: Rasheed Shabazz <hopein510@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 07, 2018 5:01 PM
To: City Clerk
Cc: Sarah Henry
Subject: United Against White Supremacy

To: Alameda City Council:

Peace to you.

I want to express my gratitude for the City of Alameda seeking to adopt a resolution calling for unity against hatred. I appreciate the good intention and direction this resolution seeks to move this city.

However, there are a few inaccuracies and myths within the resolution and background that I wish to address. I also wish to propose a few activities and policy solutions to bring inclusivity towards fruition.

In an era of alternative truth, fake news, and false “truth and lies,” it is important to distinguish between our situation and our aspirations, between tales and the facts we tell, and between our mythical stories and our history.

The resolution begins with the statement, “The United States is a nation of immigrants.” While this may be true for some, this does not include me or my ancestors. My African ancestors did not immigrate to the shores of Georgia, Florida, and Louisiana, and the other places we are unable to trace, they were kidnapped and forcibly brought here, enslaved, and not valued as humans. Our indigenous ancestors did not immigrate here on the Mayflower. They were already here and were murdered and displaced by the European colonists and settlers. As Professor Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz, professor emerita, of Cal State Hayward [wrote in 2006](#), “This is a convenient myth developed as a response to the 1960s movements against colonialism, neocolonialism, and white supremacy. The ruling class and its brain trust offered multiculturalism, diversity, and affirmative action in response to demands for decolonization, justice, reparations, social equality, an end of imperialism, and the rewriting of history — not to be “inclusive” — but to be accurate.”

Second, the [agenda item](#) background states, “Alameda has a century-long tradition of embracing diversity and respecting the civil and human rights of its residents, while acknowledging and understanding that many historic laws, at every level, were often at odds with progress.”

In July, I spoke at a meeting of the Democratic Club of Alameda. The presentation, “History, memory, public policy, and the hidden narrative of race in Alameda” focused on the role of memory and history and the legacy of white supremacy in public policy formation and maintenance in Alameda, specifically related to housing, policing, and public space. It is [available online](#).

I spoke about “white supremacy” as a historically based system of exploitation and oppression. People of color, nations, whole continents have been victimized by this system in order to develop and defend a system of power, privilege, and wealth exclusively for white people. Now why this occurs, you can take your pick and read [Theodore Allen](#) or [Frances Cress Welsing](#). The point being, this is based on institutions and is a system which benefits a group of people to the detriment of others.

I also shared a few historical truths about Alameda in housing, policing, and public space. I will recount a few here:

- Alameda has a legacy of racially restrictive covenants which barred non-white people from purchasing or living in homes in a number of areas of Alameda;

- The northern part of Alameda was redlined, making it difficult and near to impossible for non-white people to receive mortgage insurance for homes or purchase homes in other areas;
- During WW2, the Alameda Housing Authority intentionally segregated war time housing projects, and then-Mayor Milton Godfrey promised keeping Negroes out of Alameda would “receive the unceasing vigilance” of government;
- In 1964, 73 percent of Alameda residents voted in favor of Proposition 14; this was a statewide initiative that sought to overturn the Rumford Fair Housing Act. The Supreme Court overturned this election.
- Finally, in 1973, the majority white electorate passed Measure A, banning apartment construction in Alameda. There is evidence that it was seen as discriminatory at the time of its passage; and there have been two lawsuits targeting it as discriminatory by race and class.

In regards to policing, I shared information about the [1991 computer text message scandal](#) in which officers exchanged racist messages, as well as data shows unequal policing in Alameda:

- The disparities in marijuana-related felony arrests from 1997-2017
- The disproportionate traffic stops of African Americans over the past five years

Finally, I discussed the recent efforts to remove white supremacist symbols from public spaces in Alameda, including:

- Jackson Park, named after Andrew Jackson was an enslaver of humans that also earned the name, “Indian Killer,” and his actions led to the “Trail of Tears.” (<http://bit.ly/renamejackson>)
- Henry H. Haight Elementary, a white supremacist former California Governor who opposed Black and Chinese suffrage and opposed Asian immigration (See <http://renamehaight.wordpress.com>)
- These are public spaces where children learn and elders gather—not to mention the numerous streets named after slaveholders and white supremacists.

This is the Alameda we’ve inherited. So the clause that, “recently, deep divisions across the country spread to our own community and led to a rise in expressions of hate,” denies this island’s own legacy.

I agree with the clause that education is part of true healing, and I add it is a part of developing a society where people can truly belong. That’s why I’m sharing this. However, if we only traffic mythology and engage in fuzzy-feel good activities and not address root cause of white supremacist ideology, hatred, intolerance, bigotry, and violence will continue.

Condemn white supremacy.

We can mask it and simply call it “hate,” but until we name it we will not dismantle it. White Supremacy killed those believers at Mother Emanuel and Tree of Life.

Second, to “build inclusive and equitable communities for all”, it is important to have benchmark data to see where we are and plot a place where we wish to be. The City can begin by examining itself. This can be done by:


- Examine the ranks of city staff and examine the racial diversity, across departments, at both rank and file and managerial levels, and share EEO data annually
- Examine pedestrian and traffic stop data for Alameda police, semi-annually; and
- Examine current housing programs and include race in your variables of data collection, annually;
- And create a space for a conversation about the white supremacist monuments hidden in plain sight here in Alameda.

Lastly, I want to share an opportunity for engagement next week. Students, parents, teachers, and alumni of Haight Elementary School have an opportunity to rename their school. Next Thursday, there will be an election, a survey to decide if they will rename and reclaim their school, or maintain Haight. We will see if that community is United Against Haight.

Again, I commend you for your intention and desire to be more inclusive. I encourage you to go deeper. As policy makers, it is important to be informed about historical injustices to enable us to create better policies that are inclusive.

Thank you.

Rasheed El Shabazz
November 7, 2018



We have to do with the past
only as we can make it useful
to the present and to the future.

Frederick Douglass





History, memory, public policy, and the hidden narrative of race in Alameda

Rasheed Shabazz

July 11, 2018

City of Alameda Democratic Club

Alameda Hospital



Memory





Alameda County
Election Results

13% or 1/10 Alamedans voted for Trump

General Election (Unofficial Results) - November 08, 2016

President and Vice President

>100 Votes

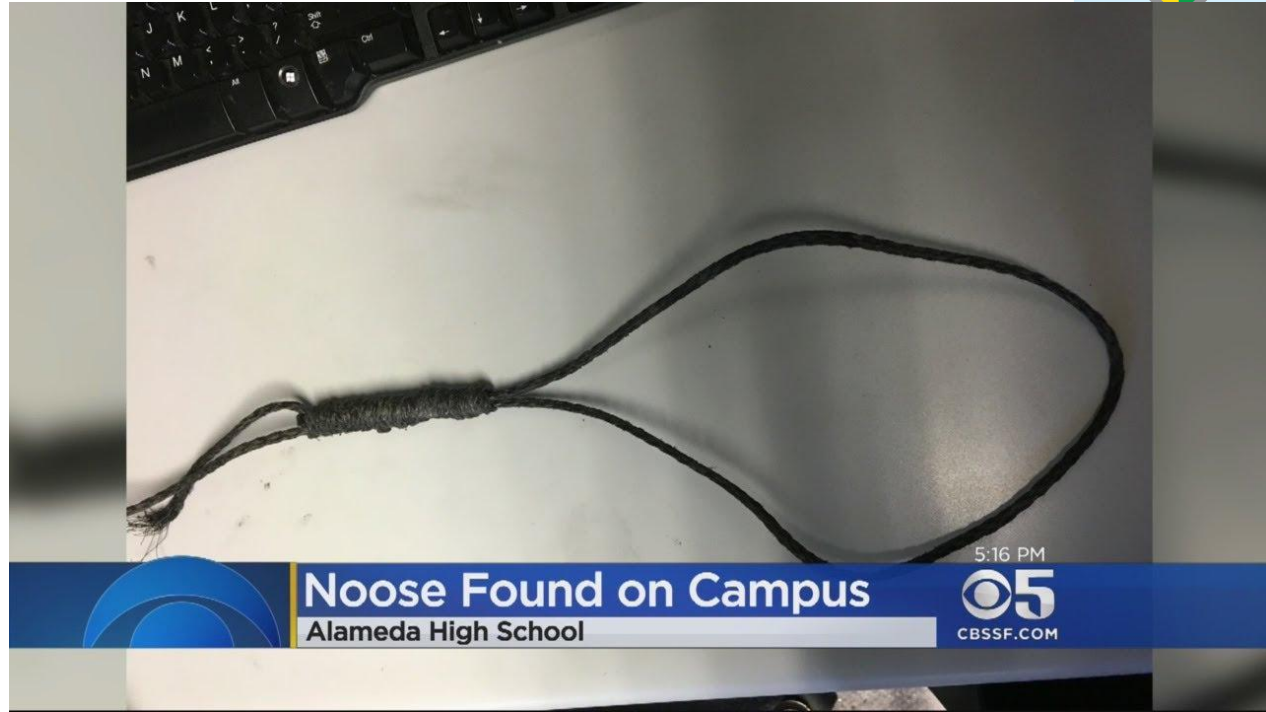
>200 Votes

5,146



‘White power. White pride. White privilege.’

