



City of  
**OAKLAND**  
California

Media Contact:  
Susan Kattchee  
Environmental Services  
(510) 774-5596  
[skattchee@oaklandnet.com](mailto:skattchee@oaklandnet.com)

Kerry Ricketts Ferris  
QuEST Communications  
(510) 981-2027  
[krickettsferris@quest-world.com](mailto:krickettsferris@quest-world.com)

## News from: Oakland Public Works

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 2, 2011

#### Oakland Shines

#### *Energy Program Brightens Downtown Businesses*

**Oakland, CA** – Today Oakland Mayor Jean Quan helped kick off a new energy program for businesses to help green downtown Oakland. The program, Oakland Shines, offers free start-to-finish technical assistance and cash rebates to help businesses defray the cost of installing energy-efficient lighting, refrigeration products and HVAC improvements. “I want downtown Oakland to be a green showcase for the country,” said Mayor Quan, noting that Oakland is one of the leading green cities in the nation. “Along with our transit, bike paths and recycling in downtown Oakland, we are adding the latest in energy efficiency technology to the mix. The goal of Oakland Shines is to reduce 20% energy use from 80% of businesses in downtown. It’s a start in reducing our greenhouse gas emissions.”

The program offers “concierge-style” services to assist business owners and managers with all phases of the process – from providing a free energy assessment, to completing rebate forms. Oakland Shines offers financial incentives covering up to 90% of costs of constructing energy projects along with assistance and training on using the new system. Oakland Shines is funded by a \$5 million stimulus grant from the California Energy Commission.

The City of Oakland in partnership with Quantum Energy Services and Technologies Inc. (QuEST), will target a 120-square block area that stretches roughly from Jack London Square to West Grand Avenue and from Lake Merritt to Interstate 980. “Oakland Shines will build on successful business district and neighborhood energy campaigns in the East Bay; working with PG&E and other partners to make changes easy and simple,” said Derrick Rebello, President of QuEST. “About half the grant funds will be allocated toward funding rebates for property owners that implement projects recommended by QuEST as a part of the energy audit.”

Many businesses have reduced energy consumption, but there’s more to be done. Oakland Shines will help businesses take the next step in improving their bottom line with new lighting technologies.

“Many companies and landlords know that improving a building’s efficiency and cutting usage can result in savings, but oftentimes, that is not enough incentive to make changes happen. The intent of Oakland Shines is to rapidly promote new lighting technologies that are ready for widespread use, but often unfamiliar to building owners and operators,” said Scott Wentworth, Oakland Public Works Energy Engineer. “Oakland Shines will help Oakland businesses improve their properties and manage their energy costs.”

To learn more about Oakland Shines, visit [www.oaklandshines.com](http://www.oaklandshines.com). For more information about scheduling an energy audit of your business, contact Oakland Shines at (877) 304-6133.

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