

*How a Community Turned a Bishop's  
Mitre into Two Bridges and a Park,  
(with reliefs by Stirling Calder)*





NEW AUDITORIUM, OAKLAND CAL COST \$1,000,000

RENET PHOTO SERVICE  
SAN FRANCISCO

Auditorium of the City of Oakland, Calif.



OAKLAND AUDITORIUM, BUILT 1912



CONSOLATION OF THE ARTS



THE DUTIES OF LIFE



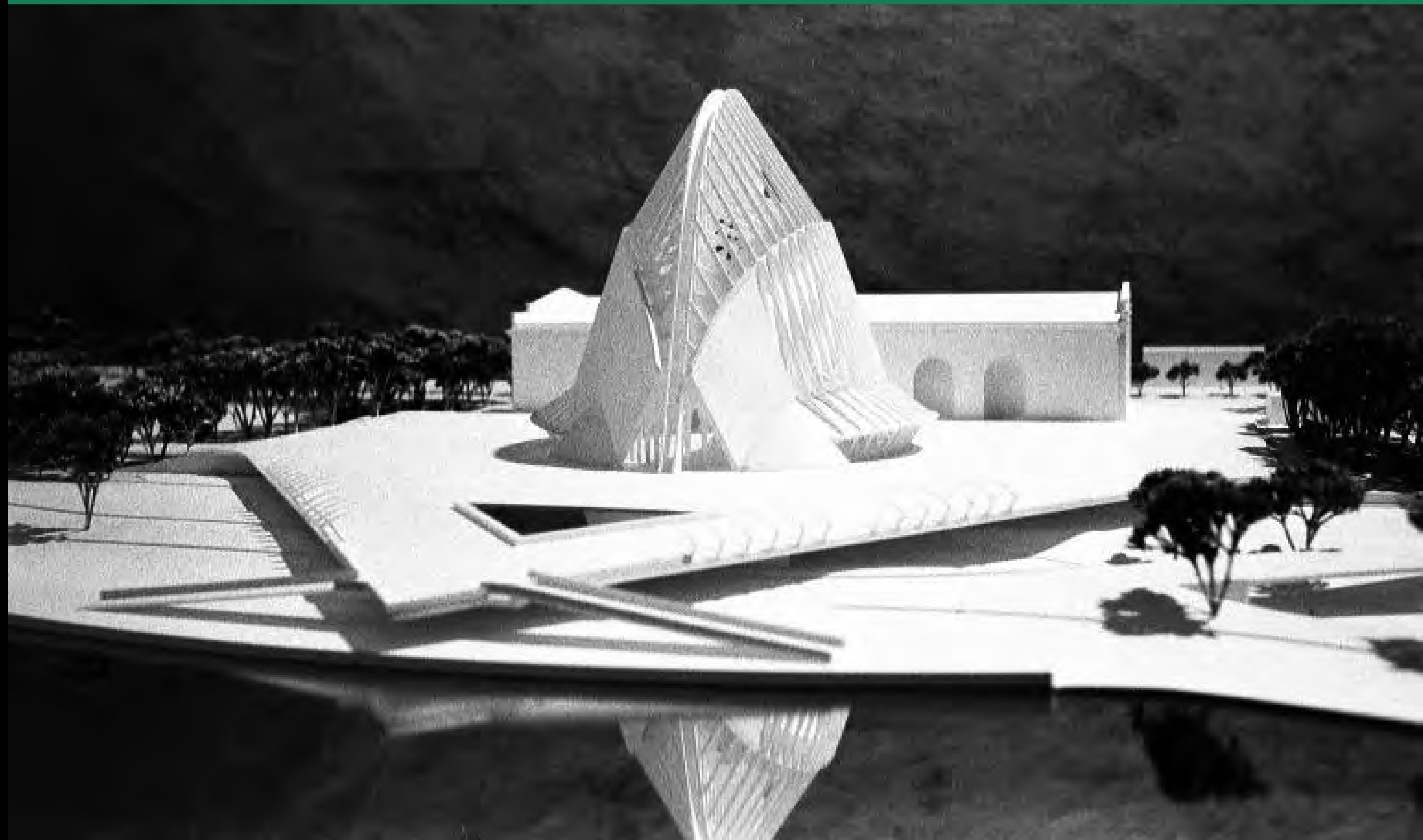
12TH STREET, 1930s, STREETCARS & AUTOMOBILES



