Health and Housing in Oakland: The need for comprehensive solutions to the housing crisis

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Housing impacts health both directly and indirectly and in different ways.

Housing Affordability, Habitability and Access

- Less disposable income
- Overcrowding
- Substandard conditions
- Foreclosures and Displacement
- Homelessness

→ Poor nutrition & Lack of medical care
→ Heart disease
→ Mental health disease, (Depression, Anxiety, etc.)
→ Respiratory infections (TB)
→ Headaches, skin disease, asthma
→ Stress & Blight
→ Family instability
→ Poor health & wellbeing

Stress

Mental health disease,
(Depression, Anxiety, etc.)
Oakland is experiencing rapid change before our eyes.

Gentrification is happening at different stages in these same neighborhoods with lower life expectancy.

Source: Causa Justa: Just Cause’s Development without Displacement: Resisting Gentrification in the Bay Area
Public health impacts of gentrification are felt by individuals and in society.

For longtime residents in gentrifying neighborhoods
- Overcrowding
- Rent burden
- Eviction
- Exclusion or alienation from new development
- Widening health inequities

For those who are displaced
- Financial strain
- Disruption to work, school, and health care access
- Loss of community support networks
- Psychological distress
- Unhealthy relocation

For our broader society
- Increased driving and greenhouse gas emissions
- Resource strain on outlying areas of the region
- Increased segregation
City government can mitigate the short- and long-term negative impacts of both new development and market changes for both existing and new Oaklanders.

Source: Causa Justa: Just Cause’s Development without Displacement: Resisting Gentrification in the Bay Area
The Housing Equity Roadmap lays the foundation for many policy solutions.

- Protecting access to housing for all income levels (affordability)
- Protecting housing habitability
- Using public land for public benefit
- Using equity analyses to inform policy and drive action to “close the gaps”