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7	1	6	3
4	8	2	5
6	9	8	1
3	2	7	4
1	5	4	9
2	7	3	8

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**Alameda Sun Almanac**

Date	Rise	Set
Today	7:27	18:20
Oct. 26	7:28	18:18
Oct. 27	7:29	18:17
Oct. 28	7:30	18:16
Oct. 29	7:31	18:15
Oct. 30	7:32	18:14
Oct. 31	7:33	18:13

# DA Clears Keimach

## Charter violations referred to Grand Jury for investigation

**Ekene Ikeme**

Former Alameda City Manager Jill Keimach was absolved of any wrongdoing by the Alameda County District Attorney's (DA) office after secretly recording a meeting that involved her, Vice Mayor Malia Vella and Councilmember Jim Oddie. "I am extremely grateful to the District Attorney's office for its careful examination of all the facts in this case and concluding that I told the truth in the face of extreme political pressure," stated Keimach in a press release.

The exoneration came after a six-month investigation by Alameda County District Attorney Nancy E. O'Malley's office where city officials including Oddie, Vella, Alameda fire union president Jeff DelBono and City Attorney Janet Kern were interviewed. The DA wrote in an eight-page report, released Friday, Oct. 19, that "while Ms. Keimach did record a private conversation there is insufficient evidence to prove a criminal violation of California state law beyond a reasonable doubt."

Investigators came to this decision using California Penal Code 633.5, that allows secret recordings with the intent to obtain evidence of criminal conduct including bribery and extortion.

The backdrop of the allegations came from the fire chief hiring process last year. Keimach stated that she felt immense pressure from Oddie and Vella leading up to her appointment decision, "City Must Fully Investigate City Manager's Allegations," Oct. 16).

Keimach was informed by Police Chief Paul Roller that Oddie told him directly at the National Night Out event on Aug. 1, 2017, that unless she hired the right person as fire chief, there were two votes to fire her and that they would get the third vote. The two votes were likely Oddie and Vella. The "right person" Oddie was referring to was Fire Capt. Domenick Weaver. Oddie denied he made the statement.

The DA's office noted that the audio recording of the Aug. 16, 2017, meeting, which was scheduled by Vella and Oddie, did not include any extortion or bribery. However, regarding potential charges against Keimach, the actual content of the meeting is irrelevant, as long as she reasonably believed that an attempt to bribe or extort her would be made, absolves Keimach. Keimach said she received approval from Alameda City Attorney Janet Kern before recording the meeting. Kern denies this allegation.

Both Oddie and Vella denied they tried to influence Keimach's decision.

"The purpose of the meeting with Keimach was not to demand that Keimach appoint Weaver," stated Vella in a press release after the report was released. "...the intent was to address concerns raised earlier with her that Keimach had already decided on a favored candidate. The meeting was cordial and professional, and Vella left satisfied that all candidates would get a fair shake."

Oddie did not make a comment after the report was released. Calls to Oddie were not returned by deadline.

On March 9, the City Council voted unanimously to place Keimach on paid administrative leave. On April 16, Council voted unanimously in closed session to instruct the City Attorney to refer the subject audio recording to the Alameda County District Attorney. Keimach left her position as City Manager on May 15 after she and the Council agreed on a \$945,000 settlement ("City Settles with Keimach," May 22).

The report stated the allegations of City Charter violations by Oddie has been referred to the Alameda County Grand Jury.



# Pumpkin Patch Returns

Photo and story by Eric J. Kos

The Alameda Fire Department received some help from the King of Rock 'n' Roll, Elvis Presley, last Friday, during the annual Halloween Pumpkin Patch hosted by the department. Kids of all ages get to take a home a free pumpkin each year at the event which took place for the 19th year. The man behind the patch (and behind Presley's sunglasses) is Alameda firefighter, Adam Sizemore, who has organized the event at Franklin Park for many years.

# Voters Decide on Four County Measures

**Dennis Evanosky**

Of the 28 Alameda County measures on the Nov. 6 ballot, only five pertain to the City of Alameda. Measure F and Measure K pertain narrowly to the city. They deal with raising the sales tax and with inscribing the city's rent ordinance into the City Charter, respectively.

