

# PHONG LA

ALAMEDA COUNTY ASSESSOR



## MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

### Message from Assessor La

Dear Alameda County Resident,

This month we celebrate Black History Month and highlight the important contributions of the African American community. The rich history of African

American culture and activism in Alameda County is vibrant - we hope you are able to celebrate this February and beyond! Health and Wellness is the 2022 Black History month theme, to learn more please click [HERE](#).

**Upcoming Black History month events in Alameda County:**

- February 27th: The 5th Annual Black Joy Parade; click [HERE](#) for more information on the parade.
- February 4th - February 28th: Black History Month Special Exhibit at the USS Hornet Museum; click [HERE](#) for more information.

For more information and resources on Black History Month, click [HERE](#).

This month we also celebrate the beginning of the annual Lunar New Year. In accordance with the lunar zodiac calendar, this year we honor the Tiger. 2022 is the year of the Water Tiger and in Asian cultures, the tiger is a symbol of strength, courage, and luck. During this month our office wishes good fortune and good health to everyone. To celebrate the Lunar New Year my family plans to get together and give each other red envelopes (Li Xi), representing good luck and prosperity.

**Free Legal Clinic to Help Answer Questions:**

The Property Transfer Clinic (PTC) is here to help! The PTC is a free legal clinic available to assist property/business owners and constituents, which is available on the third Friday of each month. I continue to work with the Alameda County Law Library, the Alameda County Bar Association, Legal Access Alameda, and the Alameda County Library to maintain this clinic and make it available to Alameda County residents who do not have access to an attorney. The upcoming PTC dates are February 18th and March 18th. Sign up [HERE](#)!

**Community Engagements:**

Later this spring, our office will host the Annual Homeowners Expo. In the next few months, keep a look out for more details on the upcoming 2022 Annual Homeowners Expo.

Please let the Assessor's Office know if your city, chamber of commerce, or organization is hosting an in-person or virtual event that you would like the Assessor's Office to attend.

Let the Assessor's Office know if there is a specific topic you would like to see covered in a future webinar. I encourage you to fill out the poll with possible topics [HERE](#).

Keep an eye out for upcoming events and tell others to [sign up for our newsletter](#) to get notified of these upcoming events, important dates and deadlines.

**Request for In-Office Visits is Now Available:**

The Assessor's Office is providing temporary in-office visits upon request. Walk-ins will not be allowed at this time due to the COVID-19 pandemic. To request an in-person appointment, click [HERE](#)!

As always, we remain committed to serving the residents of Alameda County.

Sincerely,  
Phong La  
Alameda County Assessor

## Upcoming Dates & Deadlines

<b>February 1</b>	First day of Black History month and beginning of the Lunar New Year
<b>February 12</b>	Lincoln's Birthday (Alameda County Assessor's Office closed on Friday, February 11 <sup>th</sup> in observance.)
<b>February 14</b>	Valentine's Day
<b>February 15</b>	<p>Last Day to File Affidavit for Commercial Fishing, Historical Aircraft Exemption, Religious Exemption, Welfare Exemption, and last day to file affidavit for Classification of Documented Vessel.</p> <p>Last day to file homeowners exemption for full amount of exemption. You can still apply for this exemption after the deadline for a partial exemption.</p> <p>Deadline for racehorse owners to pay Annual Racehorse Tax without penalties.</p> <p>Last day to file possessory interest real property usage report with County Assessor in lieu of Preliminary Change of Ownership Report or Change of Ownership Statement.</p> <p><b>*NOTE: To receive the full welfare exemption, the claim must be filed by February 15<sup>th</sup>, or within 30 days of the date of Notice of Supplemental Assessment, whichever comes first. However, a partial exemption may be available for some claims even when filed after the deadline.</b></p>
<b>February 18</b>	Lawyers in the Library Property Transfer Clinic Program (Third Friday of every month) 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. – For more information click <a href="#">HERE</a>

***\*Please note that event details continue to update frequently due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.***

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## Resource: Homeowners' Exemption

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The Homeowners' Exemption is a tax saving program offered to homeowners in California. With this program, homeowners are eligible to receive a reduction of up to \$7,000 off their assessed value. This exemption provides homeowners a saving of about \$70 in their yearly property taxes off their dwelling.

To qualify, you must own and occupy your dwelling. A dwelling does not qualify for the exemption if it is a rental home, unoccupied by the homeowners, and/or either a vacation or secondary home.

