



## Participatory Budgeting Vallejo

**A project of the City of Vallejo**



In 2012, the Vallejo City Council established the *first city-wide* Participatory Budgeting (PB) process in the United States. Through PB, the community is invited to help decide how to spend a minimum of 30% of the revenue generated by the Measure B sales tax - approximately \$3.2 million, collected over a 15 month period from April 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013. Vallejo residents and stakeholders will develop project proposals, residents will vote on projects, and the list of the projects that receive the most votes will be submitted to City Council for approval.

### **Project Eligibility**

Projects are eligible for funding if they:

- Benefit the public. Projects that only benefit private individuals or groups are not eligible.
- Are a one-time expenditure that can be completed with funds from this year's PB process. Both capital infrastructure projects and program or service projects are eligible. A multi-year program will be eligible only if it offsets other expenditures in the City budget so that the cost is \$0, pays for itself, or increases City revenues.
- Are implemented by the City of Vallejo, or in collaboration with the Vallejo City Unified School District, the Greater Vallejo Recreation District, or any other public agency, non-profit organization, or religious institution that operates in Vallejo. Projects implemented by non-city public agencies, however, must also include financial or value-in-kind contributions from the agency, in addition to PB funding. Projects implemented by non-profit organizations or religious institutions must also meet the eligibility guidelines used by the Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program.

### **Goals: What is this for?**

Participatory Budgeting Vallejo has three primary goals:

**1. Improve the City** - The process aims to enhance the quality of life in Vallejo by developing projects that solve real problems and create strong and healthy communities. It is hoped that this process will build a new spirit of civic pride and raise Vallejo's stature on the regional, state, and national levels. *Continued to Page 2...*



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## Participatory Budgeting - Vallejo

(continued from Page 1)

**2. Engage the community** - Another aim is to ensure that all members of our community have a voice. The project team is making every effort to engage those who are traditionally underrepresented in political process, who face obstacles to participating, or who feel disillusioned with the political process. Through widespread and meaningful community engagement, the project team hopes to increase public involvement in civic life in Vallejo. To the extent applicable, public meetings will comply with the open meeting requirements of the Ralph M. Brown Act.

**3. Transform the democracy** - The third aim is to empower Vallejo residents and stakeholders with the skills and knowledge they need to shape Vallejo's future. By enabling people to make real decisions, a new leadership will be developed from the bottom up, and the process is expected to forge deeper ties between residents, neighborhoods, and communities.

Participatory budgeting is a new form of democracy. It is designed to empower the taxpayers by providing them the opportunity to participate in shaping the economic and cultural future of their community. In Vallejo, PB has swept up



the city into excitement and hope for the future betterment. From the City's youth to its senior citizens, committees, groups, and neighborhood assemblies are being formed to shape the slate of projects that will be voted upon. Still, the project team needs more volunteers. Project voting will take place from May 11-18; the list of projects that receive the most votes will be submitted for City Council approval. Project Expos will be held around the City from April 17-22. Residents are urged to visit Expos and learn the project details prior to voting.



GCCA urges all Glen Cove residents to participate in this historic opportunity for shaping the future of Vallejo and help achieve the aforementioned goals.


For additional information, please visit: [www.pbvallejo.org/](http://www.pbvallejo.org/)

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## A Message from the Board President, Miguel Castillo

The **Neighborhood Law Program (NLP)** is a two year pilot project, funded by Measure B money (1% sales tax increase) that will put attorneys on the streets of Vallejo to tackle the blight and nuisance conditions affecting the quality of life of the people of Vallejo. In addition to meeting with residents and community organizations, NLP lawyers will work with the Vallejo Police Department and the Code Enforcement Division to strategize solutions to abate the city's most serious nuisances. While Glen Cove has a relatively small number of residences that constitute a public nuisance, there are exceptions even here and the GCCA Board will work with the Law Program to address instances of public nuisance and code violations in Glen Cove on a case-by-case basis.

Residents can go online to the City of Vallejo home page and click on the Neighborhood Law Program link to a PDF version of the "Citizen Reporter Intake Form." The form should only be used to report serious instances of public nuisance(s) as they relate to code enforcement. Reports will be prioritized based on a variety of factors, and only the most serious cases will be accepted for processing.

