

CITY OF OAKLAND



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Office of the City Administrator

(510) 238-3301
Fax (510) 238-2223

November 5, 2025

Presiding Judge Thomas Nixon
Alameda County Superior Court
1225 Fallon Street, Department One
Oakland, California 94612

Re: City of Oakland Responses to the 2024-25 Civil Grand Jury Final Report

Dear Presiding Judge Nixon:

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the 2024-25 Alameda County Grand Jury Final Report which included findings and recommendations for four areas in the City of Oakland:

- 1) "Oakland's Potholes: A Bumpy Road and Inadequate Oversight"
- 2) "Oakland's Poor Stewardship of Measure Q Funds Jeopardizes its Effectiveness"
- 3) "Adding Insult to Injury: Oakland Issues Parking Tickets to Stolen Vehicles"
- 4) Oakland's Wildfire Preparedness: Good Vegetation Management but Emergency Access Needs Improvement"

In accordance with the Grand Jury's findings and recommendations in each of the four areas of interest, the City Administrator prepared a response on behalf of the Mayor and the relevant City departments and said responses were considered by the City Council at its meeting on November 4, 2025. Pursuant to Resolution No. 90958 C.M.S., the City Council authorized the Council President to join the City Administrator and submit the responses on behalf of the City Council.

Accordingly, we submit the enclosed responses on behalf of both the City Council and the City Administration.

The City of Oakland responses to the Final Grand Jury report are in alignment with the requirements of California Penal Code section 933.05. We appreciate the Grand Jury's work to investigate citizen concerns regarding the reports referenced above.

Sincerely,


Kevin Jenkins (Nov 7, 2025 16:33:41 PST)

Kevin Jenkins
President, Oakland City Council


Jestin Johnson (Nov 6, 2025 19:08:04 PST)

Jestin Johnson
City Administrator

CC: Oakland City Council
Barbara Lee, Mayor
Ryan Richardson, Office of the City Attorney
Michael C. Houston, Office of the City Auditor

Cassie Barner
c/o Alameda County Grand Jury
1401 Lakeside Drive, Suite 1104
Oakland, California 94612

Attachments:

- A. City of Oakland Agenda Report and Resolution No. 90958 CMS
- B. City of Oakland Responses to Final Grand Jury Report



AGENDA REPORT

TO: Honorable City Council

FROM: Jestin D. Johnson
City Administrator

SUBJECT: City Response To 2024-25 Alameda
County Civil Grand Jury Report

DATE: September 15, 2025

RECOMMENDATION

Staff Recommends That The City Council Adopt A Resolution Authorizing The Council President To Submit A Response On Behalf Of The City Council To The 2024-25 Alameda County Civil Grand Jury Report.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The [2024-2025 Alameda County Civil Grand Jury Final Report](#) (**Attachment A**), issued June 20, 2025, included five sections detailing investigations concerning the City of Oakland:

- “Bad Roads and No Building: Oakland’s Budget Problems Mean No Bonds for the City’s Needs” (this section did not include findings or recommendations requiring a response from the City)
- “Oakland’s Potholes: A Bumpy Road and Inadequate Oversight”
- “Oakland’s Poor Stewardship of Measure Q Funds Jeopardizes its Effectiveness”
- “Adding Insult to Injury: Oakland Issues Parking Tickets to Stolen Vehicles”
- Oakland’s Wildfire Preparedness: Good Vegetation Management but Emergency Access Needs Improvement”

Responses to each of these investigations are requested from multiple City departments and agencies, including Oakland Public Works (OPW), Finance and Management Department, Oakland Department of Transportation (OakDOT), Oakland Fire Department (OFD), the Office of the City Auditor, and the City Council. The City departments' responses to the Grand Jury report's findings and recommendations are included in **Attachment B** to this report, and a separately submitted response by the City Auditor is included as **Attachment C**. By default, formal responses to the Grand Jury report would have been due 90 days after the report's public release. However, the City requested and received an extension of the time to respond from the Grand Jury's representative. In accordance with the extension, the City's responses are due no later than Friday, November 7, 2025. Adoption of the proposed resolution will authorize the Council President to submit the responses on behalf of the City Council to the Alameda County Civil Grand Jury.

Special City Council
November 4, 2025

BACKGROUND / LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

Four of the five sections of the Grand Jury Report include findings and recommendations which require formal response by the City. In two of the Grand Jury Report sections, "Oakland's Potholes: A Bumpy Road and Inadequate Oversight" and "Oakland's Poor Stewardship of Measure Q Funds Jeopardizes its Effectiveness", several findings and recommendations were directed to the City Auditor. In response, the Office of the City Auditor issued a separate response to the Grand Jury Report on August 7, 2025, included herein as **Attachment C**.