Claims are to be filed with the Assessor's Office between the January 1 lien date and February 15th to receive a full exemption for the upcoming fiscal year. Partial exemptions are available to homeowners who file after the February 15th deadline. Claims subject to this deadline received by our office after February 15th, but no later than December 10th, are allowed 80% of the exemption. If you continue to occupy the residence on which the exemption is claimed, it is not necessary to file each year.

If the exemption was previously granted and you no longer qualify for the exemption, the law requires that you notify the Assessor's Office as soon as possible.

If you are unsure if you have the Homeowner's Exemption or to see if you qualify, click [HERE](#) to access your property assessment information. Failure to notify the Assessor,

subjects homeowners to a repayment of the exemption plus additional fees based on the penalty. The deadline to file for a removal is December 10<sup>th</sup> of the year in which the claim would apply.

For more information on this exemption visit our website [HERE](#) call (510) 272-3770 for more information.

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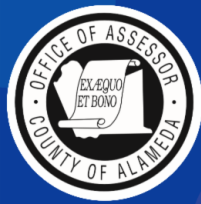
## Assessor in the Community

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***Photo of Assessor La with Council member Lena Tam and Alameda County Court Commissioner Pelayo Llamas Jr. at the Lunar New Year celebration at the San Leandro public library.***

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# Property Transfer Clinic

Do you have questions about:

- The Assessment Process in Alameda County
- Transferring property to family members
- What happens to property after the death of a loved one
- Common exclusions from reassessment

Talk with a volunteer attorney for a  
FREE 30-minute consultation.

Clinics are held every third Friday of every month. Visit  
<https://appointments.aclibrary.org/appointments/lawyers>



## Upcoming Dates:

January 21st, 2022  
February 18th, 2022  
March 18th, 2022

Appointments begin at  
12:30PM.

The Property Transfer Clinic is a partnership between the Alameda County Library, the Alameda County Law Library, and Legal Access Alameda. It is funded by the Alameda County Assessor's Office.

**The next Property Transfer Clinic will take place on February 18th. Please visit the link [HERE](#) to make an appointment with a volunteer attorney for a free 30-minute consultation.**

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## Chamber Profile: Oakland Chinatown Chamber of Commerce

In each Newsletter, the Assessor's Office will profile a different city, unincorporated area, or Chamber of Commerce in our County.

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***Photo of the Pacific Renaissance Plaza in Oakland Chinatown.***

Dedicated to promoting and advocating for businesses and the Asian community, the Oakland Chinatown Chamber of Commerce was created in 1985.

The Oakland Chinatown Chamber is a nonprofit association, which consists of a variety of business owners and local professionals devoted to civic, business, and commercial development in Oakland Chinatown and the outer Oakland Chinatown area.

Currently, the Oakland Chinatown Chamber has over 250 diverse members and continues to welcome new members each year. If you are interested in becoming a member of the Oakland Chinatown Chamber, click [HERE](#) to access the application. With an Oakland Chinatown Chamber membership, you will be able to network with other members of the organization, as well as with other business owners in the community through events and mixers.

The Oakland Chinatown Chamber office is located at the Pacific Renaissance Plaza in the middle of Oakland's Chinatown. Last month the Chamber hosted their 2022 Lunar New Year Celebration at the Pacific Renaissance Plaza, where they featured New Year gift sets for sale, along with dancing and singing performances to celebrate the Year of the Tiger.

Throughout its history, the Oakland Chinatown Chamber continues to focus on networking, community events, and generating new opportunities for Oakland Chinatown's businesses. The Chamber promotes its programs to people both inside and outside the Oakland Chinatown area. It also holds training seminars for small businesses and hosts meetings and networking events. In past years, the Chamber organized banquet celebrations for the Lunar New Year and the Chinese traditional Spring Banquet. For more information on the Oakland Chinatown Chamber of Commerce, available business resources, and upcoming events, check [HERE](#).

## OAKLAND CHINATOWN CHAMBER CONTACT

### OAKLAND CHINATOWN CHAMBER WEBSITE:

<http://www.oaklandchinatownchamber.org/>

### OAKLAND'S COVID RESOURCE LINK:

<https://www.oaklandca.gov/topics/covid-19#resources>

### CHAMBER ADDRESS:

Pacific Renaissance Plaza  
388 9<sup>th</sup> St, Suite 290  
Oakland, CA, 94607  
510-893-8979

## UPCOMING EVENTS

For an updated calendar of events click [HERE](#) events website or [HERE](#) to access OCCC Instagram page.

February 1

Lunar New Year (OCCC Office closed.)

*\*Please note that event details continue to update frequently due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.*

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## Additional Housing and Support Resources

There are numerous housing resources and financial support programs available for qualifying renters and landlords in Alameda County and throughout California. Support is available NOW, so please check out the resources below.