**Glen Cove Newsletter** – We recently mailed out over three thousand postcards to invite Glen Cove residents to sign up for an electronic (email) copy of Glen Cove newsletter. While more than six hundred Glen Cove residents have already done so, we would like to see the number of subscribers and reader-membership increase to eventually include all three thousand households. If you sign up for the newsletter, we will be able to share important information with you on an ongoing basis. Your email address will never be shared and will be used exclusively for communications from the Glen Cove Board. We also want to encourage you to join the Glen Cove Community Association.

Past newsletters have included important information about Neighborhood Watch Groups, Security Issues, G.V.R.D. Annexation, the Glen Cove Tax Surplus Fund status, Measure-B and Participatory Budgeting Assemblies, Street Repairs, and the Glen Cove Waterfront Park.



**Glen Cove Streets Slurry Seal Projects** – The City of Vallejo has completed the first phase of street repairs (slurry seal). The Glen Cove repairs will be paid from the Glen Cove Tax Surplus Fund because the City lacks the funds to repair streets from general revenues. A final street repair is scheduled for Whitesides (the street that leads down to the Glen Cove Nature Area) by no later than July, 2013. Future projects (additional street repairs) will be negotiated later this year.

**Security Cameras** – In view of recent daytime break-ins and other instances of crime in Glen Cove, the Board has made installing security cameras at key locations within Glen Cove a top priority. The board is already researching the best available security setups based on cost and effectiveness. We'll keep you posted.

We still need neighborhood representatives for these developments: Waterview, Marina Estates, Glen Cove Landing, and The Estates. If you would like to represent your neighborhood on the board, please contact me at (707) 643-3916.

*Miguel Castillo, Board President,  
Glen Cove Community Association*

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## Grab Bag - Questions & Answers (and sometimes just answers!)

### Are more street repairs scheduled for Glen Cove?

With the exception of Whitesides, all of the scheduled street repairs were completed last year. Further street repairs (slurry seal) will be negotiated later this year with the actual repairs occurring sometime next year. Please note that all of the recent repairs were paid for from the Glen Cove Tax Surplus Fund. At this time we have another priority, which is to have security cameras installed at key locations within Glen Cove. This project will also be covered by the tax surplus fund. We are in the process of researching the best security camera options both in terms of cost and effectiveness. We'll keep you posted.



### When may we expect a more proactive approach from the City's Code Enforcement Division?

A more proactive approach is expected soon. Our Board president recently attended a Code Enforcement Town Hall meeting at the main library that was hosted by the Code Enforcement Director. The good news is that a code enforcement staff member has been assigned to cover Glen Cove along with only a few other locations within Vallejo, which should result in better coverage for Glen Cove. The code enforcement division will be working closely with the City Attorney's Office new Neighborhood Law Program; see Message from the Board President (on Page 2) for more details.

PG&E hosted a Glen Cove townhall meeting on Thursday, March 28. All Glen Cove residents were invited. The purpose of the meeting was to further inform Glen Cove residents about repair and/or replacement work that is scheduled for Glen Cove. PG&E representatives provided an overview along with exhibits that covered pipeline replacement, repair, hydrostatic pressure testing, and variety other valuable information. You can visit the PG&E webpage at [www.pge.com/gas](http://www.pge.com/gas) for more information.

Grab Bag questions can be addressed to Mr. Miguel Castillo, GCCA Board President, at (707) 643-3916.



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### **Citizens on Patrol - *Giving Back to the Community***

Glen Cove (Seascape) Homeowners Diana Dowling and Rick Pasterchik recently graduated from the 14<sup>th</sup> class of Vallejo Citizens on Patrol sponsored by the Vallejo Police Department.

*What is Citizens on Patrol?* – It is a training program provided by the Vallejo Police Department to qualified residents who want to support the police by volunteering for non-officer tasks, and who are willing to attend a 10 to 13 week training course at the Vallejo Police Department.