**Measure F: Alameda Sales Tax**  
 A "yes" vote favors authorizing the city to enact a 0.5 percent general sales tax with no expiration date. This would raise raising the total sales tax from 9.25 percent to 9.75 percent.  
 A "no" vote is a vote against authorizing the city to enact this tax.

**Measure K: Alameda Rent Control Charter Amendment**  
 A "yes" vote favors placing Ordinance 3148 — the Rent Stabilization Ordinance — in the City Charter. This would require voter approval for any changes to the ordinance. As part of the Charter, the ordinance would not expire.  
 A "no" vote opposes placing Ordinance 3148 in the City Charter. If the "no" votes prevail, the ordinance would not become a part of the City Charter and would expire on Dec. 31, 2019.

**Measure E: Peralta College District Parcel Tax Renewal**  
 A "yes" vote favors an eight-year renewal of the district's parcel tax — at a rate of \$48 a parcel. The district uses this money to fund education programs and staff support.  
 A "no" vote is a vote against renewing the tax.

**Measure G: Peralta College District Bond Issue**

A "yes" vote supports authorizing the district to issue up to \$8 million in bonds at an estimated tax rate of \$24.50 per \$100,000 of assessed property value to fund facilities and technology.  
 A "no" vote opposes authorizing the district to issue these bonds.

Measure E and Measure G pertain more generally to the Peralta Community College District, of which the College of Alameda is a part. Measure E asks voters to renew the parcel tax that funds the district's programs and staff. Measure G seeks voter approval to raise \$8 million in bonds to fund facilities and technology.

**Measure FF: Wildfire Protection, Safe Parks, Trails, Public Access, Natural Habitat**

A "yes" vote extends until 2038 a current annual parcel tax of \$12 for a single-family parcel and \$8.28 for each multi-family unit. The East Bay Regional Park District uses the money to protect against wildfires; preserve water quality, shorelines and urban creeks; and protect redwoods and parklands.  
 A "no" vote opposes the extension of this tax.

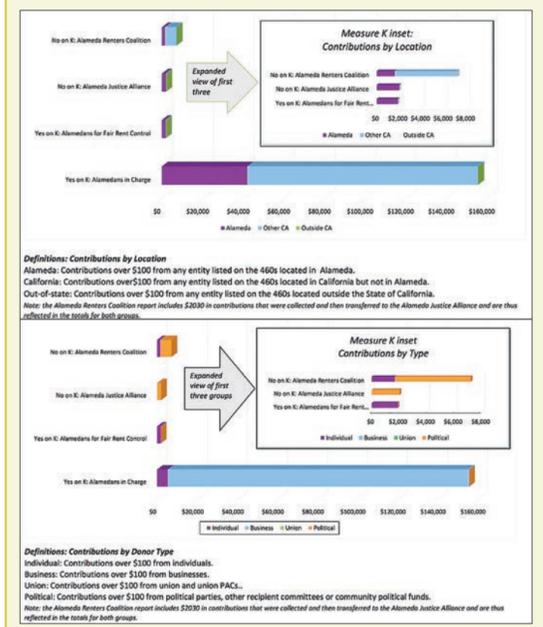
To read more detail about these measures visit [https://ballotpedia.org/Alameda\\_County\\_California\\_ballot\\_measures](https://ballotpedia.org/Alameda_County_California_ballot_measures).

# City Seeking Proposals for Vacant Library

Sun Staff Reports

The city is seeking parties interested in restoring and leasing the Carnegie Building and, perhaps, the adjoining Foster House. The 1903 Carnegie Building, one of the first three libraries funded by Andrew Carnegie in California, is on the National Register of Historic Places. C.H. Foster, the contractor who built the library, lived in the house next door.

Interested parties must have the capacity and means to restore and maintain the historic character of the building(s), provide for public use as frequently as possible; and demonstrate the finan-



The above charts, compiled by the League of Women Voters describe contributions to the Measure K campaign by location (top) and donor type.

# Election Funding Examined in Depth

Ekene Ikeme

The City Clerk's office recently released the financial campaign statements from Board of Education candidates and Measure K advocates and opponents filed last month.

