community engagement | criminal justice | economics | education | housing | land use + transportation

Place Matters Policy Platform

Criminal Justice

The development and implementation of policies that support incarceration alternatives and promote the successful social, economic and overall healthy transition of formerly incarcerated people into our communities in order to reduce recidivism and promote justice.

Economics

All residents, regardless of racial/ethnic status or place of residence, are able to pay for basic needs (including housing, food, transportation, healthcare, and childcare) and build wealth.

- Everyone has access to income, through well-paying jobs that provide safe, meaningful work and/or adequate income supports to meet basic needs and promote self-sufficiency.
- Everyone can build wealth and be economically secure through access to essential financial services and opportunities to accumulate savings, acquire credit, and develop assets.

Education

Quality education is a human right. All school-aged youth in Oakland will have access to a quality, comprehensive education in an environment that is safe, healthy, socially supportive, academically stimulating and competitive with other schools, and that prepares them to graduate, achieve their education/career dreams and goals, and be productive members of their communities.

Housing

Housing is a human right! An adequate supply of housing is constructed and preserved in proportion to demand and maintains cultural, racial, and class diversity of the community. There are no uninhabitable conditions or overcrowding. No one is homeless, displaced or spends more than 30% of their income on housing costs. No one experiences redlining or unfair lending practices. Everyone has equal opportunities to receive prime loans. All people have housing that is safe, habitable, and supports good health. Housing is a human right!

Land Use and Transportation

1. All residents can easily access a world class public transportation system that is clean, safe, affordable, and reliable. These services are equitably distributed, with particular attention paid to transit-dependent communities, and are connected to a safe walking and biking infrastructure to reduce the dependence on automobiles. Communities and the environment are protected from the negative impacts of goods movement.

2. Neighborhoods have clean air, soil, and water. All residents have access to quality jobs, food, affordable housing and transit, open spaces and other goods and services people need to be healthy. Communities are violence free and designed to promote social interaction and neighborhood identity. Communities are free from a high concentration of businesses and industry that harm health and risk factors are reduced.