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**As a result of COVID-19, are you...**  
**Struggling to pay rent?**  
**Owe your landlord past due rent?**  
**Owe past due payments on utility bills?**  
**Are you a landlord who is owed rent?**

## **Keep Fremont Housed** Rental Assistance Program

In April 2021, as part of a federal relief package, the City's Human Services Department will be launching **Keep Fremont Housed** to assist Fremont households and landlords financially impacted by COVID-19

**Keep Fremont Housed** program will:

- Help renters pay past due rent or future rent
- Help renters get caught up on utility bills
- Help landlords supplement owed rent

### **Sign Up Now**

Receive future updates about  
**Keep Fremont Housed** via email.  
Visit [Fremont.gov/RentalAssistanceList](https://Fremont.gov/RentalAssistanceList) or  
Call Family Resource Center at 510.574.2028



  
**Fremont**  
Human Services Department



### **Program Eligibility for Renters**

- Rental unit must be located in Fremont
- Renter has household income at or below 80% of Area Median Income
- Renter qualifies for unemployment or has experienced reduction in household income, incurred significant costs, or experienced financial hardship due to COVID-19
- Renter demonstrates risk of experiencing housing instability or homelessness

*Priority given to households who have experienced unemployment for 90 days preceding their program application or have a household income at or below 50% of Area Median Income*



Funded by Alameda County Measure A1  
and approved by Alameda County taxpayers

Ready to buy your first home?  
Down payment assistance is available!

AC Boost provides financial assistance to middle-income working households to purchase a home in Alameda County. The program offers shared equity loans of up to \$210,000 to first-time homebuyers who live, work, or have been displaced from Alameda County. Application deadlines apply!

Learn more at [acboost.org](https://acboost.org)



#### ¿Listo para comprar tu primera casa?

AC Boost ofrece préstamos de asistencia para el pago inicial de hasta \$ 210,000 para compradores de vivienda por primera vez que viven o trabajan en el Condado de Alameda o que han sido desplazados del Condado de Alameda. Asistencia en español está disponible.

#### Bạn đã sẵn sàng để mua ngôi nhà đầu tiên?

AC Boost cung cấp các khoản vay hỗ trợ thanh toán trước lên tới 210.000\$ cho những người mua nhà lần đầu sống hoặc làm việc tại Hạt Alameda hoặc những người phải chuyển nhà khỏi Hạt Alameda. Có hỗ trợ bằng tiếng Việt.

#### 準備購買你的第一間房屋嗎？

AC Boost 提供 \$210,000 首期貸款幫助，給予首次買屋者。購房者要在亞拉米達縣 (Alameda County) 居住或工作，或在亞拉米達縣流離失所者。有中文提供幫助。

#### Handa na bang bumili ng unang bahay ninyo?

Ang AC Boost ay nag-aalok ng tulong sa paunang pagbayad na mga pautang ng may hanggang \$210,000 para sa mga unang-beses na mamimili ng bahay na nakatira o nagtrabaho sa Alameda County o sinuang napaalis mula sa Alameda County. May pagtulong sa Tagalog na magagamit.



[acboost.org](https://acboost.org)  
(510) 500-8840  
[acboost@hellohousing.org](mailto:acboost@hellohousing.org)



AC Boost is funded by Measure A1 Affordable Housing Bond funds and administered by nonprofit organization Hello Housing on behalf of the County of Alameda.

The County of Alameda and Hello Housing do not discriminate against any person on the grounds of race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, sex, gender, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, marital status, familial status, source of income, genetic information, medical condition, physical disability or mental disability, or any other category protected by law.

Ver. 7/12/2021

# COVID-19

## Coronavirus Updates

## ALAMEDA COUNTY ALIGNS WITH THE STATE'S INDOOR MASK MANDATE

COVID-19 Information

In alignment with the State, the Bay Area counties of Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Monterey, Napa, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Cruz, Solano, Sonoma, and the City of Berkeley will lift universal mask requirements for most indoor public settings beginning Wednesday, February 16.

Unvaccinated individuals over age 2 will continue to be required to wear masks in all indoor public settings. Businesses, venue operators and hosts may determine their own paths forward to protect staff and patrons and may choose to require all patrons to wear masks.

The change aligns with the California Department of Public Health's (CDPH) decision to let expire the statewide indoor mask requirement, which was instated on December 15 during the latest COVID-19 surge. Indoor masking is still required by the State for everyone, regardless of vaccination status, in public transportation; health care settings; congregate settings like correctional facilities and homeless shelters; long term care facilities; and in K12 schools and childcare settings.