The training course is comprehensive and covers the major details of Police Operations, their challenges, and remedies. Topics range from a tour of the Police Department to how arrests are handled, the various codes, and all Police Activity related topics. Of particular interest are the K-9 (Dog) demonstration and the actual shooting of various weapons at their firing range in Benicia.

Upon graduation, the volunteers receive a badge that authorizes entrance to the Police Department and allows participation in many volunteer events. The volunteer also receives an official “uniform” that includes a black and a white shirt with the Vallejo Police Department’s logo.

The primary purpose of this training is to enable citizens to be informed and trained to assist the police with various tasks that keep them from doing their primary job – patrolling the streets of Vallejo. Rick and Diana also enjoyed interaction with many of the Police officers, including the Police Chief, Mr. Joseph Kreins.

Any qualified Vallejo resident can register for the class. Qualifications include a background check, an agreement to attend the classes, and willingness to take on a volunteer assignment. For more information please contact Marci Seegmiller (Manager of the Citizens on Patrol) at 707-235-9893 or Sgt. Jeff Bassett at [jbassett@ci.vallejo.us](mailto:jbassett@ci.vallejo.us)

*Contributed by: Diana M. Dowling,  
Seascape Homeowner and GCCA Board Member*

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## Gardening Tips: *Your Sprinkler System*

As we leave the “rainy” season, our yards will depend more heavily upon sprinklers for irrigation. A sprinkler system check-up should be performed periodically to ensure proper coverage and minimize wasting water.

The review consists of running each station/loop of sprinklers from the controller box normally located in your garage. Walk the yard checking each sprinkler head to be sure there are none that are broken, slanted (they should be vertical in order to get uniform water coverage), clogged (dirt or bugs in the nozzle), or spraying water on paved surfaces such as driveways or sidewalks. Make the required repairs or adjustments as necessary.



Run the sprinklers long enough to determine if there is run-off during a normal cycle. If there is, determine the length of time it takes for water to start running off and shorten the length of the cycle. If more water is required, consider watering for two shorter cycles instead of one longer one on a given day. Also, observe the anti-siphon control valves that are located in various places outside your house and check them for leakage.

Finally, in the interest of water conservation, use the smallest quantity of water that will keep your vegetation healthy.

Contributed by: *Ward Stewart*  
*Glen Cove Homeowner and GCCA Board Member*

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Check out **reported** crimes in your area at  
[www.CrimeReports.com](http://www.CrimeReports.com).

The Glen Cove area  
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**VALLEJO PIECEMAKER QUILT GUILD — *Fundraiser Quilt Winner***

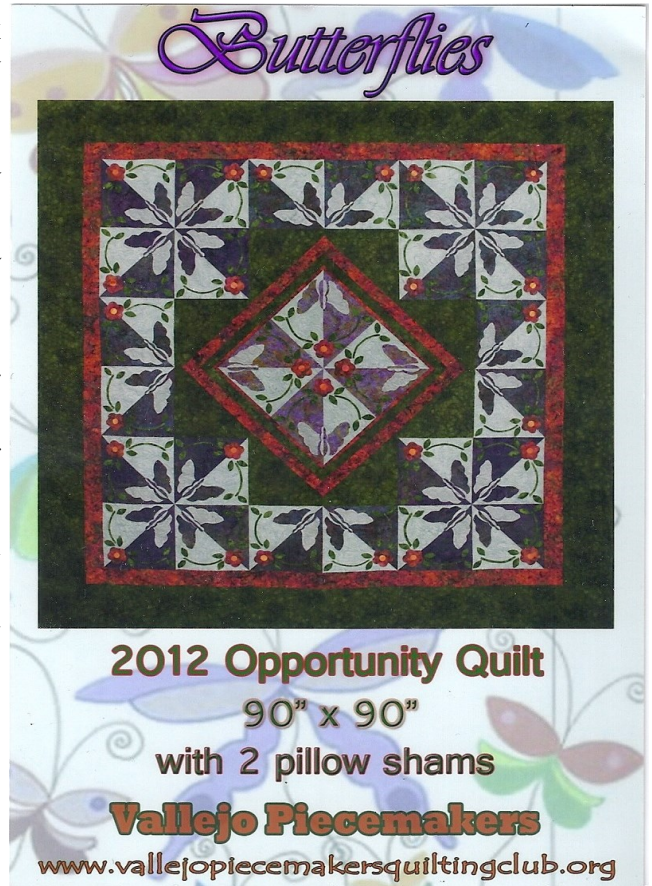
The Vallejo Piecemakers Quilt Guild would like to thank the Glen Cove community for support with the Opportunity Quilt Annual Fundraiser. This lovely quilt was on display, and tickets were sold, at the October, 2012 Glen Cove Community Meeting held at the Glen Cove Elementary School. The lucky winner of the lavender, green, purple, and turquoise, hand-appliquéd quilt was Dale Kilbourne, a Glen Cove resident. Congratulations, Dale!

