



District 5 Newsletter

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For a complete listing of events in District 5, visit my [Community Calendar](#).

My District 5 e-newsletter is designed to keep *you*, the residents, of Alameda County's Fifth District informed about important issues in our communities. The Fifth District includes the cities of Albany, Berkeley, Emeryville, Piedmont, and large portions of Oakland, namely West Oakland, North Oakland, Rockridge, and the Fruitvale and San Antonio Districts.

Contact me with your feedback by e-mailing dist5@acgov.org or by calling (510) 272-6695.

Low Cost Auto Insurance Comes to Alameda County

As many of you know, California law requires that all drivers be insured. Today in California, however, there are more than 3 million uninsured motorists driving on the roads every day. Too many low-income drivers remain uninsured, because the costs of standard auto insurance premiums are beyond their financial reach, until now.

[Read the full story.](#)

Affordable Housing For All

In the month of May, we celebrated the tenth year anniversary of the East Bay Housing Organization's Affordable Housing Week. This yearly celebration affords us an opportunity to educate the community, advocates, and elected officials on the importance of affordable housing in our communities. Housing in the San Francisco Bay Area is among the most expensive in the nation.

[Read the full story.](#)

County's New Approach to Our New Juvenile Justice Center

Alameda County plans to open a new Juvenile Justice Center in the beginning of 2007. With the opening of this new facility, the County is looking to change the way we work with young people who are incarcerated. There are four guiding principals for the design of the new Juvenile Justice Center: Interagency Service Delivery, a collaborative structure of accountability, linking with other community-based systems and agencies so the Center is the one link, in a continuum of care, and comprehensive screening and assessments for the youth who are incarcerated in the facility.

[Read the full story.](#)

County Urges MTC to Halt Funding Bias Against East Bay Bus Riders

Fifty years ago, Rosa Parks did not give up her seat on a bus in Montgomery, Alabama and public transportation, more specifically buses, became the stage from which the civil-rights movement was launched. The paradox is that today, discrimination is alive and well in mass-transit bus service. In the Bay Area, for instance, a federal civil-rights lawsuit is pending in the U.S. District Court in San Francisco, charging that the Bay Area's Metropolitan Transportation Commission (which plans and allocates the majority of funding for the area's transit needs) supports a "separate and unequal transit system" that discriminates against poor transit riders of color.

[Read the full story.](#)

East Bay Economic Outlook Good, with Challenges Ahead

The Economic Development Alliance for Business (EDAB), which I currently Chair, held our annual East Bay Economic Outlook event on May 12, with a presentation by Senior UCLA Economist, Dr. Christopher Thornberg. The event briefed East Bay city, business, and labor leaders on the direction of the state and local economy. Dr. Thornberg pointed to state income and employment growth as signs the economy is doing well, while real estate sales activity is cooling.

[Read the full story.](#)

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