

Dear New Resident,

Welcome to the wonderful Redwood Heights Community!

You are about to joining one of Oakland's most beautiful neighborhoods filled with engaged local residents who deeply care about their communities. Having organized and active neighborhoods is key to building public safety. The more neighbors know each other, the more eyes and ears we have on our streets, the more we take up space in our local parks, recreation centers, and business corridors, the more community safety emerges.

I invite you to take the time to be involved with some of these neighborhood organizations that serve as a glue to this exceptional community spirit. The Redwood Heights Association has a host of opportunities to help beautify your local community, engage in local arts and culture, and dialogue on policy issues. Oakland Neighborhood Councils 22Y and 25X have regular meetings with city representatives and neighbors coming together to discuss public safety issues. Grassroots volunteer groups like the High Street Coalition and the Laurel Art Garden provide many hands-on opportunities to keep our streets clean. The nearby Laurel Business District and Lincoln Square Shopping Center have a plethora of incredible dining and retail businesses – and I urge you to support our small local businesses that fill the Town with so much culture and vibrance.

I also encourage you to consider joining us at City Hall to make your voice heard on the important issues of the day. As your Councilmember, I am determined to ensure that all residents are aware of opportunities to attend Council meetings and share public comment. I encourage you to sign up for our monthly mailing list (you can do so here https://jananiforoakland.com/), and follow us on social media (you can find us on Instagram, Facebook, and YouTube at @Janani4Oakland). Through these platforms, I try my best to keep our communities informed on the big policy issues, and am always welcome to hearing our residents' thoughts and perspectives.

If you have questions about how to get involved in your local community, how to attend City Council meetings, or how to set up a meeting with my staff and I, feel free to contact us at <u>district4@oaklandca.gov</u>. We look forward to seeing you around the neighborhood!

Sincerely,

Councilmember Janani Ramachandran