

ALAMEDA COUNTY

LEAD POISONING PREVENTION PROGRAM

A Joint Powers Authority serving the cities of Alameda, Berkeley, Emeryville and Oakland

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Joint Powers Authority Board of Directors Statement On the Passing of Alameda County Supervisor Wilma Chan

November 3, 2021: The Alameda County Healthy Homes Department and Joint Powers Authority Board of Directors are shocked and saddened to learn of the tragic and untimely passing of County Supervisor Wilma Chan.

Among Supervisor Chan's many roles as a community leader, she served as an ex officio member of the Joint Powers Authority Board of Directors for the Alameda County Lead Poisoning Prevention Board. She was a consistent champion for children lead poisoning prevention work and worked regularly with state and regional officials on ways to abate lead from homes and overburdened communities.

Supervisor Chan was also a champion for lead poisoning prevention during her time in the State Legislature. She authored many groundbreaking bills, including one making California the first state to implement a no-lead standard in drinking water pipes and fixtures. The language from Supervisor Chan's bill was used for foundational legislation in other states and later, in the federal Reduction of Lead in Drinking Water Act, signed into law by President Obama in 2011. In 2017, she wrote an insightful and inspiring editorial for the East Bay Times on what needed to be done to end Child Lead Poisoning.

JPA Board Chair, Emeryville City Councilmember John J. Bauters said, "On behalf of the JPA Board of Directors, we send our deepest condolences to Supervisor Chan's family. She was a champion for the most vulnerable of our community members: families, immigrants, and especially children. Her commitment to creating healthy homes and safe environments through a public health lens is a small but important part of the immense legacy she leaves us."

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