

Pacific Renaissance: 30 Years of Unfinished Business

Oakland Chinatown's struggle for housing and survival

TIMELINE



1956 - 1982

Oakland Chinatown loses 30% of its affordable housing stock due to public and private development.

(Oshi, Joyce. "Oakland Chinatown: Losing Its Housing and More" January 28, 1983 study commissioned by East Bay Asian Local Development Corporation)

June 1990

City of Oakland and Pacific Renaissance developers commit to providing 50 units of affordable housing.

1990

Pacific Renaissance developers receive over \$30 million in public subsidies including a \$7 million loan for the affordable housing units.

April 2003

Pacific Renaissance developers issue eviction notices to all tenant families at PRP.

1970's - 1991

Chinatown community organizes for Pacific Renaissance Plaza (PRP) benefits: affordable housing, cultural center, and library.

March 2000

City of Oakland forgives the entire \$7 million loan.

July 2003

Lawsuits filed by tenant families/community groups and City of Oakland against PRP developers.

May 2006

Tentative settlement reached by parties that would preserve PRP units as permanent affordable housing.

April 2007

Tenant families and Oakland Chinatown still waiting for justice.



Oakland Chinatown's Current Affordable Housing Crisis

Between 1990 and 2000, Chinatown's senior population grew by 49% and its overall population grew by 20%. The number of seniors overburdened by rent had shot up to 36% by 2000. There is limited land left to develop affordable housing in Chinatown, and housing prices in the area have skyrocketed!