‘Ironically in the place they call ‘Chocolate City’.”





“We tried to tell y’all, you ignored the signs”



“When the anthem plays...”



**No refuge could save the
hireling and slave
From the terror of flight
or the gloom of the
grave,**

- Francis Scott Key

“... they built statues to champion”



“History of raping we not erasing”

Rewriting History Now

Dennis Evanovsky & Eric J. Kos

Thursday, March 15, 2018

The movement to rename Haight Elementary School after someone less racist appears to be growing. The next suggestion is that our city's first park named for President Andrew “Indian Killer” Jackson needs a new name.

To put the renaming and statue pulling movement in some context here in Alameda, we'd like to remind local residents of the following:

Confronting Racist Symbols in Alameda's Public Spaces

Rasheed Shabazz

Thursday, March 29, 2018

Alameda must face its history and rid itself of white supremacist symbols in public spaces. Unfortunately, the Alameda Sun editorial (“Rewriting history now,” March 15) supports the status quo of having parks, schools and streets named after men who have committed genocide, held racist views and were enslavers of human beings by obscuring the issue and stifling discussion of Alameda's history, its public spaces, and institutionalized racism.

The *Sun's* publishers call for placing public spaces or monuments in proper context and suggestion that the efforts to rename these memorials rest on the fallacy of presentism. Sadly, they misinterpreted the context, perpetuated historical myth and fallacy, and used their platform not to further understand our Island's history but to muddle a dialogue about memory and public memorials.



“A real American can only be Caucasian”



Brian McGuire 🥑

@brianrmcguire

Following



Nancy Hird, SAWW leader, says most despicable thing of the night "renters are wannabe Alamedans, homeowners are real Alamedans." #alamtg

10:50 PM - 6 Jun 2017

12 Retweets 8 Likes







‘outsiders’ ‘Wakanda’ ‘projects’

Alamedans’

‘criminals’ ‘citizenship’

‘community’ ‘Will of the voters’ ‘agitators’

‘traffic’

‘Dregs of society’

‘Crime, broken neighborhoods, overcrowding’

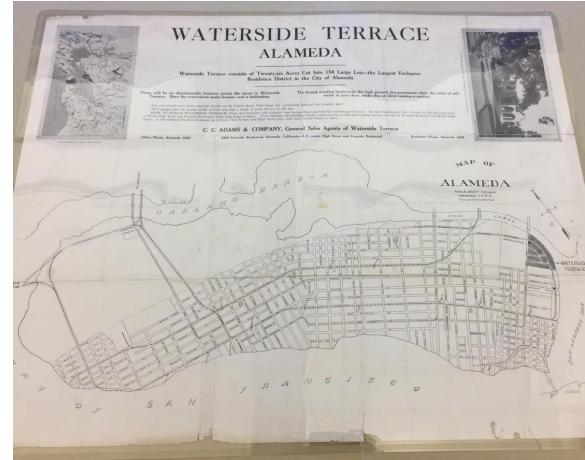




Home

Private Prejudice, Public Enforcement

- Waterside Terrace
- Fernside
- Fernside Marina
- Bayview Tract



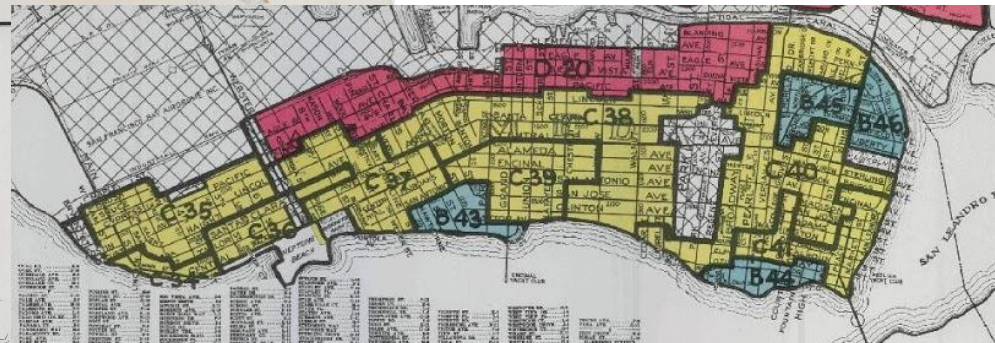
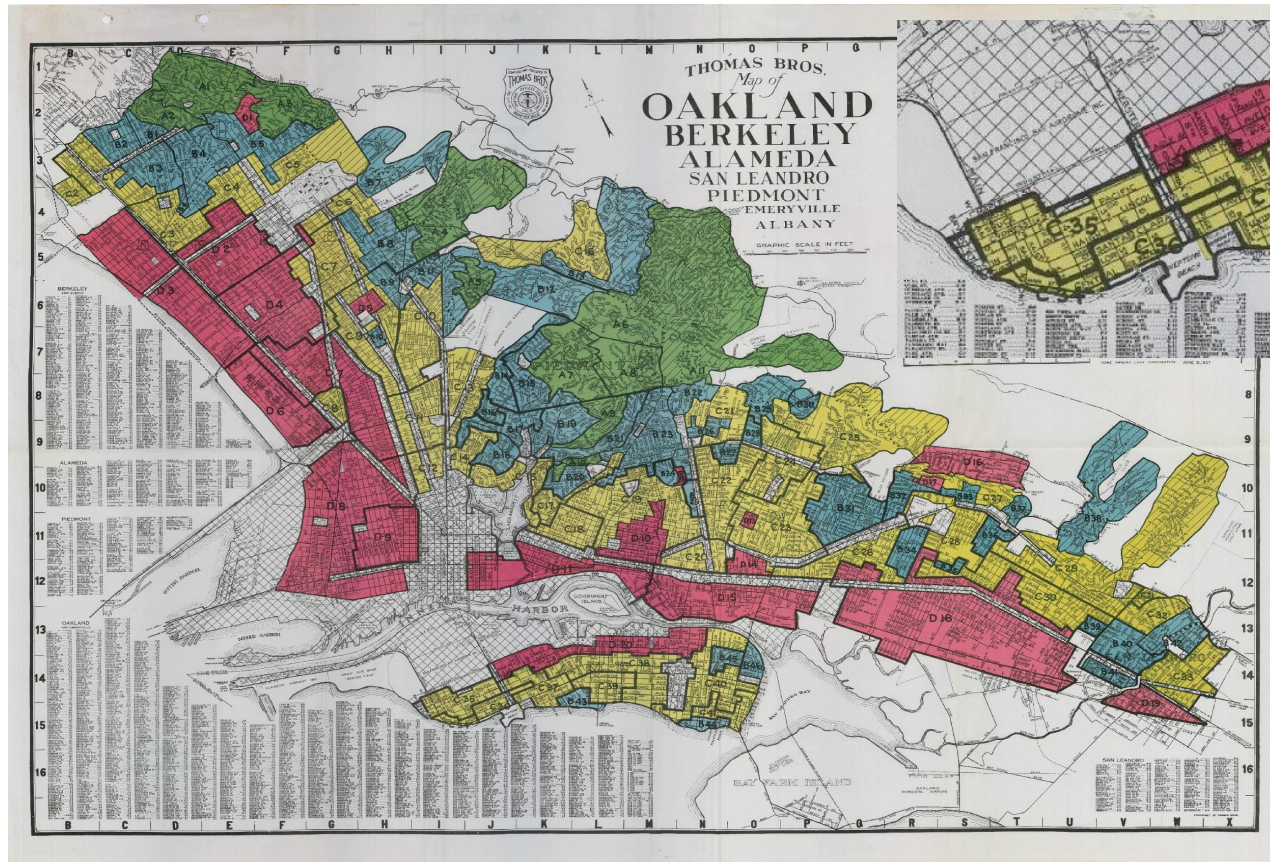
RESTRICTIONS

