



City of
OAKLAND
California

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News from: Emergency Operations Center

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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City of Oakland and Port Officials Hold 8pm Press Briefing Regarding Port Protests

Oakland, CA – At a media briefing at the Emergency Operations Center this evening, City and Port of Oakland officials provided an update on the marches and demonstrations that have occurred at the Port of Oakland and downtown today.

Statement by Mayor Jean Quan

“While we have not had physical violence, the economic violence to this City is just not fair...A small group of people are going to hold this port, this city, this economy hostage. It’s not fair to the workers. It is not fair to this city. This city has been very generous to the 99% movement. This city has been very supportive.

“The people who are planning to stay at the Port – do they have families who have trucks that because of the slowdown in the economy may lose those trucks? A day’s pay - \$600 - \$700 - could be the difference as to whether they can keep that truck or not. Do they have families who are in the hiring hall of the ILWU and because shipping in general throughout the country’s been down, but particularly on the West Coast, aren’t going to be able to buy Christmas presents this Christmas because now this is the third day of work that they’ve lost?

“People have to think about the consequences. People have to think about who are they hurting. They are saying, ‘We want to get the attention of the ruling class.’ Well, I think the ruling class is probably laughing, and people in this city will be crying this Christmas. It’s really got to stop.”

City of Oakland Updates

About 250 protesters gathered at Frank Ogawa Plaza at 3pm today. The crowd grew as the rally kicked off. About 400 to 500 protesters left Frank Ogawa Plaza shortly after 4 pm and began marching to the West Oakland BART Station.

By 5:30 pm protesters arrived at the Port. There are reports of more than 1,000 people at a General Assembly at the Hanjin Terminal, Berths 55 and 56 at Middle Harbor Road. Middle Harbor Road is closed to traffic. There are no other road closures at this time.

Chief Jordon reminded demonstrators that, “while peaceful forms of expression and free speech rights will be facilitated, acts of violence, property destruction and overnight lodging will not be tolerated”.

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Port of Oakland Update

Port of Oakland officials said that terminals are adhering to their regular schedules with no truck or gate operations planned for tonight. This is typical of evening activity levels at the Port. However, the terminals did not order ILWU labor for the three vessels berthed tonight, due to protest activity.

Operations at several of the Port's seven terminals experienced disruptions and delays today, and a few chose to close early to avoid further disruption.

With no scheduled terminal activity tonight, it is unclear what actions the protesters will take. We urge all participants in on-going protests to respect workers who are trying to get home from the Port area, maintain safety and security for all involved, and avoid violence or damage to maritime area facilities. Just as the Oakland Police Department and the Alameda County Sheriff's Office have been cognizant of everyone's First Amendment rights while ensuring minimal disruptions and avoiding violence, we ask that protest participants do the same.

Today's disruptions have been costly to Port workers and their families in terms of lost wages and shifts, to Oakland and the region in terms of lost tax revenue, and to one of the most progressive Ports in the country, in terms of draining already limited resources that should be focused on real solutions to the problems plaguing our economy.

Communications Channels

The City has developed a variety of communication channels to keep the business community and the public informed of developments as they occur. This may include street closures or impacts to public transit. We encourage you to use the following:

- We will post regular information updates on our web site: **www.oaklandnet.com**.
- To receive alerts by email or wireless device, **subscribe to our email/text updates system** by entering your email address in the "Email Updates" section on the City's home page, www.oaklandnet.com.
- If you don't have a computer, call **211** for information and/or updates.
- Business owners may also contact the City of Oakland's **Business Assistance Center** at (510) 238-7952 or visit www.OaklandBAC.com for support and additional information.
- To report any tips or suspicious activity, call the Oakland Police Department's non-emergency line at **(510) 777-3333**.
- For driving and transit information, including any detours, call **511** or visit www.511.org. For BART information, call (510) 465-2278 or visit www.bart.gov. You can also sign up for mobile service alerts at www.bart.gov/news/alerts.