All proceeds from the fundraisers are used to purchase supplies for making additional quilts to support local senior centers, hospitals' pediatrics departments, veterans' homes, Christian Help centers, foster homes, and various other charities.

The Guild meets on the first and the third Saturday of each month at 10:00 a.m. at the Florence Douglas Senior Center. Quilt classes are held at the third meeting. Beginning and advanced quilters are most welcome.

For more information, contact Virginia at (707) 644-8544. Your generous support is greatly appreciated.

*Contributed by: Virginia Romero  
Resident of Marina Vista & GCCA Board Member*



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## GLEN COVE COMMUNITY MEETING

The Glen Cove Community Association (GCCA) Board hosted its first community meeting for 2013 on Thursday, March 21, at the Glen Cove Elementary School auditorium. The meeting was well attended and featured three invited speakers.



**Ryan Griffith, Attorney from the Neighborhood Law Program (NLP)** told us more about the two year pilot program in which lawyers from the City Attorney's Office will be working closely with Vallejo Code Enforcement Division to address serious nuisance problems within the City. Mr. Griffith explained how the citizen complaint system works, and he answered a wide range of questions from the audience.

**Ginny Brooks, from the Participatory Budgeting (PB) Project** provided details about PB process which was made possible by the 1% sales tax increase (Measure B). PB allows taxpayers to determine how some of the tax revenue will be spent. There is more information about upcoming "expos" in which citizens will have an opportunity to review projects that have been developed through a series of assemblies. See article (Page 1) in this newsletter for more information about the PB-Vallejo.

**Don Burton, from the Landscape Management Department (LMD)** updated the community about his department's efforts to enhance Glen Cove's landscape infrastructure. Mr. Burton also responded to questions from the audience.

There was also an open forum during which residents addressed questions to the GCCA Board as well as a general community discussion about matters related to security, code enforcement, street maintenance, and landscaping.

Our next community meeting will be scheduled for sometime this summer.

*Contributed by: Miguel Castillo,  
GCCA Board President*



Glen Cove  
2013 Garage Sale  
will be held on  
May 11

See Page 10  
for details and  
sign up form.

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## Glen Cove Resident Spotlight: *Dr. Willis Kirk*

On January 5, 2013, Glen Cove resident and GCCA Board member, Dr. Willis Kirk, was awarded the Meade Legacy Jazz Griot Award for his distinguished work as a musician, educator, and humanitarian. The “Griot” emerged from West African traditions as a storyteller, historian, chronicler and keeper of the timeline. The Griot, in short, remembers through word and song all of the important events and experiences of a particular community. He holds sacred the collective memory, preserving for future generations.

A native of Indianapolis, Indiana, Willis Kirk earned his Bachelors and Masters degrees from Butler University, and a PhD in Educational Administration from Walden University.



In May, 2009, in recognition of his vast contributions to higher education, Willis received an Honorary Doctor of Arts degree from Butler University.

During his long and remarkable career as a jazz drummer, Dr. Kirk played with many legendary jazz artists throughout the 1940s, ‘50s, and ‘60s, including Earl Hines, Charlie Parker, Duke Ellington, Lionel Hampton, John Handy, John Hendricks, Jimmy Coe, Leroy Vinegar, Earl Grandy, and many others.