BUILDING A SHORT FREEWAY, 1949-50







PROPOSAL BY THE DIOCESE:  
SANTIAGO CALATRAVA 2001



Lake Merritt is the city's centerpiece, and a major civic asset! This photo is from the city's website

# SAVE OUR LAKE MERRITT PARKLANDS!

**TUESDAY, JUNE 5, AT 7 P.M.\* IN CITY HALL**

Oakland City Council will consider a resolution to issue a Request for Proposals to develop the Henry J. Kaiser Convention Center parking lot. This is the same site suggested for a huge cathedral. So far there has been absolutely no public discussion of what the people of Oakland would like to do to improve our hundred-year-old parkland. We need that discussion *before* the city starts planning more big buildings there. Let's not put any more tall structures at the lake! This is the third recent attempt (Splash Pad, Fire Alarm Building, and this) to sell off our irreplaceable lakeside parkland. We should improve parks, not abandon them.

**• WE NEED PEOPLE TO ATTEND ON TUESDAY JUNE 5—PLEASE COME!**

**• AND PLEASE tell the Mayor and council NOW** that you oppose giving up our parkland at the Lake. Use E-mail or phone to give your opinion right away, whether you can attend the meeting or not.

**Jerry Brown, Mayor**  
Officeofthmayor@oaklandnet.com; 238-3141

**Robert Bobb, City Manager**  
Citymanager@oaklandnet.com; 238-3302

CITY COUNCILMEMBERS:

**Jane Brunner** JBrunner@oaklandnet.com; 238-7001

**Danny Wan** DWan@oaklandnet.com; 238-7002

**Nancy Nadel** Nnadel@oaklandnet.com; 238-7003

**Dick Spees** district4@oaklandnet.com; 238-7004

**Ignacio De La Fuente** Idelafuente@oaklandnet.com; 238-7005

**Moses Mayne**; 238-7006

**Larry Reid** LReid@oaklandnet.com; 238-7007

**Henry Chang** cityochang@aol.com; 238-7008

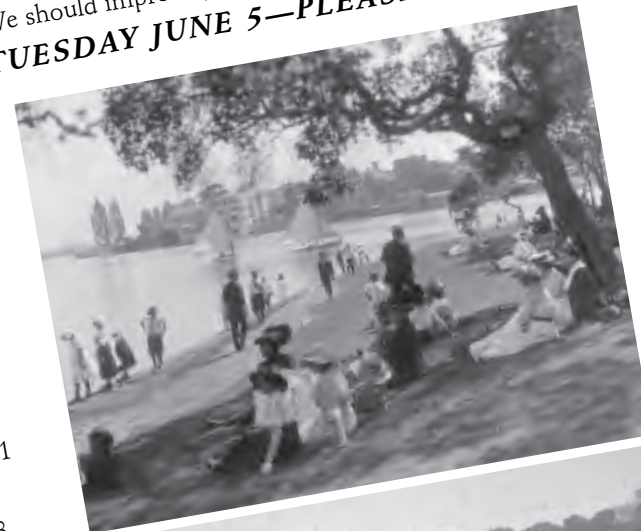
AND ALSO:

**Diocese of Oakland**  
2900 Lakeshore, Oakland, CA 94610; 893-4711

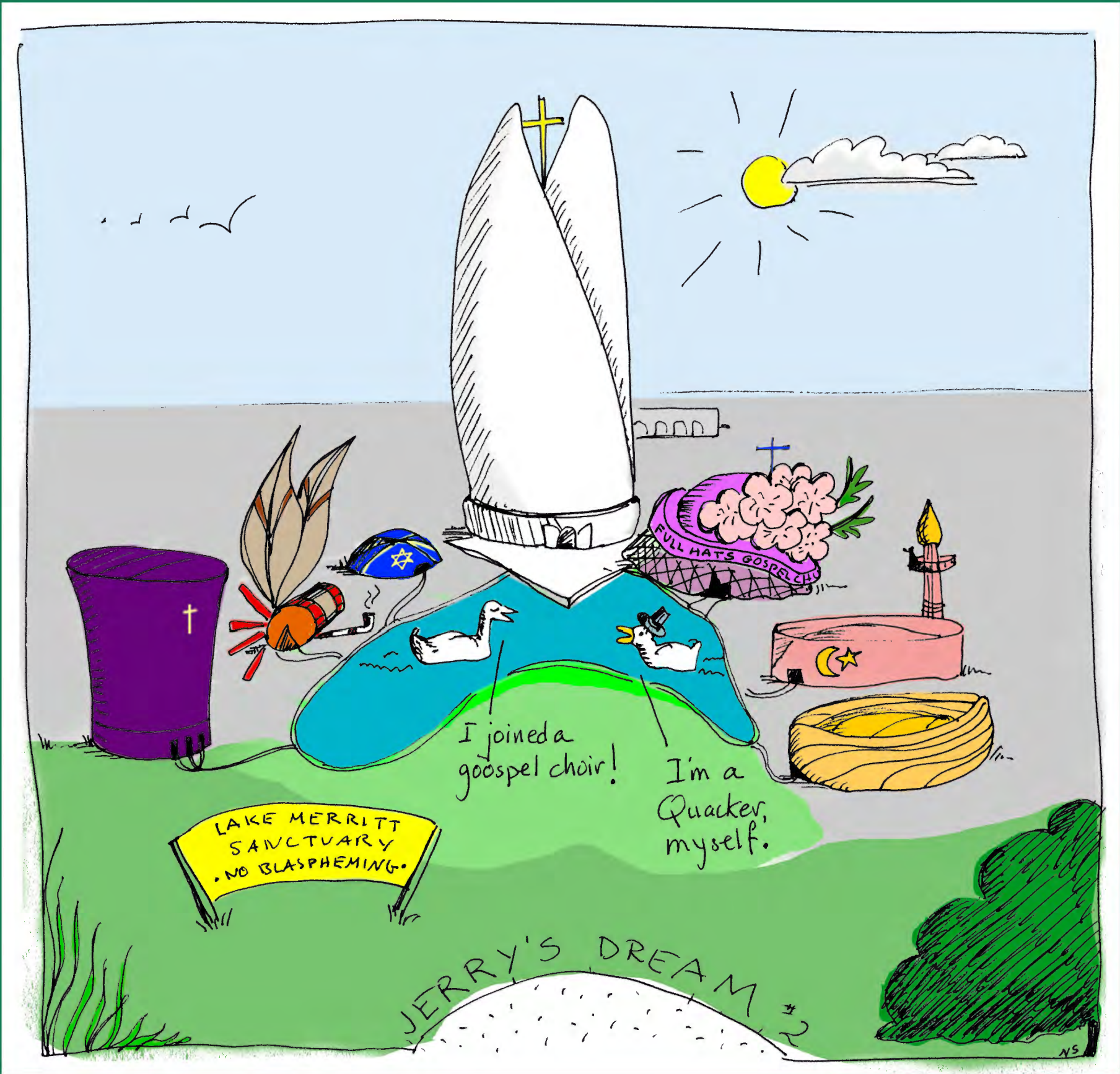
\*check [www.oaklandnet.com](http://www.oaklandnet.com) for city council agenda and any time changes. You can find more contact information there, too.

