



The Oakland Observer @Oak_Observer

Jul 22 · 40 tweets

Now starting the Public Safety meeting, it was bumped up today to take advantage of cancelled public works meeting. Chair Wang has been starting each mtg by going over significant public safety issues/events, mentioned murder of parole officer, fires, traffic deaths

Big issues today are staffing report and ALPR data sharing policy, there's some resolutions to enter into contracts and programs OO won't cover with as much focus. Much of the staffing data in report is likely stale tho

- 5** Subject: OPD Biannual Staffing Report
From: Oakland Police Department
Recommendation: Receive An Informational Report Of The Oakland Police Department's 2024 Biannual Staffing Levels As Of December 31, 2024
[25-0852](#)
Sponsors: Oakland Police Department
Attachments: [View Report](#)
Legislative History
6/26/25 *Rules & Legislation Committee Scheduled to the *Public Safety Committee
- S6** Subject: Oakland Police Department's Data Sharing Policy For Automated License Plate Readers
From: Councilmember Wang
Recommendation: Receive An Informational Report On The Oakland Police Department's Data Sharing Policy For Automated License Plate Readers Including All Policies Related To Sharing Information With Immigration And Customs Enforcement (ICE)
[25-0911](#)
Sponsors: Wang
Attachments: [View Report](#)
[View Attachments A-D](#)
Legislative History
7/17/25 *Rules & Legislation Committee Scheduled to the *Public Safety Committee

The High Risk Youth Team intervention is a no-cost partnership referral system with relevant partners from DVP

3 Subject: Contract For Public-System High-Risk Youth Team
From: Department Of Violence Prevention
Recommendation: Adopt A Resolution Authorizing The City Administrator To Enter Into A No-Cost Agreement With The County Of Alameda, The Oakland Unified School District, And The National Institute For Criminal Justice Reform Regarding A Public-System Referral And Service Coordination Team That Serves Youth At High Risk For Group Violence, Intimate Partner Violence, Or Commercial Sexual Exploitation In Oakland For Up To A Five-Year Term
[25-0854](#)

Sponsors: Department of Violence Prevention

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

Legislative History

6/26/25	*Rules & Legislation Committee	Scheduled to the *Public Safety Committee
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Worth noting, OPD believed it would get around 33 candidates for the 196th academy that just began, but they only got 26. Worth noting that even the more sober projections for OPD staffing is based on a lot of squinting that isn't real.

With traditional wash out rates, the academy graduation will likely be 20 or fewer, but even the 67% rate projection, a novelty of transparency for OPD, was based on an entering class size OPD nails less often than it doesn't

Table 3 – FY 25-27 Proposed Budget Sworn Staffing Numbers Projections

FY 2025- 26 Two OPD Academies Graduate and Three Academies Begin - 67% Graduation Rate Calculation													
FY25-26	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25	Nov-25	Dec-25	Jan-26	Feb-26	Mar-26	Apr-26	May-26	Jun-26	
Filled	659	654	649	644	639	634	629	648	643	638	633	652	
Attrition	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)	
Hires	0	0	0	0	0	0	24	0	0	0	24	0	
Ending Filled	654	649	644	639	634	629	648	643	638	633	652	647	
Funded Authorized FTE	678	678	678	678	678	678	678	678	678	678	678	678	
Over/(Under)	(24)	(29)	(34)	(39)	(44)	(49)	(30)	(35)	(40)	(45)	(26)	(31)	
	195th Academy 5 Jul 25 to 16 Jan 26												
					196th Academy 8 Nov 25 to 22 May 26								
								197th Academy begins 14 Mar 26					
FY 2026-27 Three OPD Academies Graduate and Three Academies Begin - 67% Graduation Rate Calculation													
FY26-27	Jul-26	Aug-26	Sep-26	Oct-26	Nov-26	Dec-26	Jan-27	Feb-27	Mar-27	Apr-27	May-27	Jun-27	
Filled	647	642	637	646	641	636	631	650	645	640	635	654	
Attrition	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)	
Hires	0	0	14	0	0	0	24	0	0	0	24	0	
Ending Filled	642	637	646	641	636	631	650	645	640	635	654	649	
Funded Authorized FTE	678	678	678	678	678	678	678	678	678	678	678	678	
Over/(Under)	(36)	(41)	(32)	(37)	(42)	(47)	(28)	(33)	(38)	(43)	(24)	(29)	
	197th Academy ends 25 Sep 26												
	198th Academy 4 Jul 26 to 15 Jan 27												
					199th Academy 7 Nov 26 to 21 May 27								
								200th Academy begins 6 Mar 27					
FY 2025- 26 Two OPD Academies Graduate and Three Academies Begin - 80% Graduation Rate Calculation													
FY25-26	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25	Nov-25	Dec-25	Jan-26	Feb-26	Mar-26	Apr-26	May-26	Jun-26	
Filled	659	654	649	644	639	634	629	652	647	642	637	660	
Attrition	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)	
Hires	0	0	0	0	0	0	28	0	0	0	28	0	
Ending Filled	654	649	644	639	634	629	652	647	642	637	660	655	
Funded Authorized FTE	678	678	678	678	678	678	678	678	678	678	678	678	
Over/(Under)	(24)	(29)	(34)	(39)	(44)	(49)	(26)	(31)	(36)	(41)	(18)	(23)	
	195th Academy 5 Jul 25 to 16 Jan 26												
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Filled	655	650	645	656	651	646	641	664	659	654	649	672	
Attrition	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)	
Hires	0	0	16	0	0	0	28	0	0	0	28	0	
Ending Filled	650	645	656	651	646	641	664	659	654	649	672	667	
Funded Authorized FTE	678	678	678	678	678	678	678	678	678	678	678	678	
Over/(Under)	(28)	(33)	(22)	(27)	(32)	(37)	(14)	(19)	(24)	(29)	(6)	(11)	
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OPD's Kiona Suttle noted that the current staffing is "extremely low"..

