

The background of the slide is a light blue, semi-transparent aerial view of a city skyline, showing various building shapes and heights. A white rectangular box with a thin black border is centered horizontally and vertically, containing the main title text.

RUSSELL CITY RESEARCH PROJECT

Presentation to City of Hayward Russell City Steering Committee

January 2023

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OVERVIEW

- **Hired by City of Hayward to assess historical record related to Russell City**
 - Review of current records
 - Deed and property search
 - Redevelopment records
 - Historical media
 - Former resident interviews
 - Broader context
- **Progress thus far**
 - Later start than expected (semester vs summer for researchers)
 - ~70 hours completed September-December

REVIEW OF CURRENT RECORDS

- Review of current material on Russell City
 - Wilkinson book, transcript of meeting, citizen research
 - Provides research context but more importantly...
 - Used to generate names of Russell City residents

DEED AND PROPERTY SEARCH

- Alameda County Recorder's Office
 - ~734 deeds found for "Redevelopment Agency of Alameda County"
 - Collected ~1/2 of the records (slower than expected process due to AC systems)
 - Random test of records suggest that all records related to Russell City
 - Collection ongoing, approximately 1/2 deeds collected and uploaded to city of Hayward
 - Expect completion January 2023

HISTORICAL MEDIA RECORDS

- Newspaper search
 - Oakland Tribune, San Francisco Examiner, San Francisco Chronicle, Hayward Daily Review
 - From early 1900s-1980 (have not found any related to RC after 1980 until recent years)
 - Provides greater context for the redevelopment process
 - Also source of resident names

REDEVELOPMENT RECORDS

- Difficulty locating records from redevelopment agency
 - Alameda County—general request, assessors office, recorders office, planning, grand jury office, board of supervisors
 - Local libraries—UC Berkeley Law Library, Alameda County Library, Witkin (AC) Law Library
 - Archives—Local (East Bay, Oakland), California, National
 - Still contacting—AC planning department, ABAG, Hayward Historical Society

NEXT STEPS...

- Based on contract
 - Continue searching for records
 - Finalize deed and newspaper search
 - Potential next stage: interviews with former residents
- Deliverables
 - Final list of residents and residences
 - Final report

NEXT STEPS...

- Questions for us?
- Questions from us...
 - How would the steering committee like to best direct our work?