



NEWS FROM **OAKLAND PUBLIC WORKS AGENCY**

Media Advisory

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Contact:
Kristine Shaff
Public Information Officer
(510) 697-5827 (cell)

Photo/Video Opportunity

Oakland Public Works Kicks Off Three-Week Blitz on Potholes

Oakland, CA — In its efforts to keep the City of Oakland's vehicular and pedestrian traffic safe, Oakland Public Works will conduct three consecutive Pothole Blitzes this year. The first week-long Pothole Blitz will commence on April 26th in East Oakland, weather permitting. The week of May 3rd will concentrate on Central Oakland and the week of May 10th will be in West Oakland.

Eight Public Works crews, which is twice as many crews as are regularly assigned, will fill more than 1,000 potholes during the three consecutive weeks. In conjunction with the Pothole Blitz, Oakland Public Works will be unveiling their newest equipment to combat potholes.

Mayor Ron Dellums said: "During these tough economic times, the City of Oakland is doing its best to fill our potholes. I have always been encouraged by the success of this hands-on campaign to address this major quality of life issue in Oakland. While we've filled thousands of potholes as a result of the great work of our Public Works Agency, I am confident that we will continue to address this issue, and be strategic in our efforts to make this city a better place to work and live."

Potholes are an ongoing and growing problem for all major cities, especially in the spring when the moisture from rains causes the roadway surface and structure to erode. Filling or patching potholes depends on the street type and the size of the pothole. Different types of materials are used to combat the problem, including both hot and cold asphalt. "Streets generally last about 30 years. We have enough money to pave our streets every 85 years. Until additional resources are provided to repave streets, we'll continue to patch, patch and patch some more. If you have a favorite pothole, please call us at (510) 615-5566 and we'll send crews to fix it," said Interim Public Works Director Vitaly Troyan.

On Monday, April 26, 2010 a photo/video opportunity will be available on 92nd Avenue to view the newest addition to the City Fleet, a two-person, fully self-contained patcher vehicle and to see crews at work.

Oakland City Council Member Larry Reid commented, "I want to thank the Public Works staff for taking this proactive approach with its Pothole Blitz to address the immediate issues that impact the day-to-day life of the residents of Oakland."

What: Pothole Blitz Photo/Video Opportunity – Interviews Available
When: Monday, April 26, 2010 at 10:30 a.m.
Where: 92nd Avenue between San Leandro Avenue and International Blvd.
Who: Oakland Public Works Agency
Photo/Video Opportunity: City Council Member District 7 Larry Reid, Public Works Assistant Director Bruce Saunders, and Street Maintenance crews with the new vehicle in action

The public is encouraged to "Report a Problem" using the online form at www.OaklandPW.com or to notify the Public Works Call Center at (510) 615-5566 of pothole locations. The public's assistance in slowing down when they see crews working on the roadways is also greatly appreciated.

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