Council led by Ramachandran, told the public that the City could get academies up to mid 40s with additional recruiting/outreach that had been budgeted. Suttle suggesting that any impact of that won't be felt until the 197th which graduates late next year.

Fife asks if the "commute" rationale for separation exit interviews is being addressed, suggests workforce housing for first responders.

Suttle said that if officers didn't have to commute, the attrition could improve. "there are officers that didn't have a family before they started and now do...and that would have an impact"

Fife also asked about the rationale of heavy discipline and asks if its sustained discipline, or they don't like the overall idea of culture of oversight. She says that its OPD's discipline process vs others. Suttle says that that means the NSA

Suttle suggested that the complaints are more about low level violations

Suttle says they don't have the resources to do everything they need to do including recruitment.

Wang says that recruitment is one of her top priorities

Wang talked about potentially joining military and said: "And my experience when I had been part of that recruitment process is that my fellow reserve, you know, potential reservists, were like people who wanted to just kill people." in reference to recruitment

On to the ALPR sharing policy, this will be an oral report

OPD's staffer suggesting that the recent criticism of ALPR was in bad faith and continues to blame it on outside agencies that did not follow state law.

OPD staffer says that OPD has started a process for identifying prohibited search reasons by other agencies that was started yesterday, July 21---this was the main issue that occurred, altho OPD may have inappropriately shared information at least once.

The issues in Standard article, that an outside agency used a search reason that was for immigration

There's also a request from Wang on how OakDOT is spending it's 1.4 MM in sideshow abatement infra

OakDOT Director Rowan is giving report:

Unfortunate reference to Winston Churchill here by Rowan, who governed British empire



Introduction

- Winston Churchill stated, “We shape our buildings and afterwards our buildings shape us.”
- Josh Rowan’s edit, “We built our streets and afterwards our streets ruined us.”
- Let’s look at the relationship between streets and people.

Rowan noting that current infra was meant to segregate

We Built Our Oakland Streets

- In 1936, Oakland's city planning engineer stated: "The housing advantage of this diagonal highway route is that it would segregate that portion of the district under discussion where non-white families are largely concentrated from the portion where they are relatively few in number."
- Oakland's streets are wide and straight (i.e. fast) and serve those commuting from other places to economic centers (East Bay to SF).
- Regional policy that promotes speed THROUGH Oakland; local policy that promotes segregation.