**COALITION OF ADVOCATES FOR LAKE MERRITT**

John E. Klein • 510-835-3041



Top: Lake Merritt has been used heavily by Oakland citizens and by visitors since the early twentieth century. Above: before the dam was built, there was a wooden bridge at 12th St., and the area around it was tidal marsh.



I joined a  
goospel choir!

I'm a  
Quaker,  
myself.

LAKE MERRITT  
SANCTUARY  
- NO BLASPHEMING -

JERRY'S DREAM

NS



PROPOSAL: BY THE COALITION  
OF ADVOCATES FOR LAKE MERRITT 2001

# Another HUGE BUILDING on LAKE MERRITT!

*What do YOU want?*



**PROPOSED:** 16-story cathedral on concrete slab elevated over 12th and 14th Streets and the Henry J. Kaiser Convention Center parking lot.

- This is public parkland and open space
- City's Lake Merritt Park Master Plan has just gotten started.
- Lake Merritt is a National Historic Landmark and a designated National Wildlife Refuge
- City engaged in private talks with Catholic Diocese of Oakland
- City invited NO PUBLIC DISCUSSION
- City officials tried three times in two years to sell Lake Merritt parklands to private developers (Splash Pad, Fire Alarm Building, now this!).
- City is trying to rush this plan through.



*At left, photo of Santiago Calatrava model for proposed cathedral between Henry J. Kaiser Convention Center and Lake Merritt. Above, old postcard shows parklands around the Oakland Auditorium.*

- **Get informed!**
- **Help brainstorm a park for all to use: with walkways, bike paths and open space connecting Lake Merritt to the Oakland Museum area and to the Bay.**
- **Bring your ideas and suggestions for these public lands.**
- **Call 835-3041 with questions, or to volunteer.**

*You can make a difference!  
Save our democratic process and our parks!*

**Come to a COMMUNITY MEETING**  
**THURSDAY, AUGUST 2, 6-8 P.M. • Oakland Main Library**  
**125 14th Street, Oakland, CA 94612**

**Lake Merritt Boulevard**

- 12th - 13th - 14th Streets reconfigured into a new urban boulevard with three lanes in each direction separated by a ten foot wide planted median.
- Lights, banners and art at either side and in the median.
- Class II bike paths on both sides of the boulevard and connect to the bike path that surrounds Lake Merritt and other downtown streets
- Parallel parking along the boulevard to buffer pedestrians
- 8 foot wide sidewalks on both sides

**Sculpture Garden \***

- The existing sculpture garden from Channel Park to the new Green at the south end of the lake is expanded in collaboration with the Oakland museum and MOCA.
- Include permanent and changing venues for sculptures by local artists and youth.

**Fire Alarm Building**

- Convert to use by the Museum, Library or as a cafe
- Outdoor terrace added

**Street Re-Configuration West**

- 14th Street becomes park land. Through traffic from East Oakland would take 13th and turn right on Oak Street
- The intersection at 12th and Fallon is signalized
- Fallon between 10th and 12th is reopened providing direct access to the Museum and Convention Center parking lot