Born in 1928, Dr. Kirk started playing drums in the 4<sup>th</sup> grade. He began playing for paid gigs while in high school. In 1950, he was drafted into the army. After the service, he continued to play music and eventually attended Butler University on the GI Bill. During this time, he also formed his own musical trio.

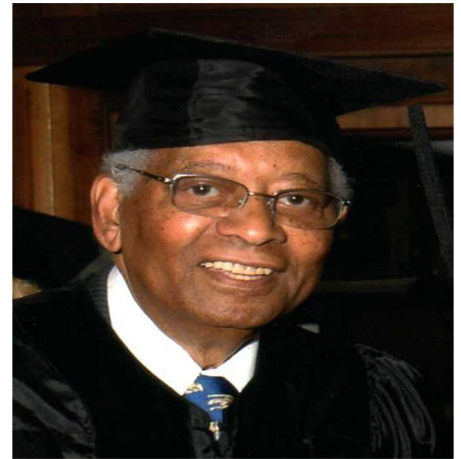
In 1955, he married Roslyn King and began to raise a family. The Kirks moved to San Francisco Bay Area in 1968, and Willis worked as a music teacher in Oakland public schools. Eventually, he moved to the City College of San Francisco as a counselor, and he also served as President of the college from 1988 to 1991.

In addition to his talent for playing drums, Dr. Kirk wrote a jazz drumming instructional book titled *Brush Fire* and composed a jazz oratory, “Rejoice! Rejoice!” His piece was performed at the Indianapolis Jazz Festival in 2004.

According to Donald Meade, a prominent jazz historian and the recipient of the first Griot Award, “Dr. Willis Kirk and his generation were at the advent of modern jazz; a transitional time when swing had its run as a driving force. He was a major drummer, a great educator and administrator; one of the guardians of his time.”

The Kirks have been residents of Glen Cove for over eleven years. Willis has served as a GCCA Board member for seven years. The Board offers heartfelt congratulations to Dr. Kirk for the well-deserved recognition of his life-long legacy and contribution to music and education.

*Contributed by: Yasser Moten,  
Resident of Glen Cove Landing*





# Glen Cove Community Assn GARAGE SALE

**Sat. May 11  
8am-3pm**



**Free maps of participants  
handed out 8am-12n at  
Glen Cove Center.**

## MEMBERSHIP FORM

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Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Special items for sale: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

( for email of completed map copy)

\_\_\_\_ New/Renewal membership \$20.00 (no garage sale entry)

\_\_\_\_ Current GCCA membership (enter my garage sale for **FREE**)

\_\_\_\_ \$20.00 Garage Sale fee & **FREE** One year membership

Please donate \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (optional) to the Glen Cove Elementary School Gift Fund

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**GCCA**

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**Attn: Membership/GARAGE SALE**

Questions if your membership is current? Email [GlenCoveVallejo@gmail.com](mailto:GlenCoveVallejo@gmail.com)

4/13

# GLEN COVE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

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Castro, Fredrick  
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Clearfield, Susan  
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Garcia, Yolanda  
Gregory, Kristen  
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Lediju, Lola & Tonia  
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Porter, Leonard & Ann  
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Santel, Gennyfer & David  
Schroeder, Bobi  
Sessler, Debora  
Shaikh, Abdul & Rukaiya  
Sizelove, Barbara & Richard  
Tandjung, Bambang  
Wu, Joseph & Iris

## GLEN COVE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - DONATIONS

Albright, Dennis & Tanya  
Castillo, Miguel  
Shaikh, Abdul & Rukaiya  
Tandjung, Bambang

## NEW MEMBERS

Abrera, Guy  
Chen, Lawrence  
Clearfield, Susan  
Finzel, Michael  
Roos, Paul

Our thanks to all members  
for their great support

**Glen Cove Community Assn.**  
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### ***Publishing Information***

The Glen Cove  
"Neighbor to Neighbor"  
Newsletter is a publication of the  
Glen Cove Community Association



***DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT DIGITAL ISSUE:***  
**June 15, 2013**

***News/Articles Submission & information:***  
GlenCoveVallejo.com/Newsletter  
Or call Naimat Khan at 925-899-7164

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