Rowan: Segregation infra and regional policy promoting getting through Oakland, we essentially have highways

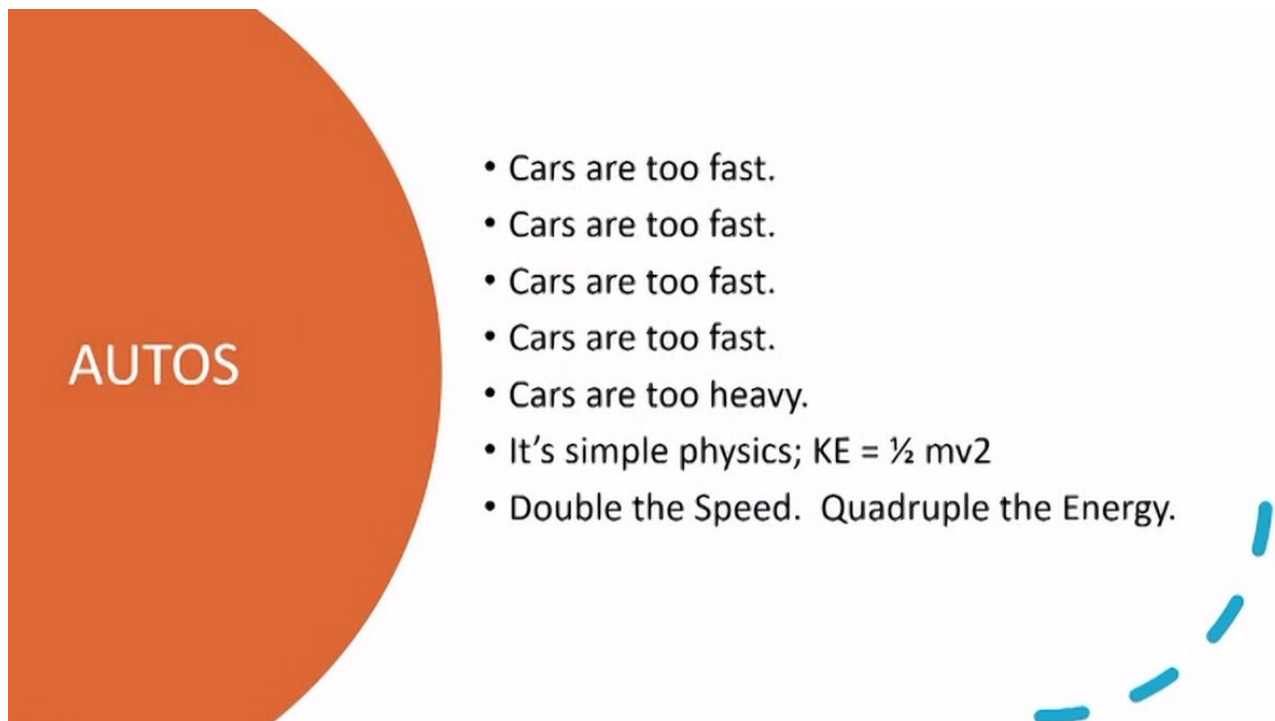
Our Oakland Streets Ruined Us

- 2 WEEKLY severe or fatal injuries; \$650 Million yearly
- Average 33 fatalities per year
- Compared to WHITE injured parties, BLACK injured parties in Oakland are 4 TIMES as likely to be killed or severely injured while walking and 3 TIMES as likely to be killed or severely injured in a crash
- 50% of severe and fatal crashes in Oakland occur in intersections
- 41% of severe and fatal crash victims were walking or riding a bike
- 78% of severe and fatal crash victims (65+) were walking
- While the wide, fast street design is ideal for sideshows, they are not responsible for these numbers.

Rowan noting that these designs also make the intersections inviting for sideshows

Rowan: "we have to incrementally taking these out of play" mentions successful interventions. Oaklandside covered one of these oaklandside.org/2025/07/21/oak...

Rowan going over the factors leading to dangerous conditions, driver behavior, street design and vehicle design. People don't pay attention to rules, roads encourage dangerous driving, vehicles are too fast, heavy



Rowan really hasn't gone into depth on the sideshow infra, outside of their test models, but he's done a pretty good ted talk