Mia Bonta accumulated \$32,217 in campaign contributions since the beginning of the year for her Alameda Unified School District (AUSD) Board of Education campaign. The majority of it came from individual donations, but she did receive a sizable amount from candidates for the California Assembly. She received \$1,000 from Anthony Rendon, \$750 from David Chiu and \$500 each from Tom Daly and Adrin Nazarian. Contributions from unions include \$2,500 from the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 595, \$700 from the Sheet Metal Workers International Association Local 104 and \$500 a piece from the Transport Workers Union and the Operating Engineers Local Union No. 3.

AUSD Board of Education incumbent Anne McKereghan's campaign has received \$4,447 in contributions. McKereghan has not received any contributions from unions, political campaigns or businesses. Twenty-two of the 25 people who donated to her campaign live in Alameda. The remaining three reside in Oakland. McKereghan borrowed \$1,000 to cover expenses.

Incumbent Gary Lym and challenger Kevin Jordan did not release their financial campaign statements.

Measure K will incorporate Ordinance 3148, the city's rent review ordinance, into the city

charter. Alameda's in Charge, a property-owner advocacy group, that supports Measure K, has raised \$159,136 for its campaign. The majority of the contributions came from the holding companies that own properties in the city. Timber Dell Properties, LLC contributed \$26,792.33. The holding company in San Francisco that owns the Driftwood and Lanai apartments donated \$62,293.32. The Walnut Creek Holding Company that operates Ballena Village contributed \$50,000.

Alamedans for Fair Rent Control, who also support Measure K, raised \$2,197. Of this amount \$197 was raised through contributions from people who gave less than \$100 at a time. Donors who pledged less than \$100 are not identified on the California 460 statements. The four people identified in the 460 statement are Alamedans.

Alameda Renters Coalition (ARC) has raised \$7,824 in their opposition fight to Measure K. The Filipino Advocates for Justice (FAJ), an advocacy group that fights for the worker and civil rights of Filipinos in California, donated \$5,500 to the ARC. ARC also received \$100 donations from John Knox White and Doug Biggs, executive director of Alameda Point Collaborative.

The Committee for No on K Sponsored by Alameda Justice Alliance released updated campaign statements from this month. It shows that FAJ donated \$3,762.22 to their campaign, while ARC contributed \$2,030.

Contact Ekene Ikeme at [ekeme@alamedasun.com](mailto:ekeme@alamedasun.com).

# Public Weighs East End Parks

Jeff Wasserman

For the background behind the six public waterfront access parks, see Part One in last week's edition.

Part Two

In recent weeks the Alameda Recreation and Parks Department (ARPD) convened an official walking tour of the six parklets, and the Alamedans who came out were shown all the encroached upon public waterfront land along Farnside Boulevard and Eastshore Drive. In addition on Oct. 6 and 11, ARPD held two public meetings at City Hall for Alameda residents.

At the meetings, the public discussed the various options for using the \$1 million set aside for the reclamation and improvement of some or all of the six parklets. ARPD Director Amy Woodruff ran the meetings and used several thoughtful exercises to help the group decide on future improvements to some or all of the parks.

The consultant's report and the public meetings revealed a few significant issues. One was the disproportionately high cost of designing, permitting and installing improvements at any of the six waterfront sites that would both safely allow for a floating kayak or canoe launch. The high costs of installing a boat launch along

Fernside is due to the Americans with Disabilities Act requirement that any boat launch be accessible at all tides. This would require less than an 8 percent grade from the street to the waterfront.

The high cost of installing a boat launch along Eastshore is due to the long mud flat that extends out from the shoreline. This would require a floating dock several hundred feet long to reach the deep-water channel. Either of these options would alone consume most of the \$1 million available to reclaim and restore all six parks.

A second issue that quickly became evident are the differing priorities and concerns among two or more constituencies who attended the meetings: those who live along the waterfront in the East End, and those who can't afford to live in those waterfront homes.

Some who live along the water and attended the meeting expressed concerns for the safety and aesthetic of the parks and their community if the six waterfront parks were restored and improved, and public visitation increased. Several expressed concerns about the potential for an increase of crime in their neighborhood, and for the development of homeless encampments in the