WATERSIDE TERRACE is strictly a residence tract with the exception of four lots at High Street and Fernside Boulevard which are reserved for business purposes. On all property lying west of Fernside Boulevard and lots 3 to 9 inclusive in block "T" the minimum building restriction is \$2,500. All the other property carries a restriction of \$3,000. All houses must be set back at least twenty feet from the front property line. No fences can be higher than six feet, and no dividing fence shall be closer than thirty feet from the front property line. This will give an unbroken line of lawns and will give the street a very wide appearance. There are restrictions against Japanese, Chinese and Negroes. These restrictions are thrown about this property, as it is the intent of the owners to make this the modern high-class home place of the city. It is in line with all modern subdivisions for residence purposes and means greatly increased future land value.

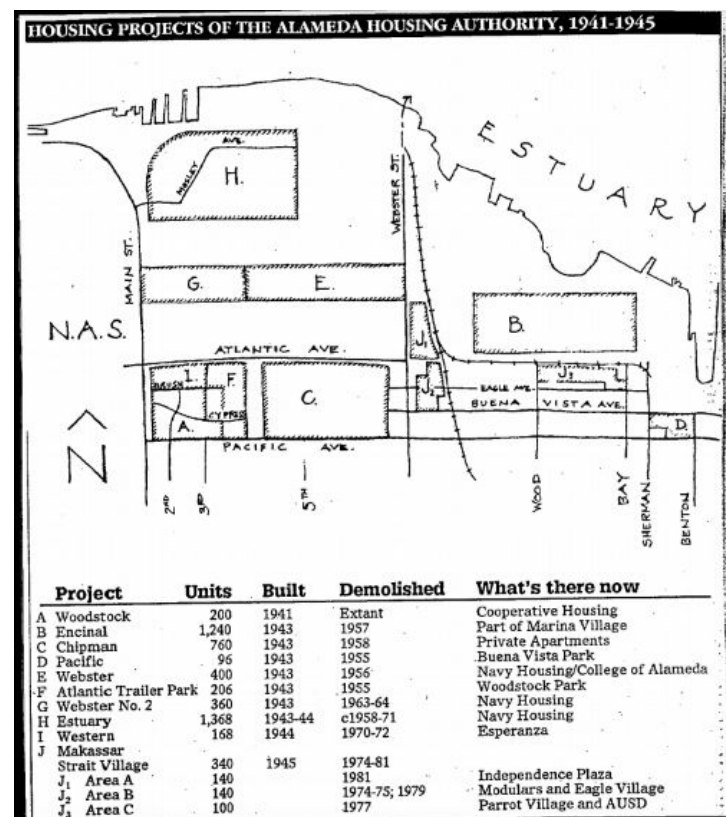
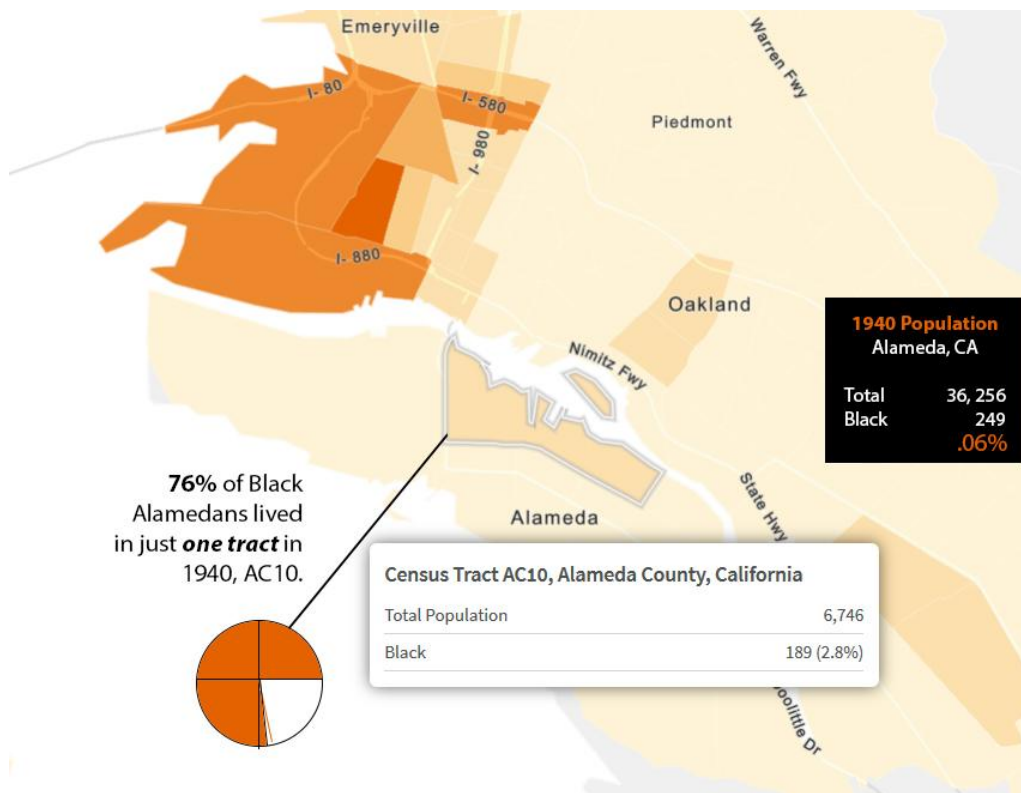
CLAUSE TEN:

Limitation of Occupancy.

No person or persons whose blood is not entirely that of the Caucasian race shall be permitted to use or occupy said property, or any part thereof, or to live upon said property, or any part thereof, except in the capacity of domestic servants of the occupant thereof.



1935 "Residential Security Map", HOLC via T-Races



Regarding the charter amendment initiative on the Ballot, HOPE's legal and political committee met September 18, 1972, and decided that HOPE can not as an organization support the ban on the building of multiples as it is written, as there is no time-limit specified, and as multiples are the acknowledged way of providing more low and moderate-priced housing units.

HOPE issued a statement, however, that we do support a moratorium on building, which we believe is the intent of the initiative, until the Housing Element shall be completed and a plan for growth be implemented.

The accomplishment of HOPE goals and efforts depends on the city officials we elect. This municipal election is vital.

Become informed and VOTE March 13 !

ews from NAACP:

Alameda Chapter NAACP Installation Banquet was held recently at the Surfside Room in Alameda. New officers installed include:

Unav Wade	President
C. W. Moore	1st Vice President
Mabel Tatum	2nd Vice President
Mary Sparrow	Recording Secretary
Fredericka Reaves	Corresponding Sec.
Al DeWitt	Treasurer



Albert H. DeWitt, Commissioner, Alameda Housing Authority

"Protecting the tenant as well as the home owner in the cost of housing demands the most critical attention of our municipal leaders. Gus Levy is that kind of a leader."



John Ware, Past President, Alameda Chapter, NAACP

"In the eyes of Gus Levy, every citizen, whatever his race, color or origin, is entitled to and receives recognition as an equal partner in municipal policies and actions."



The New York Times/Terrance McCarthy

ABOVE Clayton and Delores Guyton with their three children at Buena Vista complex, Alameda, Calif. Family's rent rose 250 percent after census.