**Courthouse Improvements**

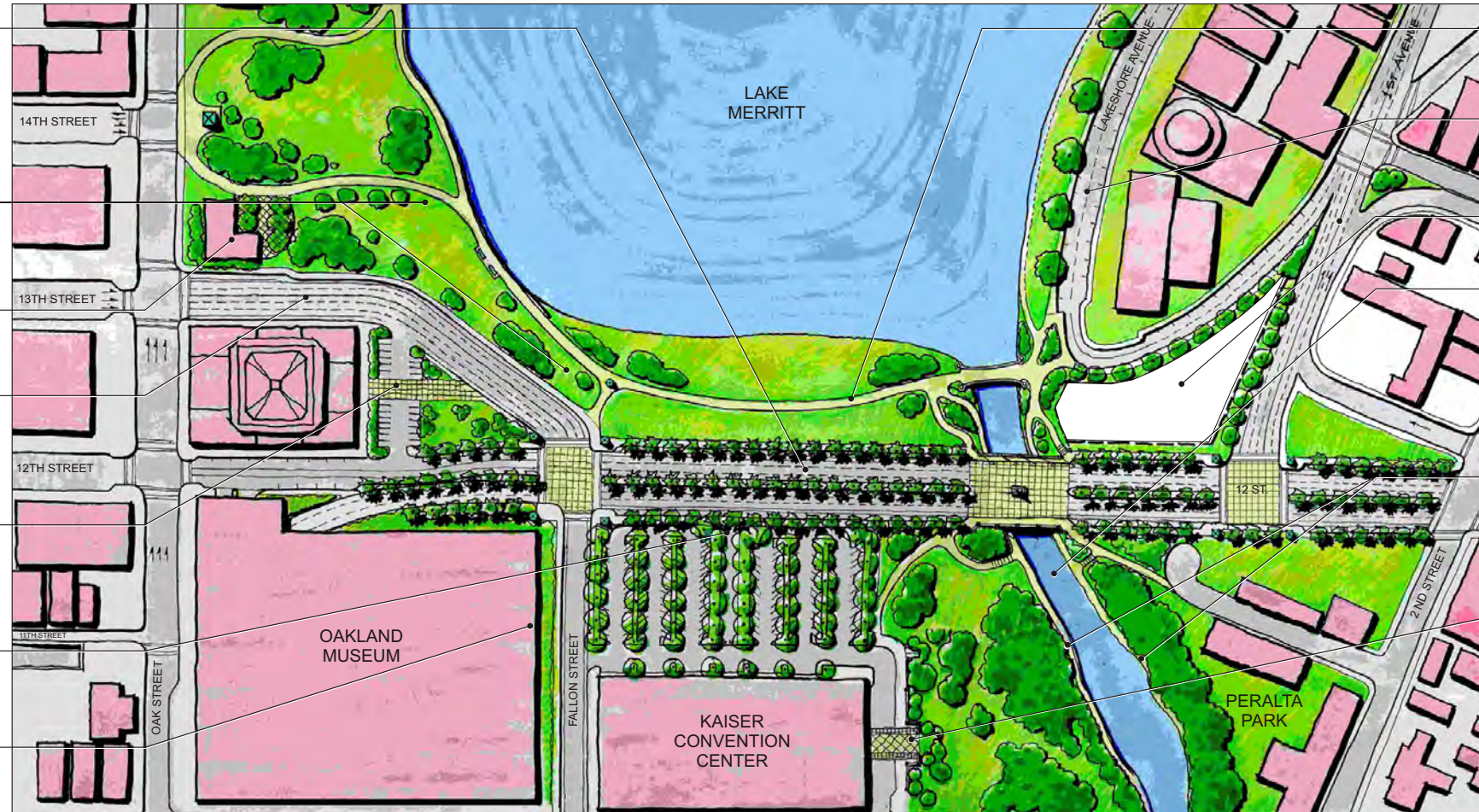
- The original east entrance to the courthouse is reestablished. Benches and site furnishings\* are added.
- A planted buffer and additional parking is provided in the island east of the courthouse

**Convention Center Parking Lot Phase 1**

- A well-designed pedestrian connection from 12th to 10th Street along Fallon and Peralta Park is added.
- The underground pedestrian tunnel is filled in and an at-grade greenbelt through the parking lot is created.

**Oakland Museum**

- Explore the feasibility of providing a museum entrance at the Northeast corner of the building that would provide a direct connection between the museum and lake.



**Lake Merritt Promenade**

- New 10 - 12 foot wide promenade with benches (Donor Opportunity)\* around Lake Merritt
- The Necklace of Lights\* extended around the south end of the lake

**Street Re-Configuration East**

- Lakeshore becomes one-way North from 1st Avenue
- Traffic on Lakeshore and 1st Avenue is rerouted to a signalized intersection at 1st and 12th
- The 1st -12th maze is simplified to an ordinary intersection.

