



The Oakland Observer [@Oak_Observer](#)

Jul 22 · [37 tweets](#)

Significant stuff at ALCO BOS meeting today too, so I'll try to sit in on both City and County meetings--at ALCO, a proposal by Miley and Haubert would double the campaign contribution limit for their office, and the transfer of Coliseum DA to AASEG will be voted on

At Life Enrichment, the once-polemical renewal shelter crisis ordinance will be considered for forwarding to Council. Also APTP is organizing around once again demanding Cultural Affairs Manager be unfrozen, we'll see if there's any news on that front.

The Shelter Crisis Ord has been renewed for almost a decade, every two to three years, but it became the subject of great speculation after it was suggested that it was aligned with the Duong deal on army base, despite being a regularly renewed ord

Life Enrichment has begun. Fife announces right off the bat that "we have talked to the CAO & worked with budget admin and we're bringing that position back [Cultural Affairs Manager] full time"



Fife notes that the position brings in revenue..."will be funded by ongoing funds, we don't

have to worry about that being cut any time in the future..." thanks community for pressure. Advocates came for weeks since budget passed demanding it be restored

Vanessa Wong Chair of Cultural Affairs Commission, makes brief comment thanks everyone for bringing back the position.

Fife and Wang are bringing an item honoring this musical...I don't know it, but it's apparently very Oakland centric

- 3** Subject: Honoring 'Co-Founders: The Musical'
From: Councilmembers Wang And Fife
Recommendation: Adopt A Resolution Honoring The Creators Of 'Co-Founders: The Musical' For Their Contributions To Oakland's Cultural And Educational Landscape, And For Advancing The City's Values Of Innovation, Racial Justice, And Community Empowerment Through The Performing Arts
[25-0909](#)

Sponsors: Wang and Fife

Attachments: [View Report](#)
 [View Legislation](#)

Pursuant To Rule 28(A) Of Resolution 90066 C.M.S., This Item Was Added To This Agenda.

Mayor Barbara Lee spoke on the recognition "it's very personal for me in a lot of ways...it was a moment in SF [ACT] where we witnessed the beauty of Oakland..."



Lee: "Oakland is a city where art drives change...in conversation with real issues what we face...we want Co-Founders here in Oakland...thank you very much...it was sold out, each and every performance...Oakland deserves this"



At ALCO, meanwhile, they took public comment and then went into closed session, back at 1pm or thereabouts

Must admit, I'm not 100% sure who these two speakers are, assume producers or principals in Co-Founders, also "celebrate you all" for reinstating Cultural Affairs Manager...celebrate a show that we've been working on for our entire careers..."as life long, generational Oaklanders



Objective is to take this Oakland-centric show to Broadway

STORY

CO-FOUNDERS is the story of an underrated young coder who hacks her way into the most competitive startup accelerator in Silicon Valley and forms an unlikely bond with a prep school dropout.

With ambitions of saving her childhood Oakland home, she rises through the ranks with her AI creation, and gets offered a deal that seems too good to be true.

In a field where the privileged make a killing while the folks across the bridge grind to survive, can Esata win Silicon Valley's game without leaving her

members: community behind?



Some demos...I think they are trying to propose that the show be held in Oakland, and elsewhere.

ECONOMIC & SOCIAL IMPACT



members:

Audience reach:
9,700 patrons

Demographics:
Ages 8 - 85
Avg. age 41

**Revenues (tix, merch,
& concessions):**
\$792,000

**Hyperlocal economic
impact (hotels, meals,
transpo):**
\$300,000 (est)

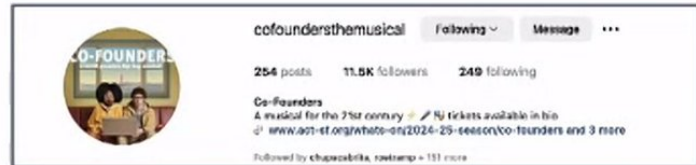
Grassroots marketing of the show

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & SOCIAL MEDIA

Grassroots engagement & organic growth via:

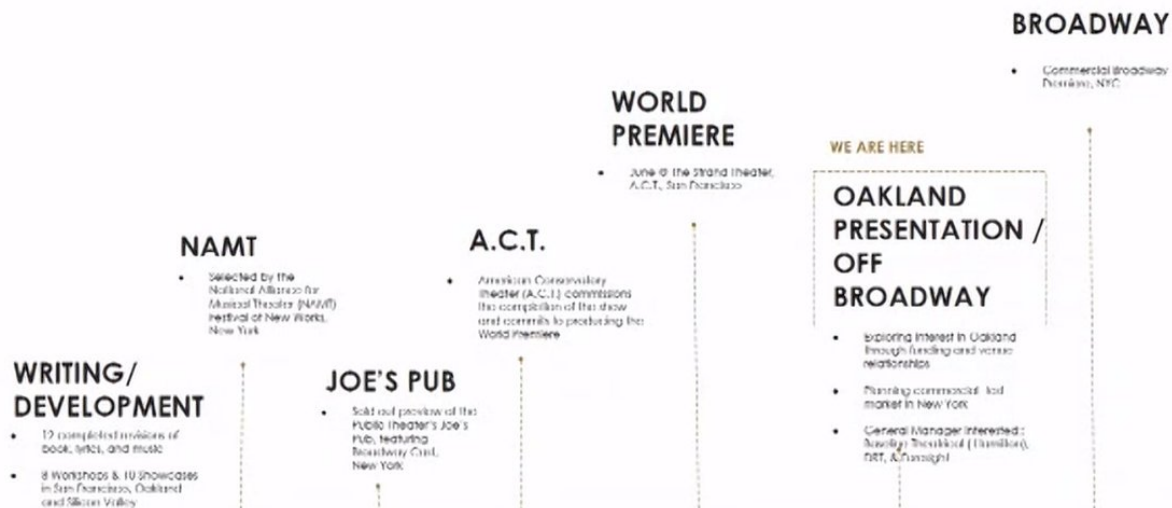
- Low-cost experimental venue (The Loom)
- Community collaborations
- 10 months of local events:
 - 2500 attendees
 - 100 ambassadors
 - 11.5k followers

Chambers



"Our goal is to take this from the Bay to Broadway, but our stop has to be in Oakland in 2026"

PATH TO BROADWAY



Lee: "I have the privilege to visit many cities...countries around the world, art and culture are infused in every single department of agencies and public entities..." she says she wants to find a way to do this in Oakland

Fife taking Chair prerogative to push back on some very regular criticism "we can't just come to these meetings and push out misinformation. Just because you're part of a process doesn't mean that process hasn't happened"

Fife: "...if the only thing you do is come to a council mtg to complain what's not being done, there's a lot of opportunities...I encourage everyone to get involved"

Now on to the Shelter Crisis Ordinance. It's manifestly wild what a big part of the FBI's case this is---and they seemingly misunderstood the fact that it's a regularly reinstated ordinance necessary for the City's community cabins + RV sites, with a 2 year termination clause

There is some level of urgency, the current ord expires in mid-September, so it needs to come to council before then, that will be in first weeks after beginning of new session.

***Special Life Enrichment
Committee**

Agenda - FINAL

July 22, 2025

- 4** Subject: Shelter Crisis Ordinance
 From: Human Services Department
 Recommendation: Adopt An Emergency Ordinance

(1) Declaring A Shelter Crisis In The City Of Oakland Pursuant To California Government Code Section 8698 And Making Findings That A Significant Number Of Persons Are Without The Ability To Obtain Shelter, And That The Situation Has Resulted In A Threat To The Health And Safety Of Those Persons;

(2) For The Duration Of The Shelter Crisis, Authorizing The City Administrator To: (A) Suspend Provisions Of State Or Local Regulatory Statutes, Regulations, And Ordinances Prescribing Standards Or Procedures Relating To Housing, Health, Or Safety For Shelter Facilities; (B) Enter Into Below Market Leases Or Licenses With Homeless Service Providers On Land Owned Or Leased By The City For The Purpose Of Providing Emergency Shelter Or Transitional Housing; And (C) Renew Existing Professional Services And/Or Grant Agreements With Homeless Service Providers In Amounts Not To Exceed \$250,000 Above Previous Year, If Providers Meet Performance Outcomes In Previous Year; And

(3) Making California Environmental Quality Act Exemption Findings
[25-0884](#)