Spinoff Effect of Measure A 3-17-73

The passage of Measure A may produce ripple effects that could even surprise its staunchest supporters.

Yesterday, the president of a San Leandro Homeowners association said he intends to raise the subject of banning multiple dwelling units in that city when his group meets next week.

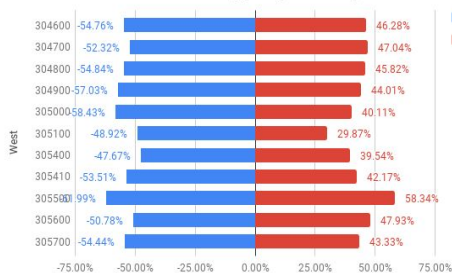
At his request, Mrs. Inez Kapellas will explain the procedures her citizens group followed to put Measure A on the Alameda ballot.

Bean said he's also interested in Measure A because the "general tenor" of the homeowners association is San Leandro is against building public housing there.

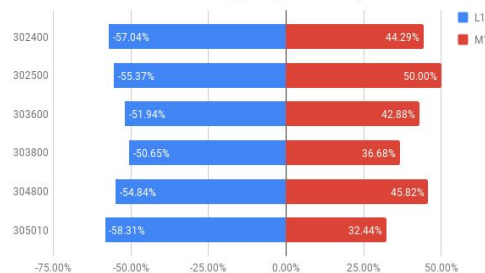
"We don't want slum areas that degrade neighborhoods," he said. He added his attitude has nothing to do with race.

"The main thing we object to is federal grant fingers. We don't want to be beholden to the federal government," he said.

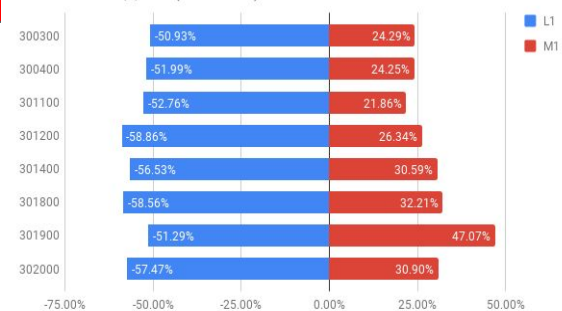
L1 and M1 Support (West End)



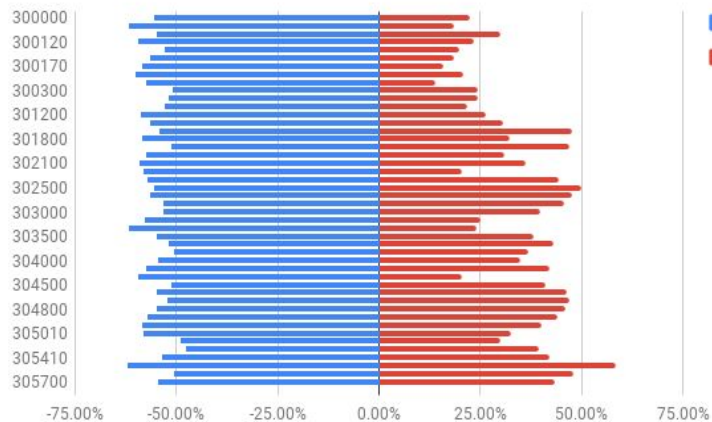
L1 vs M1 Support (Northside)



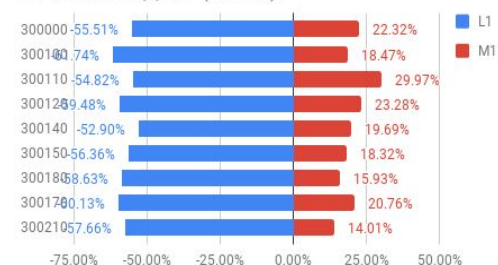
L1 vs M1 Support (East End)



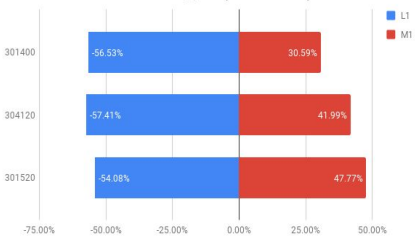
L1 and M1



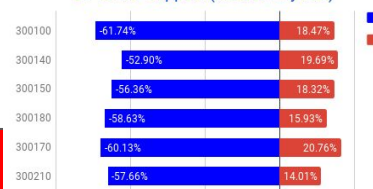
L1 vs M1 Support (94502)



L1 vs M1 Support (South Shore)

