

# PHONG LA

ALAMEDA COUNTY ASSESSOR



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## MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

### Message from Assessor La

Dear County Residents,

Happy New Year and Happy Lunar New Year! This month we celebrate the beginning of 2023, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, and the 2023 Lunar New Year.

Many do not know that the 2023 Chinese zodiac celebrates the Year of the Rabbit and the Vietnamese zodiac celebrates the Year of the Cat. The rabbit symbolizes hope, prosperity, comfort, harmony, and opportunities. The rabbit can produce over 40 bunnies in a year and is a representation of rebirth, longevity, and abundance. The cat symbolizes grace, intelligence, and independence. Cats are a very popular animal in Vietnam and represent good fortune, ease, and the ability to move with silence and stealth.

I wish you and your family health, happiness, and prosperity in this new year. I look forward to continuing to serve the residents of Alameda County and providing as much assistance as I can on tax-saving resources and measures.

**Community Engagements:**

On January 10<sup>th</sup>, I was happy to speak to the Bay East Association of Realtors at the Windemere Bay Area Properties office in Alameda. I provided up to date information from our office regarding new construction/remodels, base year transfer, and Prop 19 among other topics. It was wonderful speaking at their first in-person meeting since the pandemic. Thank you to everyone who attended the meeting and to Peter Fletcher for hosting.

Over the third weekend of January, my staff attended the Oakland Chinatown Chamber of Commerce's 2023 Lunar New Year Bazaar in downtown Oakland Chinatown. The festival celebrated the Year of the Rabbit with street vendors, performances, and a grand opening ceremony on the second day. Thank you to everyone who stopped by our table to see our giveaway prizes or who said hello to my staff and asked about our Assessor resources. I look forward to celebrating the Lunar New Year with the community throughout the remainder of the month.

Take a look below at the Assessor in the Community section to see what my staff and I participated in.

Please let the Assessor's Office know if your organization is hosting an in-person or virtual event that you would like the Assessor's Office to attend. 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 our upcoming programs and tell others to [sign up for our newsletter](#) to stay up to date on our events, important dates, and deadlines.

**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 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 to make it available for Alameda County residents, who do not have access to an attorney. The upcoming PTC is on Friday, February 17<sup>th</sup>. Sign up [HERE!](#)

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

Sincerely,  
Phong La  
Alameda County Assessor



## Assessor in the Community



Photo of Assessor Phong La and Real Estate Broker Peter Fletcher at the Bay Area Realtors Association's first in-person meeting since Covid-19 at the Windemere Bay Area Properties office in Alameda. Thank you to Peter Fletcher for the introduction.



Photo of Assessor staff, Samantha Hing, tabling at the Oakland Chinatown Chamber of Commerce's Lunar New Year Bazaar on Saturday, January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023.

## Dates & Deadlines

**January 1** - New Year's Day

**January 2** - New Year's Day Observed (County offices are closed)

**January 16** - Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday (County offices are closed)

**January 22** - 2023 Lunar New Year

**February 15** - 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.

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.

Deadline for racehorse owners to pay Annual Racehorse Tax without penalties.

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.

**\*NOTE:** To receive the full welfare exemption, the claim must be filed by February 15th, 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.

## Resource

### California Winter Storms 2022-2023

The California Winter Storms of 2022-2023 have been declared a State of Emergency. Property owners impacted by the Winter Storms in 2022 and 2023 may be eligible for calamity property tax relief. This relief may include a temporary reduction in assessed values as well as an exclusion from reassessment when the property is repaired or rebuilt. To be eligible, your property must have suffered at least \$10,000 in physical

damage to taxable property. Damage to personal belongings such as household furnishings, are not eligible as they are not assessed for property tax purposes.

To qualify for property tax relief, you must file a calamity claim with the Assessor's Office within twelve (12) months from the date the property was damaged or destroyed. In addition, the loss must exceed \$10,000.

**Filing deadlines:**

**Calamity:** Submit a calamity application to the Assessor's Office within 12 months of the date of damage. Applications received after that date are not eligible for calamity relief (reduction in assessed value and exclusion from reassessment upon repair/rebuilding).

For more information please visit: [HERE](#).

## Profile San Leandro Chamber of Commerce



The San Leandro Chamber of Commerce is located right in downtown San Leandro. With 400 members currently, the Chamber continues to grow each day. They are a main source of advocacy, education, and connections for their community members and remain committed to providing a space where business leaders can foster ideas, discuss local issues, and champion initiatives that better their futures.

This year, the San Leandro Chamber of Commerce celebrates their 100<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary. Since 1923, the San Leandro Chamber has provided services, grown leaders, and built a stronger community. On January 26<sup>th</sup>, the Chamber will be celebrating their anniversary with a 100<sup>th</sup> year Ribbon Cutting event at their Chamber office. To see more information on this special event or to RSVP and attend the ceremony, click [HERE](#).