For more information please see the joint public health order by clicking [HERE](#).

### **Vaccine Distribution**

All Alameda County residents, ages 5+, are now eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine in Alameda County. Please be advised that the Pfizer vaccine is approved for persons ages 5+; the Johnson & Johnson and Moderna vaccines are only approved for persons ages 18+.

Minors between the ages of 5-11 years old are eligible to receive the Pfizer children's vaccine with parental consent. Information regarding the Pfizer vaccine for young children can be found [HERE](#).

Currently, there is a high demand for COVID-19 testing and Officials are warning individuals to beware of fraudulent COVID-19 testing sites and scammers. A comprehensive list of vaccination sites in Alameda County can be found [HERE](#).

Vaccine boosters are authorized for those 16+, who received the Pfizer vaccine, and authorized for those 18+, who received the Moderna or the Johnson & Johnson vaccines. For Pfizer and Moderna, individuals can receive the booster at least six months after completing their second shot. For Johnson & Johnson, individuals can receive their booster dose at least two months after an individual has received their single shot. It is recommended that eligible individuals receive a booster as soon as they're eligible to maintain a strong immunity against COVID-19.

Booster doses are not currently available at Alameda County-supported vaccination clinics. If you are eligible for a booster, please visit [HERE](#) or contact your health care provider or local pharmacy.

Please speak with your health care provider and learn if you are eligible for a booster by visiting the California FAQ page on boosters [HERE](#).

### **Cares Act Funding**

In response to COVID-19, the U.S. Congress passed the CARES Act, which provides for payments to state, local, and tribal governments navigating the impact of the COVID-19 outbreak. The CARES Act established the \$150 billion Coronavirus Relief Fund.

### **Housing Assistance**

OAKLAND - [HERE](#)

EMERYVILLE - [HERE](#)

LIVERMORE - [HERE](#)

### **Deferred Rent Programs**

ALAMEDA POINT - [HERE](#)

### **Child Care**

For Child Care in Alameda County - [HERE](#)

### **Covid-19 Testing**

Interactive map to find testing sites and schedule appointments - [HERE](#)

### **Food Distribution**

Interactive map to find food, testing, and services in Alameda County - [HERE](#)

### **Immigrants**

Covid-19 Disaster Relief Assistance for immigrants - [HERE](#)

### **Employment**

Alameda County Workforce Development Board - [HERE](#)

### **Business Resources**

Alameda Façade Grant Program:

The City of Alameda re-opened its Façade Grant Program that provides business and property owners with matching grants to improve their storefront and enhance the city's retail districts. Under this program, eligible business and property owners may receive matching grants up to \$15,000 for exterior painting, new awnings and signs, and refurbishment of architectural features. Applications are now open. There are two application deadlines in 2022, the first deadline is February 24, 2022. For more information about the grant program, including guidelines and deadlines, click [HERE](#).

Pleasanton Business Assistance Program - [HERE](#)

### **Business Tax Relief**

On April 29, 2021, Governor Newsom signed a business tax relief bill that enables California businesses that received Forgiven PPP loans to deduct from their California state taxes, all business expenses paid for using the Forgiven PPP loan. To be eligible, a business must have received a Forgiven PPP loan, experienced a reduction in gross receipts of 25% or more in 2020 as compared to the same time period in 2019, and not be a publicly traded company.

### **Agencies**

Alameda County Small Business Development Center - [HERE](#)

Small Business Administration Loans - [HERE](#)

California Small Business Development Center - [HERE](#)

California Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development - [HERE](#)

Alameda County Workforce Development – [HERE](#)

U.S. Small Business Administration - [HERE](#)

### **Business Resources by City**

ALBANY - [HERE](#)

ALAMEDA - [HERE](#)

BERKELEY - [HERE](#)

DUBLIN - [HERE](#)

EMERYVILLE - [HERE](#)

FREMONT - [HERE](#)

HAYWARD - [HERE](#)

LIVERMORE - [HERE](#)

NEWARK - [HERE](#)

OAKLAND - [HERE](#)

PIEDMONT - [HERE](#)

PLEASANTON - [HERE](#)

SAN LEANDRO - [HERE](#)

UNION CITY - [HERE](#)

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## **STAY IN TOUCH**

Keep up-to date on important information that may affect your property taxes by following us on Twitter ([@acassessor](#)) and Facebook ([Alameda County Assessor's Office - Home | Facebook](#)).

If this email was forwarded to you, subscribe to the monthly newsletter [HERE](#).



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