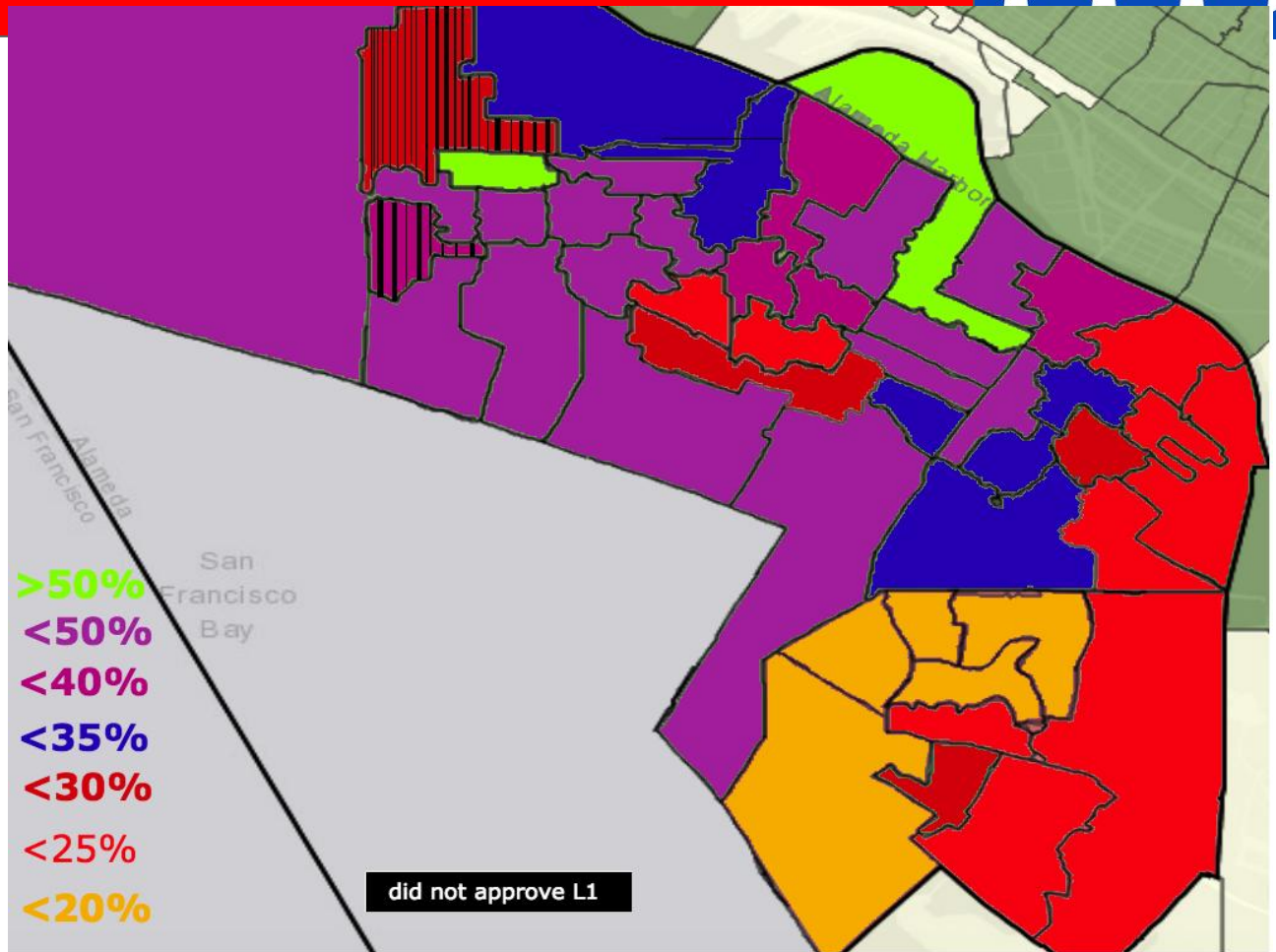


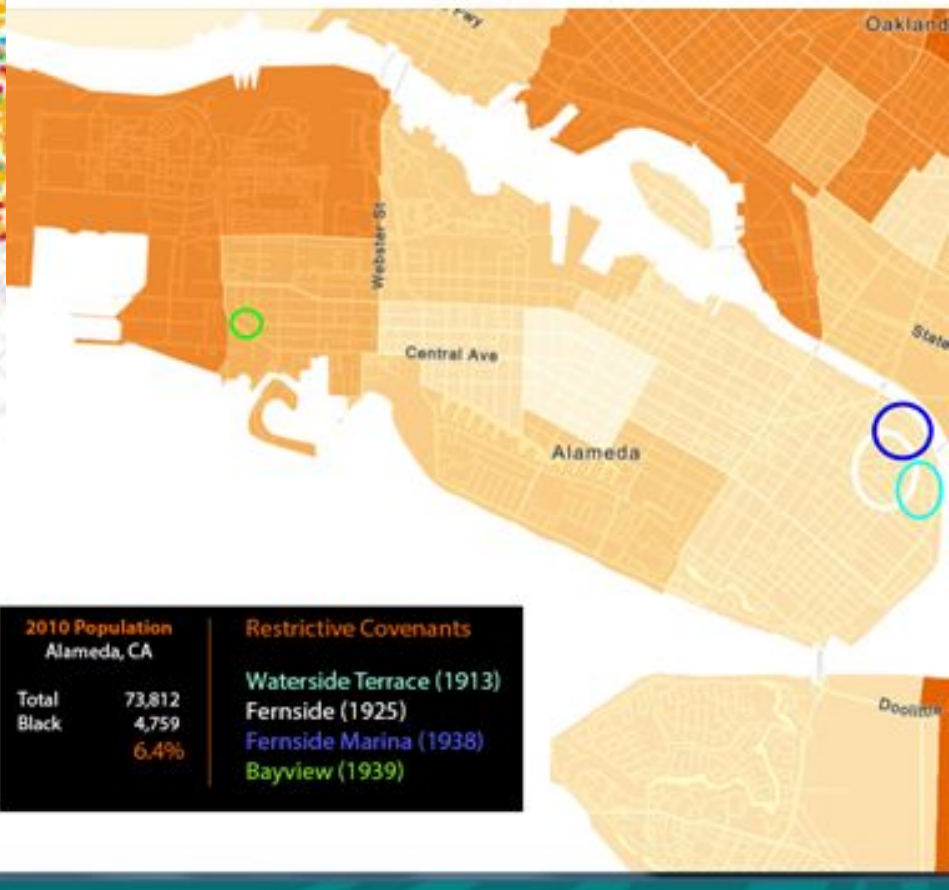
L1 vs M1 Support (Harbor Bay Isle)



L1 vs M1 Support (Old Bay Farm)







2010 Population Alameda, CA		Restrictive Covenants	
Total	73,812	Waterside Terrace (1913)	
Black	4,759	Fernside (1925)	
	6.4%	Fernside Marina (1938)	
		Bayview (1939)	

HIDDEN NARRATIVES OF RACE

2014 Housing Element

2015 Alameda Rent Study BAE Urban Economics

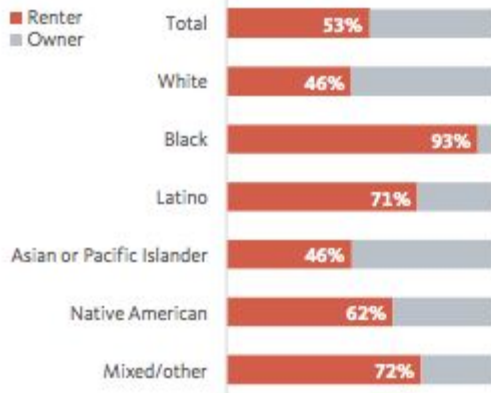
2016 L1 vs M1

When Renters Rise, Cities Thrive

Alameda #RenterWeekofAction

The United States is increasingly a renter nation. After the foreclosure crisis, with 107 million people living in renter households nationwide, renters are contributing ever more to the economic, social, and cultural vitality of neighborhoods and cities. They could be contributing even more if it were not for skyrocketing rents and stagnant wages. When the rent is too high, little is left over for basics like food, transportation, health care, and education. Millions of families are increasingly at risk of eviction and homelessness.

Renters represent the majority in Alameda...



- The vast majority of Alameda's Black and mixed/other households are renters.
- 30% of renter households are low income.

...but they are burdened by rising rents and low wages.

- 47% of all renters pay too much for housing, up from 38% in 2000.
- 91% of low-income renters pay too much for housing.

If renters across the country paid only what they could afford on housing, they would have an extra \$124 billion to spend in their communities each year, or

\$6,200 per household

- That's enough to cover 90% of an entire food budget, 63% of the cost of child care, or nearly all transportation costs.*



(in)Justice



LICENSE PLATE READERS

 @KTVU

CA EXEMPT

Police take heat for racism

■ Computer messages refer to 'nigger' and Ku Klux Klan

By Kathleen Kirkwood
STAFF WRITER

ALAMEDA — Community leaders reacted angrily on Friday to racial slurs in police computer messages that refer to "nigger" and the Ku Klux Klan.

Some called for dismissal of the four officers involved — including one sergeant.

The slurs turned up in a random audit done last month of three days' worth of "electronic messages" sent in October 1990 via high-tech patrol car computers.

Police Chief Robert Shiells recommended that the white male officers involved be suspended for one day to three weeks — an action the officers can appeal.

But several regional and local officials said the officers should be fired and demanded the department conduct an affirmative action overhaul.

"It's unbelievable," said Assemblywoman Barbara Lee, D-Oakland, after reading a transcript of the messages. "They should be fired. Three weeks is not enough."

"If this was based on a random check and they came up with this, a more thor-

Please see **Police**, A-7

'Ain't it great to be a honky?'

The following is a transcript of the racial remarks used by Alameda Police on their in-car computers last year. Spelling, grammar, spacing and punctuation are exactly as typed into the computers by the officers:

OCT. 27, 1990

5:12 p.m. Nigger night

5:13 p.m. Don't do this to me

8:36 p.m. I hear those drums apoundin, there poundin round the bend, I aint been to ----- since I don't know when, stuck in Alameda going to kill me a n-----

8:39 p.m. No he just to precious for that.

Please see **Text**, A-7

JAN. 9, 1992

DEAR Mayor WITHROW

AND MEMBERS OF THE ALAMEDA CITY COUNCIL —

I HAVE BEEN SILENT TOO LONG REGARDING THE CONTROVERSY INVOLVING THE ALAMEDA POLICE DEPARTMENT. HOWEVER, THE CAMPAIGN FOR RECALL OF Mayor WITHROW BY THE "COALITION OF THE ALAMEDA MINORITY COMMUNITY" REQUIRES THAT I VOICE MY OPINION.

THOUGH THE POLICE OFFICERS INVOLVED USED POOR JUDGMENT IN THEIR COMMUNICATED REMARKS AND DESERVED TO BE REPRIMANDED, THEIR SUSPENSIONS APPEAR TO BE ADEQUATE PUNISHMENT. I BELIEVE THE Mayor, MOST MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL, THE CITY MANAGER AND POLICE CHIEF HAVE ACTED IN A VERY RESPONSIBLE MANNER THAT REFLECTS THE ATTITUDE OF THE MAJORITY OF CITIZENS.

AS A RESIDENT OF ALAMEDA FOR OVER 40 YEARS, I AM VERY UPSET WITH AGITATORS FROM SURROUNDING CITIES COMING INTO OUR COMMUNITY TO CREATE UNREST.

