



NEWS FROM **OAKLAND PUBLIC WORKS AGENCY**

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Oakland Receives Two Proposition 84 Grant Awards **Statewide Park Development and Community Revitalization Program**

Oakland, CA – One park in Oakland will be spruced up and expanded and a new teen center will come to life thanks to two grants awarded under Proposition 84. On November 8, 2010 the California State Department of Parks and Recreation, Office of Grants and Local Services announced the award of two grants to the City of Oakland for the Cesar Chavez Park and a new West Oakland Teen Center.

The Oakland Public Works Agency competed against 475 other applications vying for \$184 million available. A total of 62 grants were awarded after the extensive review and evaluation process. Cesar Chavez Park will receive \$2.25 million and West Oakland Teen Center will receive \$5 million, which will provide greatly needed improvements in two different Oakland communities.

The grant will allow for an extension of the Cesar Chavez Park in the densely populated and culturally diverse Fruitvale neighborhood. The grant will also allow the development of an adjacent quarter-acre parcel, and will make major improvements to the existing park. Work will include new playgrounds, a synthetic-turf practice court for indoor soccer (futbol rapido), a multi-purpose playing field, picnic area, community garden, lighting, restroom, landscaping, a new community art entrance plaza, as well as renovate the existing basketball court.

In West Oakland, the grant will create a new, approximately 12,000 square foot teen center, the only center in West Oakland that will provide recreational and educational programs for youth. The Teen Center will include multi-purpose rooms for gathering and performing arts, kitchen for culinary classes, computer room, student project room, game rooms, tutorial spaces and an outdoor gathering space. The Teen Center will

offer youth a positive environment in which to express themselves. Access to safe and secure public spaces and recreational opportunities is vital for social wellbeing.

The West Oakland Teen Center is especially exciting because neighborhood youth worked with architects and other professionals to develop the actual plans for the new center. They will now be able to see their work move to final design and construction.

Oakland is excited for the award of these grants at a time when competition for resources is fierce. The grants provide Oakland with opportunities to enhance parks and public space amenities for the community and give teens the facilities they need.

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