

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **1,500 Free Trees to be Planted in East Oakland Flatlands**

**OAKLAND, Calif.** - The **Oakland Parks and Recreation Foundation** received a \$310,000 grant from the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) to plant 1,500 trees in the flatlands of East Oakland over the next three years. Its partners, **Keep Oakland Beautiful** (KOB) and the **Sierra Club Tree Team**, will coordinate tree locations and plantings.

“The CAL FIRE tree grant supports our beautification efforts in Oakland’s Flatlands,” said Aron Nussbaum, Board Chair, KOB. “As the city continues to grow and change, these trees will provide a foundation for our environmental programs.”

The grant will pay for trees in Oakland's Council Districts 2, 5, 6, and 7; locations below International Boulevard have the highest priority, especially those with room for trees that can grow to large size. Homeowners and other property owners can apply to receive one or more free trees along the sidewalk or in an unfenced front yard. Other public locations are eligible, such as parks, libraries, schools, or roadway medians.

Administered by CAL FIRE, the grant program distributes money from the state's Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund to projects in environmentally-disadvantaged communities, according to the CalEnviroScreen rating system. The primary purpose of the program is to absorb carbon dioxide as the trees grow, but the trees will also provide many other environmental and social benefits to the community.

To receive an application for a free tree and schedule an appointment with a member of the Sierra Club Tree Team, visit [sierraclub.org/sfbay/tree-planting](http://sierraclub.org/sfbay/tree-planting) or call Tree Team Coordinator Derek Schubert at 510-238-9652.

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### **The Oakland Parks and Recreation Foundation**

The Oakland Parks and Recreation Foundation provides financial and volunteer resources and advocacy for recreation programs and parks in Oakland. For more information, visit [oaklandparks.org](http://oaklandparks.org).

### **Keep Oakland Beautiful**

Keep Oakland Beautiful aims to create and sustain a beautiful, clean, green, litter-free city through education, community engagement and volunteer action. For more information, visit [keepoaklandbeautiful.org](http://keepoaklandbeautiful.org).

**Sierra Club Tree Team**

Founded in 2010, the Sierra Club Tree Team is working to increase the City of Oakland's tree canopy so that every Oakland resident, worker, and visitor can benefit from the environmental, community, and aesthetic benefits of trees.