I WILL SUPPORT YOU, Mayor WITHROW, AGAINST THE RECALL.

Margaret A. Robert

FOR YOUR INFORMATION



November 1991

City Council
City of Alameda

Please do not waste my money investigating the Alameda Police force. You, we, are talking about racial words, not deeds, and what has happened is acceptable to me. Tell the officers to keep their thoughts to themselves, and not express them publically.

Alameda is not politically correct Berkeley so different rules apply here. Alameda is a much nicer place to live than Berkeley. I have lived here 12 years.

Once my business was burgled. The police were fast and competent and caught the burglars. Once I had some bikes stolen and the police responded with interest and care.

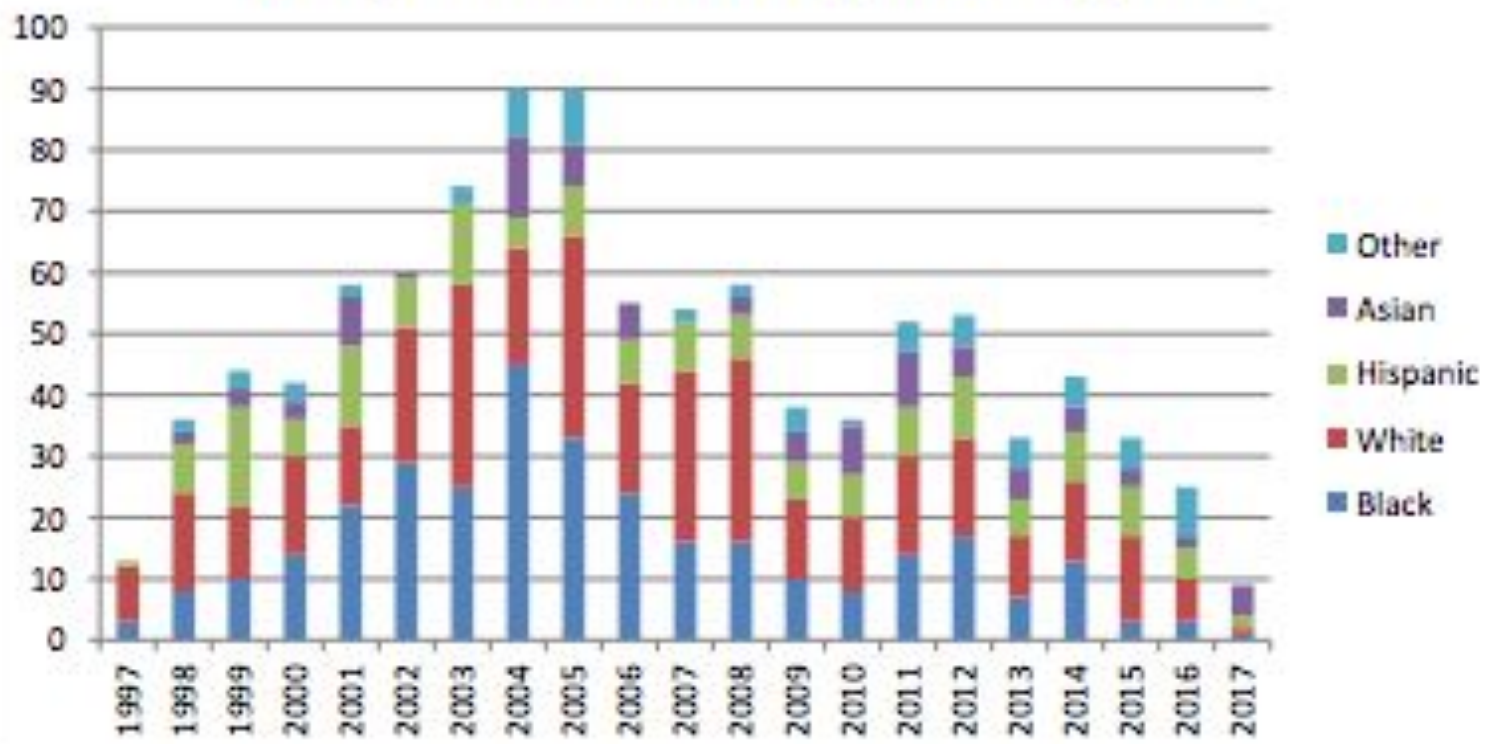
Alameda is a white community with white prejudices. What is more normal, natural, and realistic than that? Were I Black woman I would move here in an instant. So leave the Police alone.

old ladies in City Hall replaced with computer programmers and 3 x 5 cards replaced with expensive computer tapes? is it "to make a name in management when other roads are bared, take something very easy and make it very hard?"

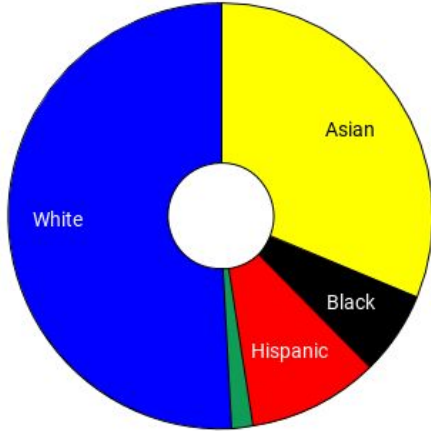
Let those who would be politically correct take an evening stroll on 14th st or West Oakland, or the Berkeley Flats. I say let the City Council buy a bottle of good Scotch and toast the Alameda Police Department.

Donald Goring Oh- buy the Police bottle also

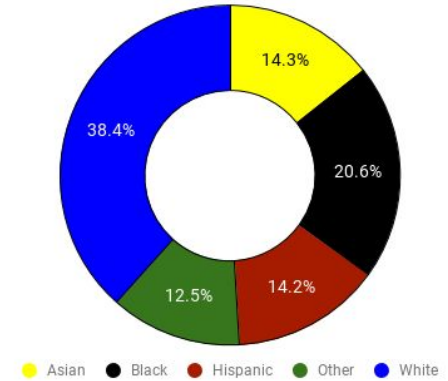
Marijuana related Felony Arrests by Race



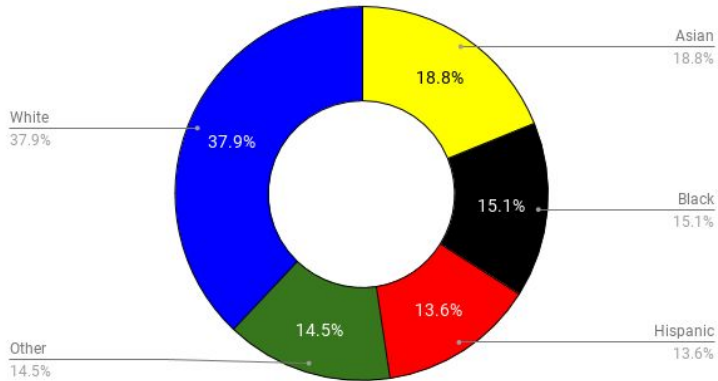
Demographics, City of Alameda, 2017



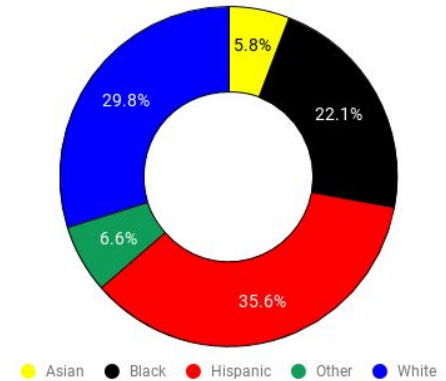
Traffic Stops (Warnings), Alameda Police, 2010-2017



Traffic Stops (Citations), Alameda Police, 2010-2017



Traffic Stops (Arrests), Alameda Police, 2010-2017



CHOOSE A SKIN TONE



A
LIGHT

B
MEDIUM

C
DARK

FABRIC CLOTHING AVAILABLE





In 2013, District Attorney Nancy O'Malley tried to stop In-N-Out from coming to Alameda

"We have people coming to what can be considered a vulnerable site in Alameda. It's easy in and easy out, no pun intended, with the Alameda tube."