Sponsors: Human Services Department

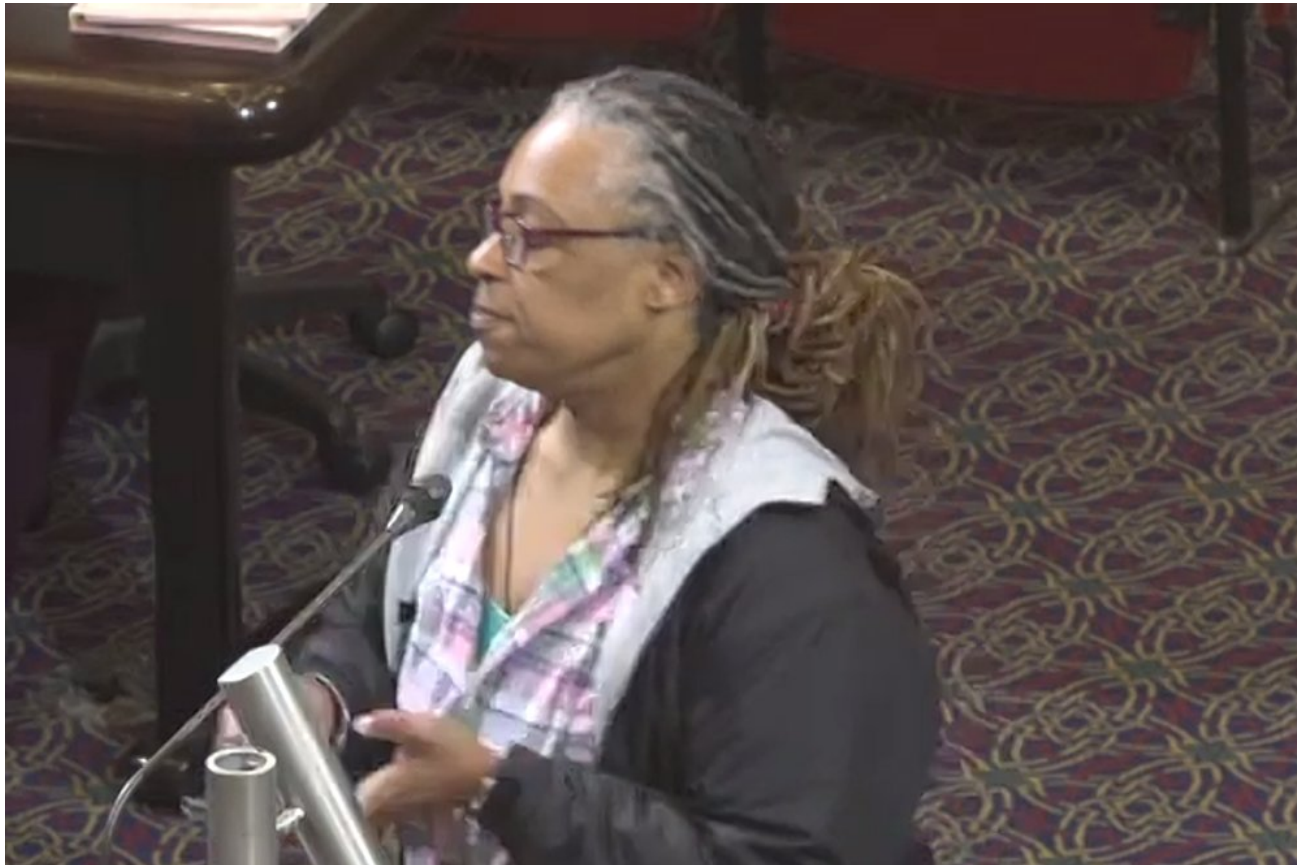
Attachments: [View Report](#)

HCD rep notes that though homelessness rate of increase is decreasing, the numbers are

increasing. 53% of homeless are Black, and PIT count is viewed as an undercount. The SCO has been in place since 2017, each time for 2 years.

The SCO is based on the CA state shelter crisis statute, which is also temporary, but continuously extended

Speaker wants the City to consider a center for youth homeless on Hegenberger, she says she was once homeless, with newborn



Wang asking about performance metrics, how are we really evaluating these non profits that are evaluating...city rep says that each program has different objectives, evaluated on quarterly basis through county system...

Third quarter evaluation about renewal/terminating...terminating is usually accompanied with a 9 month to year ending...

Wang has inadvertently agendized the issue of Chinatown pushing homeless interventions

to east oakland.

Houston says he wants to hold the item in committee...but Fife asked staff to explain the level of urgency, 9/19 current SCO, "we're trying to bring it forth prior to that and we can get a new one in place"

Staffer says that all of the programs would be out of compliance with state regulations if the SCO isn't renewed...the city's current homeless interventions would be legally unviable if they don't renew. Houston says he's still saying no, and wants to keep in committee

Houston says Oakland is taking the brunt of homelessness, mentions the murder of parole officer

Wang says she doesn't support Houston's action; but in the midst of proposing something else...Houston got up and left. Ramachandran isn't here, so they lost quorum

The City can still bypass the committee for scheduling, as they regularly do, tho. But it's a bad look.

The meeting is basically over unless Ramachandran, who seems to have avoided the meeting because of the Cultural Affairs Manager issue, or Houston, who left after saying he wants to table the motion and thus end the City's homelessness interventions, denying quorum to move on

The LEC had to adjourn...nominally it means that the committee can't forward the time-sensitive item. But in practical terms, the CAO can still agendize it to a full council mtg using Rule 24

Though the meeting is technically adjourned, they are still taking open forum. Kev Choice thanks community for advocacy, APTP, Cat, Lance, to rally us to get us together to come to meetings, Cultural Affairs commissioners; he says the freezing galvanized Oakland's arts community



Cat Brooks thanks Fife: "arts isn't a luxury, it's a necessity, it's a mandate..." She says that some of the CMs speaking about importance of art actually voted for the freezing of the role.



Roberto Bedoya, the former Cultural Affairs Manager [ret], thanks arts community..."when i was a mgr, my job was to raise money...one of the most important things we did was support cultural strategies in govt program".



The meeting ended after open forum, but was actually over when Houston left due to quorum.

Source: https://x.com/Oak_Observer/status/1947715215329792090

Thread: <https://twitter-thread.com/t/1947715215329792090>