ANALYSIS AND POLICY ALTERNATIVES

The production of this report aligns with the City Council's Citywide priority of **responsive and trustworthy government**. The complete 2024-25 Alameda County Civil Grand Jury Report is included herein as **Attachment A**, the first five sections (pages 15-78) pertain to the City of Oakland. The City Administrator's Office collaborated with staff in Oakland Public Works (OPW), Finance and Management Department, Oakland Department of Transportation (OakDOT), and Oakland Fire Department (OFD) to prepare responses to the Grand Jury Report's findings and recommendations, included as **Attachment B**. The City Administrator's Office brings these responses to the City Council and recommends authorization of the Council President to submit the proposed response to the Alameda County Civil Grand Jury on behalf of the City Council.

FISCAL IMPACT

There are no direct fiscal impacts associated with this report. Should an appropriation be needed to respond to the findings or to implement any of the recommendations, those requests will be submitted through the City's Budget Process.

PUBLIC OUTREACH / INTEREST

No outreach was deemed necessary for this report beyond the standard City Council noticing procedures.

COORDINATION

This report and attachments were prepared in coordination between the City Administrator's Office, Oakland Fire Department, Oakland Public Works, Oakland Department of Transportation, and the Finance and Management Department. The Office of the City Attorney and the Office of the City Auditor were consulted in preparation of this report.

SUSTAINABLE OPPORTUNITIES

Economic: There are no economic opportunities directly associated with this report; please refer to **Attachment B** for additional details related to the potential economic impacts or opportunities associated with the Civil Grand Jury's findings and recommendations.

Environmental: There are no environmental opportunities directly associated with this report; please refer to **Attachment B** for additional details related to the potential environmental impacts or opportunities associated with the Civil Grand Jury's findings and recommendations.

Race & Equity: There are no race and equity opportunities directly associated with this report; please refer to **Attachment B** for additional information and assessment of potential racial equity impacts associated with the findings and recommendations of the Civil Grand Jury Report..

ACTION REQUESTED OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Staff Recommends That The City Council Adopt A Resolution Authorizing The Council President To Submit A Response On Behalf Of The City Council To The 2024-25 Alameda County Civil Grand Jury Report.

For questions regarding this report, please contact Rose Rubel, Assistant to the City Administrator, at 510-238-6587.

Respectfully submitted,


Jestin Johnson (Oct 30, 2025 16:20:38 PDT)
JESTIN JOHNSON
City Administrator, City Administrator's Office

Prepared by:
Rose Rubel, Assistant to the City Administrator
City Administrator's Office

Attachments (3):

- Attachment A: Alameda County Civil Grand Jury 2024-25 Report
- Attachment B: City Administrator's Response to the Grand Jury Report
- Attachment C: Oakland City Auditor's Response to the Grand Jury Report

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY



CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. 90958 C.M.S.

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT TO
SUBMIT A RESPONSE ON BEHALF OF THE CITY COUNCIL TO THE
2024-2025 ALAMEDA COUNTY CIVIL GRAND JURY REPORT**

WHEREAS, on June 20, 2025, the Alameda County Civil Grand Jury issued its 2024-2025 Alameda County Civil Grand Jury Final Report; and

WHEREAS, five sections in the Grand Jury Report concern the City of Oakland ("City"); and

WHEREAS, the Grand Jury requested responses from various City departments and City officials, including the City Council, to four of the five sections; and

WHEREAS, the four sections that require responses from the City Administration and City Council are as follows: "Oakland's Potholes: A Bumpy Road and Inadequate Oversight"; "Oakland's Poor Stewardship of Measure Q Funds Jeopardizes Its Effectiveness"; "Adding Insult to Injury: Oakland Issues Parking Tickets to Stolen Vehicles"; "Oakland's Wildfire Preparedness: Good Vegetation Management but Emergency Access Needs Improvement"; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to California Penal Code section 933(c), the City of Oakland shall respond to the Grand Jury findings within 90 days of the public release date of the Grand Jury report, however, the Grand Jury may grant, and in fact did grant, the City an extension to respond beyond the 90-day deadline; and

WHEREAS, the Alameda County District Attorney's Office confirmed that the City's new deadline to respond to all of the Grand Jury findings in this year's Grand Jury Report is November 7, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the City Administration has prepared a response on behalf of the Mayor and the relevant City departments and said response is included as **Attachment B** to the City Administrator's Agenda Report accompanying this resolution; and

WHEREAS, the City Council wishes to join the City Administrator and submit the proposed response on behalf of the City Council as well; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That the City Council hereby authorizes the Council President, on behalf of the Council, to submit the City Administrator's proposed response, in substantially the form of **Attachment B** to the Agenda Report accompanying this resolution, to the Alameda County Civil Grand Jury as the City Council's formal response to the 2024-2025 Civil Grand Jury Report findings.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA,

NOV 04 2025

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES - BROWN, FIFE, ~~GALLO~~, HOUSTON, RAMACHANDRAN, UNGER, WANG, AND
~~PRESIDENT JENKINS~~ - 6

NOES - 0

1 ABSENT - Gallo

ABSTENTION - 0

1 Excused: Jenkins

ATTEST:



ASHA REED

City Clerk and Clerk of the Council of the
City of Oakland, California

3445152 / ARM