NANCY O'MALLEY

ALAMEDA RESIDENT, DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Alameda County Election Results

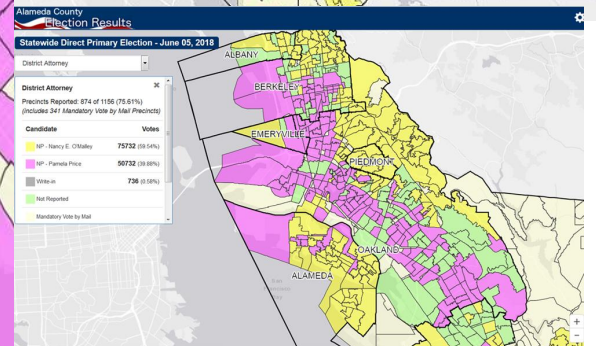
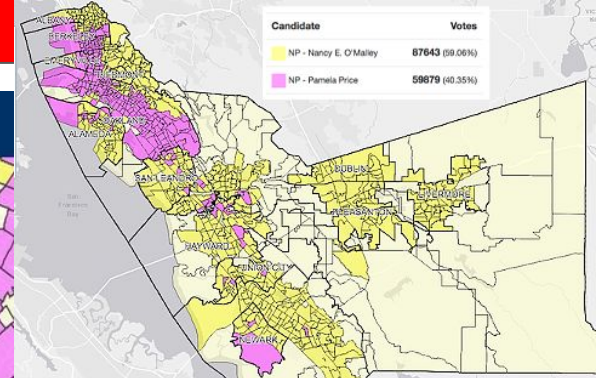
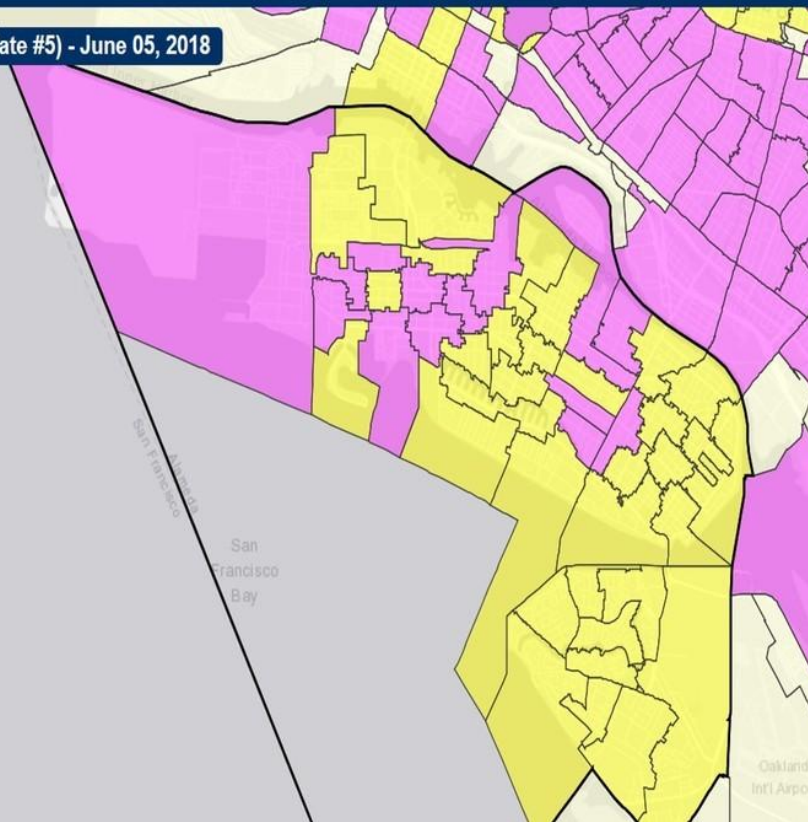
Statewide Direct Primary Election (Post Election Update #5) - June 05, 2018

District Attorney

District Attorney

Precincts Reported: 1156 of 1156 (100%)
(includes 341 Mandatory Vote by Mail Precincts)

Candidate	Votes
NP - Nancy E. O'Malley	167929 (57.43%)
NP - Pamela Price	122850 (42.01%)
Write-in	1630 (0.56%)
Not Reported	
Mandatory Vote by Mail	





Do Black Lives Matter in Alameda?