**Development Parcel**

- A new development parcel is created by re-configuring the streets at the east end (approximately 68,000 square feet).

**Lake Merritt Channel**

- The channel that is currently covered between Peralta Park and the lake is opened.
- Add a new well-designed vehicular bridge\* at 12th Street with textured paving at the crossing to slow traffic and identify it as a pedestrian environment.
- A pedestrian activated signal at the bridge is added.
- A pedestrian bridge\* at the lake edge is integrated with an environmental art element\* at the channel connection.
- Improve the channel to enhance the habitat
- Kayaking between the Lake and Estuary
- Add a pedestrian path along the channel, under the new bridge to provide pedestrian access to Peralta Park

**Peralta Park Improvements**

- Peralta Park is redesigned to improve the pedestrian paths on both sides of the channel
- A pedestrian path from the 12th Street Bridge to the school district site is provided.
- The existing play area\* is upgraded
- Upgrade the channel habitat and provide interpretive signage

**Convention Center Parking Lot Phase 2**

- Below-grade parking and a new at-grade open space venue for *Festival at the Lake* or other major outdoor events associated with the Auditorium and Museum is created.
- A plaza at the east side of the Convention Center that will provide a transition between the convention center and the park is added.

\* All items marked with an asterisk are opportunities to seek donations from individuals or local businesses.