This membership-based organization has a wide range of resource materials and event opportunities that allow their members to build a supportive and strong network. Without a question, they are an organization that puts their community first and wants their members to thrive. For over 25 years, the Chamber has remained committed to developing leaders in San Leandro, remaining one of the city's most valuable resources, and making lasting changes to the city's development and growth.

When a business joins as a member, they are supported by the Chamber staff, other local business, and have many beneficial resources and opportunities available to them. The benefits offered to members include member discounts, marketing, networking events, workspace rentals, and [more](#).

Apply to join the San Leandro Chamber [HERE](#).

For more information on the San Leandro Chamber of Commerce, click [HERE](#).

**WEBSITE:**

<https://www.sanleandrochamber.com/>

**CHAMBER ADDRESS:**

120 Estudillo Ave.  
San Leandro, CA 94612

## **Façade and Tenant Improvement Program (FTIP) Grants**

If you are a business owner or a commercial property owner in the City of Oakland, the Façade and Tenant Improvement Programs (FTIP) can help you enhance the appearance of your commercial building to reduce blight and encourage economic development. Grants are used for approved exterior and interior renovations to commercial and mixed-use properties.

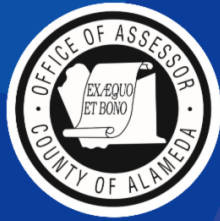
### **Grant funding**

- Façade (exterior improvement) grants: Applicants can be reimbursed for a percentage of the cost of eligible exterior improvements to building facades, up to a maximum of \$30,000.
- Façade *grant caps follow a sliding scale, determined by the property's linear length.*
- Tenant Improvement (interior improvements or TI) grants: Applicants can be reimbursed for a percentage of the cost of eligible interior improvements (TIs) in commercial properties/units, up to a maximum of \$45,000.

The first Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) will be issued with an application period of December 1, 2022 through January 31, 2023. Applications received during the NOFA will be prioritized based on equity scoring criteria. If you would like to be notified when the application period opens, please [complete this form](#).

For additional inquiries, please contact [FTIP@oaklandca.gov](mailto:FTIP@oaklandca.gov) or (510) 238-3853.





# 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:

February 17th, 2023  
March 17th, 2023  
April 21st, 2023

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 17<sup>th</sup>. Please visit the link [HERE](#) to make an appointment with a volunteer attorney for a free 30-minute consultation.**



# MPX VACCINATIONS

## Where?

**Every Thursday**

Skywest Golf Course Facility

*Free of Charge*

1401 Golf Course Rd. Hayward, CA 94541

9:00am-3:00pm

## WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

- Gay, bisexual, and other men or trans-persons who have sex with men
- Sex workers of any sexual orientation or gender identity
- Persons who have had close contact with someone with suspected/confirmed MPX within the past 14 days
- Persons who had close contact with others at an event or social gathering where a suspected/confirmed MPX case was identified within the past 14 days
- Laboratory workers who routinely perform MPX virus testing
- Clinicians who have had a high-risk occupational exposure (e.g., examined MPX lesions or collected MPX specimens without using recommended personal protective equipment)

## BOOK AN APPT.

**Vaccinations are available  
by appointment only**

Scan to book:



[tinyurl.com/MPX-Skywest](https://tinyurl.com/MPX-Skywest)

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**For More Information Please Contact us at (510) 954-0560**





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](http://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 sinumang napaalis mula sa Alameda County. May pagtulong sa Tagalog na magagamit.



[acboost.org](http://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 Updates

## Covid-19 Testing

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

## Vaccine Distribution

All Alameda County residents, ages 5 and older, are now eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine in Alameda County.

- Pfizer is approved for all individuals, ages 5 and older.

- Johnson & Johnson and Moderna are approved for all individuals, ages 18 and older.

For more information on the Pfizer children's vaccine, click [HERE](#).

A comprehensive list of vaccination sites in Alameda County can be found [HERE](#).

### **Booster / Additional Dose Information**

Pfizer, Moderna, and Johnson & Johnson are available as boosters and as additional doses for eligible individuals.

For those individuals who first received a Johnson & Johnson vaccination, a booster shot is recommended by the CDC after 2 months. Here are the current CDC recommendations:

For the first booster, an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine (Pfizer or Moderna) is preferred in most situations. The second booster must be an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine.

Booster shots are recommended to help restore protection and provide further protection from newer variants of the virus.

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](#).

### **Disclaimer:**

**The contents of this article are intended for informational purposes only and not for the purpose of providing medical advice.**

**Alameda County Supervisors' American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Supervisorial District Community Needs Cash Aid Grants - [HERE](#)**

### **Housing Assistance**

OAKLAND - [HERE](#)

EMERYVILLE - [HERE](#)

LIVERMORE - [HERE](#)

### **Child Care**

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

### **Food Distribution**

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

### **Employment**

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

### **Agencies**

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

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

Alameda County Workforce Development - [HERE](#)

### **Business Resources by City**

ALAMEDA - [HERE](#)

ALBANY - [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](#)