Public Space

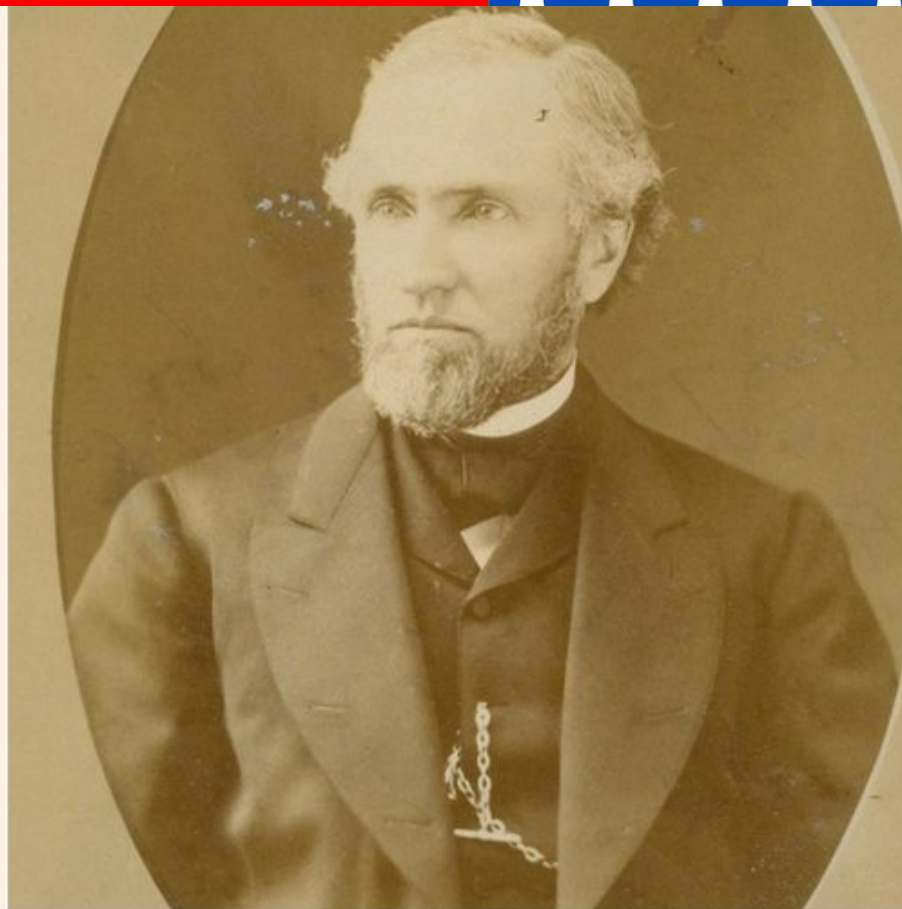
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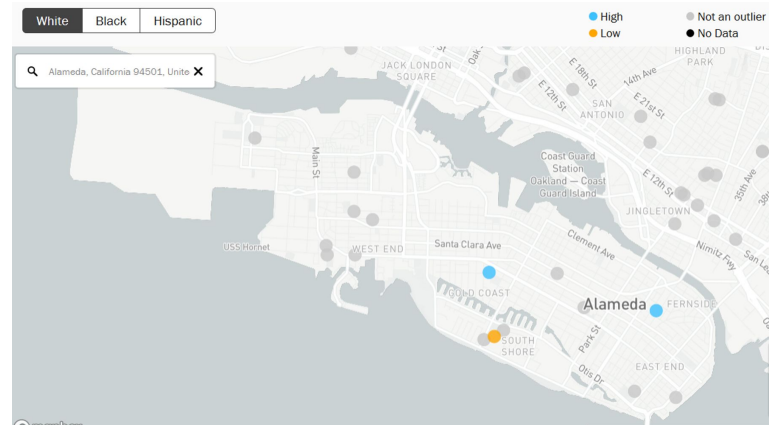
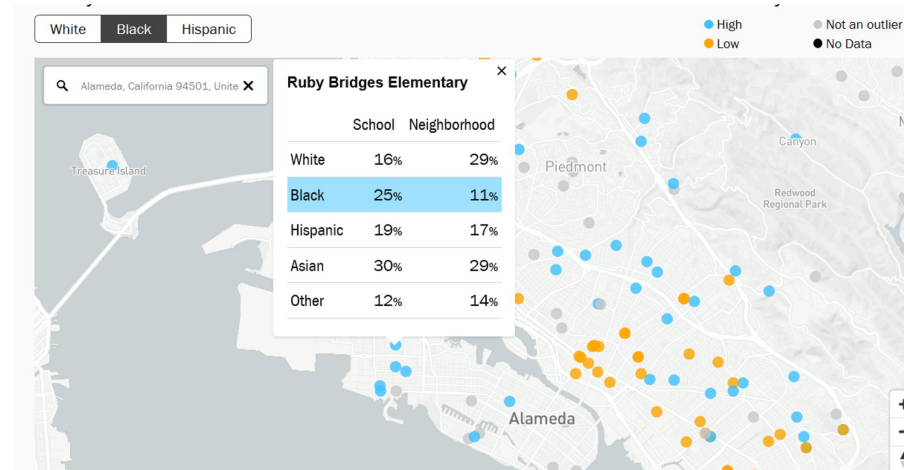
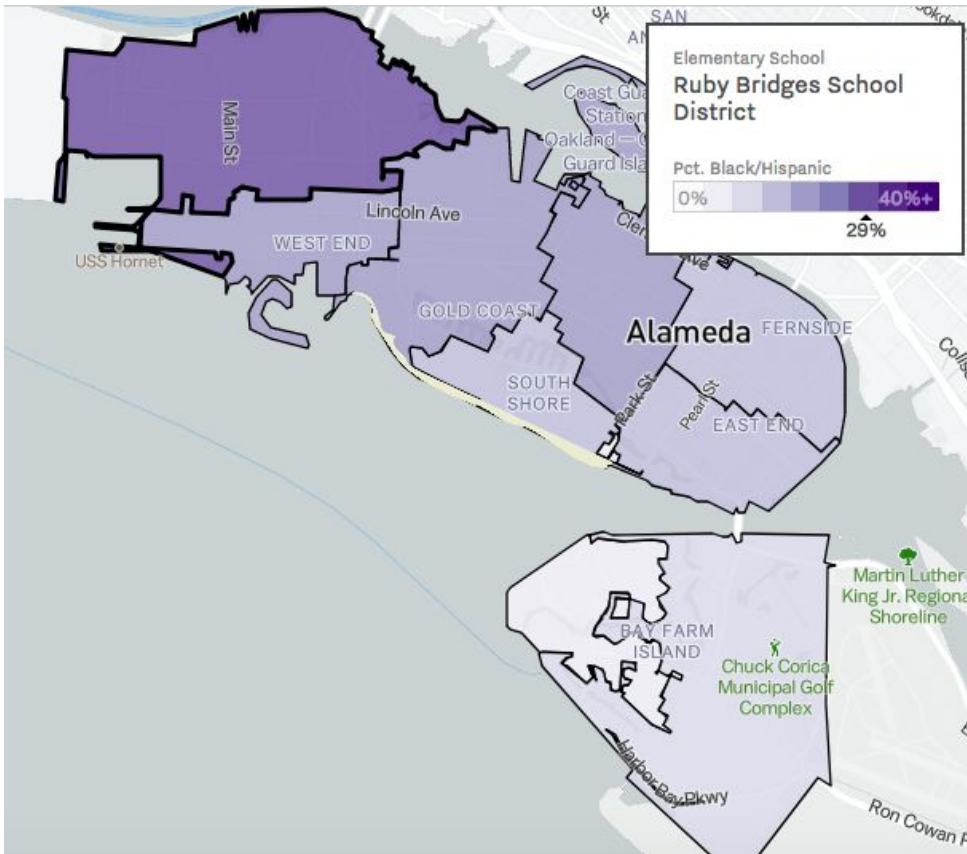
What we desire for the permanent benefit of California is a population of white men, who will make this State their home, bring up families here, and meet the responsibilities and discharge the duties of freemen.

We ought not to desire an effete population of Asiatics for a free State like ours.

Henry H. Haight

bit.ly/renamehaight







#RENAMEJACKSONPARK

**RENAME
JACKSON
PARK**

**WHY DOES ALAMEDA HAVE A PUBLIC PARK
NAMED AFTER ANDREW JACKSON?**



Forward Ever

Alameda County Election Results

13% or 1/10 Alamedans voted for Trump

General Election (Unofficial Results) - November 08, 2016

President and Vice President

>100 Votes

>200 Votes

5,146

Alameda County Election Results

General Election (Unofficial Results) - November 08, 2016

Bond Measure A1 - Alameda County

Bond Measure A1 - Alameda County
Precincts Reported: 1156 of 1156 (100%)
(includes 336 Mandatory Vote by Mail Precincts)
Needs 2/3 majority Yes votes to pass

Votes

Yes	456705 (73.3%)
No	166320 (26.7%)
Not Reported	
Mandatory Vote by Mail	

>80%

<60%

Alameda County Election Results

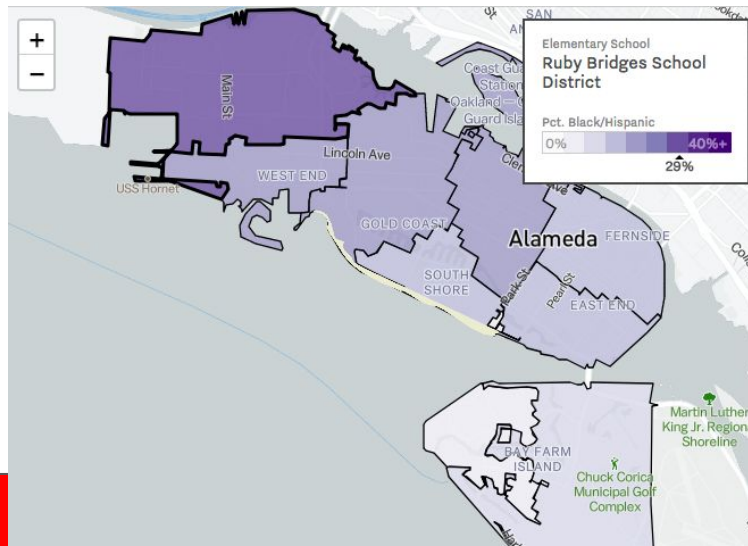
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#RenameJacksonPark

- Sign the Petition
- Email Parks and Rec Commissioners
- Share petition with others and start a conversation





#Vision4BlackAlamedans

HOUSING

[Reparations]
Invest in Housing
Cooperatives & land trust

Increase Black
homeownership and
Down Payment
Assistance participation

POLICING

[Invest-Divest]
Divest from Policing
and pensions
supporting prisons

Semi-annual public
review of police data

EDUCATION

[Community control]
Empower more people
through LCAP.

African American AUSD
Roundtable



FREEDOM CITIES

campaigns are:

- ☐ LED BY DIRECTLY IMPACTED COMMUNITIES
- ☐ PRO-BLACK
- ☐ USE NARRATIVES & ORGANIZING PRACTICES THAT LEAVE NO MARGINALIZED COMMUNITY BEHIND
- ☐ SHIFT CONTROL OF RESOURCES & POLITICAL POWER TO IMPACTED COMMUNITIES
- ☐ DEEPEN RELATIONSHIPS ACROSS OPPRESSED COMMUNITIES

CONNECT

UPCOMING

- **'Tenants v. Alameda'**, Tuesday, TBD, Alameda Free Library
- **'Can't Move, Won't Move'**, Tuesday, Oct. 9, 6pm, Alameda Free Library
- **'In Memory of Alameda'**, Thursday, Sept. 27, 7pm, Alameda Elks Lodge

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Q & A