Proposed Solutions

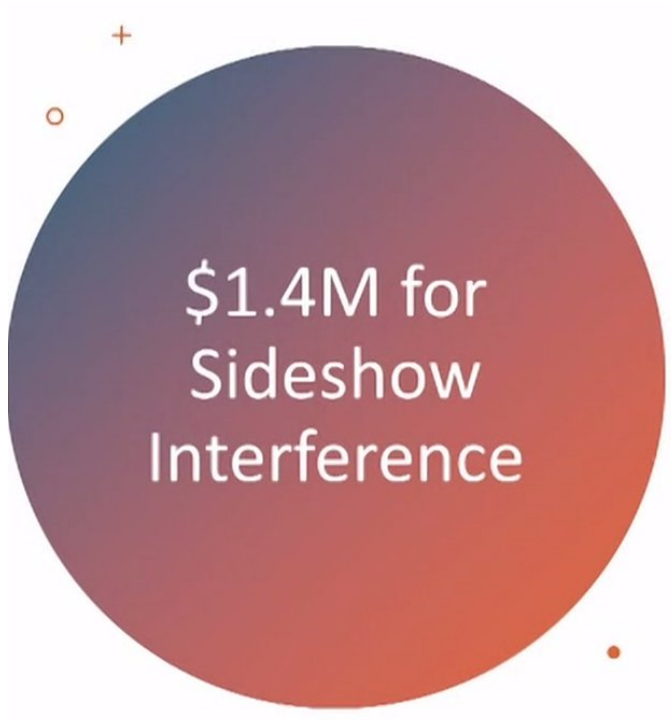
- People: raise the driver's license age to 21
implement public campaign (DMWT)
shift more work in-house
develop apprentice program
- Streets: rebuild Oakland with new priorities
prioritize people over autos
prioritize transit over parking
budgeting to match priorities
- Autos: equip with speed governors
equip with rear traction control
make smaller, lighter, slower

A lot of this is out of the City's control

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Rowan listing factors of how and where to spend the money; acknowledging also that putting effects in one area, causes effects elsewhere when sideshows move, 50k to 100K for each location, with one month stand up time

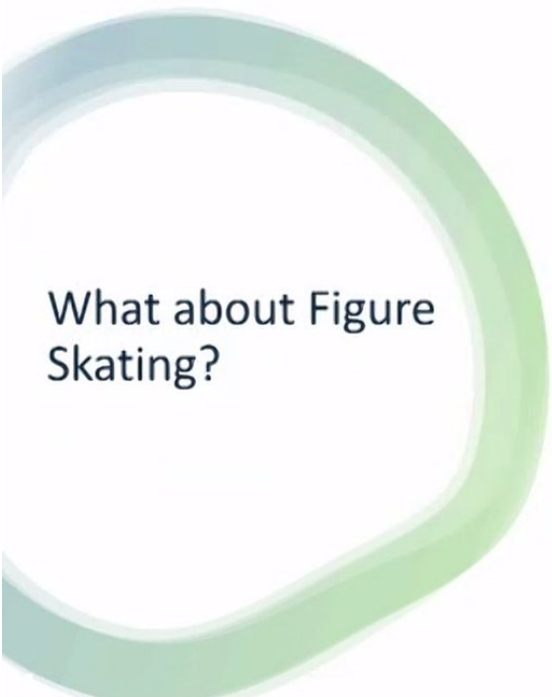


\$1.4M for Sideshow Interference

- Currently assessing our approach to sideshow interference:
 - How do we factor for risk?
 - How do we factor for frequency?
 - How do we factor for equity?
 - Should it be a prioritized list of intersections?
 - Should it be prioritized by corridor?
 - What does success look like?; how do we measure performance?

Rowan says they haven't nailed down approach, nor sites. Rowans says they'll come back with a prioritized list of sites, so they can refer back to it if there's more funding as well

This idea has come up so often without any movement that I am pretty convinced it will never happen



What about Figure Skating?

- Does anyone know the origins of NASCAR?
- Is there an application for sideshows? Turn it into a sanctioned competition? Provide practice facilities? Promote competitions? We have an Olympic sport that involves making "figures."
- Sideshows may just be a symptom of a bigger safety problem

I don't want to get so into criminalizing behavior..."young folks who need opportunities"

Rowan says that team will provide options and plans starting Aug 1, and he will return with report

After everything Rowans says, Houston still demands law and order, says back in the day, sideshows were good, and well done.

Brown says it looks like the money could fund 14 sites in city...Rowan says 14 is about right.

Rowan says that all of the issues they are currently talking about will require ongoing and consistent planning, in decades ahead.

Rowan: "we don't want this to be horse trading, or whoever makes the most noise...empirical, fact-based...oftentimes those with the greatest needs make the least noise...and I think we'll come back with a good, balanced, equitable approach that can scale up"

Fife asked about the community led traffic safety program; Rowan says he wants to pursue it, but it still requires leadership from OakDOT. Fife noting that it would be an application

process by communities

Fife brought up the idea of sanctioned sideshows, says they are looking at coliseum, talking to AASEG, says there's potential sponsors. Says she will bring something forward after recess.

Houston asked to adjourn meeting in memory of Joshua Byrd, parole officer murdered last week.

Source: https://x.com/Oak_Observer/status/1947751408507453572

Thread: <https://twitter-thread.com/t/1947751408507453572>