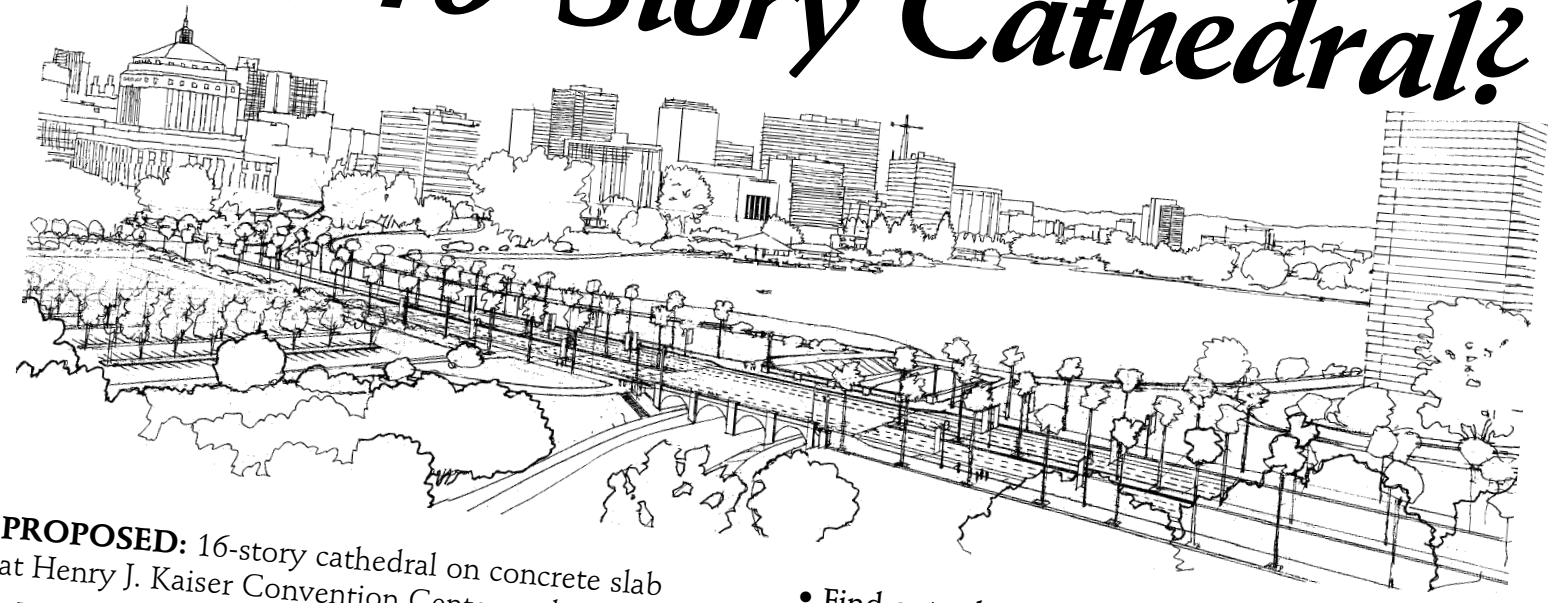


# Lake Merritt Boulevard CONCEPTUAL PLAN

September 7, 2001

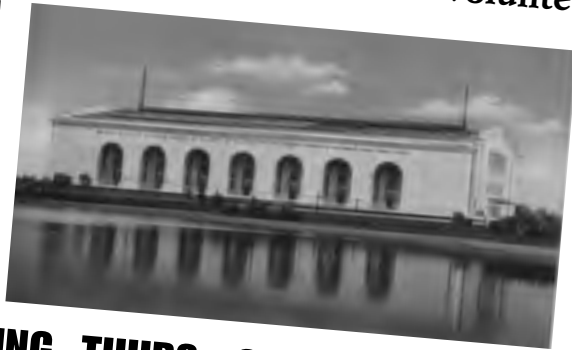
... think we should ring Lake Merritt with a wall of tall buildings.

# Lake Merritt Park? or a 16-Story Cathedral?



- PROPOSED:** 16-story cathedral on concrete slab at Henry J. Kaiser Convention Center parking lot.
- This is public parkland and open space
  - Lake Merritt Park Master Plan study has just started.
  - Lake Merritt is a National Historic Landmark and a designated National Wildlife Refuge
  - City engaged in private talks with Catholic Diocese of Oakland. Yet City invited **NO PUBLIC DISCUSSION**
  - City officials tried 3 times in 2 years to sell Lake Merritt parklands (Splash Pad, Fire Alarm Building, this!).
  - City is trying to rush this plan through.

- Find out what's new! **See the community-based proposal for "Lake Merritt Boulevard" Thursday, Sept. 6, 6-8 pm**, Main Library, 125 14th St., West Auditorium, ground floor.
- **Attend the City Hall meeting 6-8 pm, September 12 to see project proposals. Public comment invited. Let city officials know you support the Community Plan! Your presence is urgently needed! Call CALM 835-3041 for info, or to volunteer.**



At top, one of the sketches of the **COMMUNITY PLAN**, showing pedestrian-friendly walkways, fewer traffic lanes, and bike paths.

Far left, photo of Santiago Calatrava model for proposed cathedral between Henry J. Kaiser Convention Center and Lake Merritt.

Near left, old postcard shows parklands around the Oakland Auditorium.

**COMMUNITY MEETING: THURS., SEPT. 6, 6-8 P.M., MAIN LIBRARY**  
**SEE AND COMMENT ON PROPOSALS!**  
**CITY HALL MEETING: WED., SEPT 12, 6-8 P.M. • Hearing Room 1**

*The Oakland Public Library does not advocate or endorse the views of...*







BOND MEASURE PASSED BY 78%





LAKE MERRITT

CAMERON STANFORD HOUSE

FIRE ALARM BUILDING

COUNTY COURTHOUSE

OAKLAND MUSEUM

KAISER CONVENTION CENTER

1200 LAKESHORE AVENUE

MULTI-USE PATH

RESTROOM

VEHICULAR BRIDGE  
PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE

WATERFRONT OVERLOOK

MULTI-USE PATH

MULTI-USE OPEN SPACE

MULTI-USE PATH

TIDAL MARSH

MULTI-USE PATH

PLAN  
RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT

0 15 30 60 120 180  
SCALE IN FEET





LAKE MERRITT BOULEVARD AND NEW PARK  
JOIN US FOR A PICNIC, SPRING 2013

