



Dear Oaklanders:

Telegraph Avenue from 46th Street to 51st Street in the heart of Temescal is one of Oakland's most vibrant corridors. It's where Oaklanders—and people across the East Bay—come together to eat, drink, and shop. It's also where much-needed housing is being built, both along Telegraph Avenue and at nearby at the MacArthur BART Transit Village.

The road condition on Telegraph Avenue in Temescal is among the worst for major streets in Oakland. Whether you walk, bike, drive, or take the bus to get to Temescal, the need for repairs on Telegraph can be clearly seen and felt.

Last summer, OakDOT assumed oversight of the City of Oakland's Paving Program – and since then, we've gotten to work. We're on track to deliver over 15 miles of repaved streets in our first year, up from our average of 6 miles per year before the department was formed.

We're guided in our paving work by the Five-Year Pavement Prioritization Plan. This plan was developed by Oakland Public Works and adopted by the City Council in 2014. We are required to refer to the plan and its accompanying street lists and street maps for direction. Prompted in part by requests from the community, OakDOT Director Ryan Russo recently directed our staff to review the plan details, and we identified an inconsistency: Telegraph in the heart Temescal, which has a pavement rating of 18 out of 100 (where 100 is freshly paved), was included in the street *map*, but on the street *list* a section of Telegraph of a similar length north of 52nd Street, with a pavement condition of 96, was listed as being on the plan instead. Our team had been using the street list for project development purposes.

We believe that this was some form of clerical error with the street list and **intend to pave Telegraph Avenue between 51st Street and 46th Street in Spring of 2019**, rather than the listed segment of Telegraph Avenue from 52nd Street to Aileen Street. To get to that milestone, however, we need to make some decisions. Since 2014, we've known that the current design of Telegraph isn't working for most people. The 2014 Telegraph Avenue Complete Streets Plan didn't get us to a preferred design for the street. It's time for us to revisit the alternatives developed in the 2014 plan and decide which one to put in place next year.

That's why beginning next month, OakDOT will initiate a six-month process to identify a preferred design for Telegraph in Temescal. Our goal is to work with the Telegraph-Temescal Business Improvement District, area residents, local merchants, and our partners at AC Transit to develop a street that addresses as many needs as we can – and to work quickly to keep our paving crews on schedule!

Please sign up [using this link](#) to stay connected to this process, and thank you for your interest in a smoother and safer Telegraph Avenue.