

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 21, 2011

**Upcoming Holidays and Business Closure Days at
the City of Oakland: December 26 – January 2, 2012**
Public Safety Not Affected

Oakland, CA—The City of Oakland administrative offices will be closed between Monday, December 26 and Monday, January 2 for a combination of City holidays and business closure days as a result of budget cutbacks, as follows:

- Monday, December 26: Christmas observed
- Tuesday, December 27 – Thursday, December 29: Business closure days
- Friday, December 30: New Year’s Eve observed
- Monday, January 2, 2012: New Year’s Day observed

While the City’s administrative employees are out of the office, if a situation arises that requires more staffing, the City has a plan in place to call in additional resources. **Police, fire and emergency services are not affected during the holidays or business closures.**

Business closures—and the unpaid time off taken by City employees on such days—were agreed to by employee labor unions as part of the package of employee concessions to balance the City’s \$58 million budget deficit. Every City employee agreed to contribute nine (9) percent of their compensation to minimize the reduction of vital City services to the public.

In addition to the fixed business closure days, City employees also agreed to take additional unpaid days off to reach the nine (9) percent reduction target (between four and eight days, depending on the bargaining unit), which they will schedule with their supervisor and take throughout the year. The additional floating unpaid days will not result in citywide business closures.

Specific Service Impacts for December 24 – January 2:

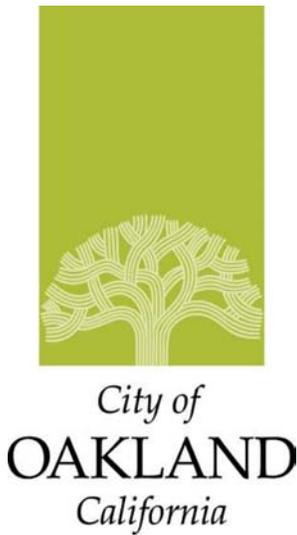
Parking Enforcement

- As previously announced, **Saturday, December 24 is a Parking “Holiday.”** Parking at all parking meters will be free for the posted period of time (30 minutes, 1 hour or 2 hours). The free parking “holiday” applies to both standard meters and the parking kiosks that are located in many commercial districts. Standard parking rules and time limits apply – if shoppers need additional parking time, they will need to move their car. The City will be monitoring parked cars on a regular basis.
- December 25 and 26, and January 1 and 2 are parking holidays during which motorists do not need to pay for parking at City meters.
- Regular enforcement will occur throughout the City for all parking violations on December 27 – 31.

Public Works

- No street sweeping will occur.
- Serious emergencies – such as sewer overflows, traffic signal outages, objects completely blocking the street to vehicle traffic and major flooding conditions – will be responded to.

(more)



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**News from:
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Oakland Public Library

- All libraries will be closed December 24 through January 2.
- All locations will resume normal hours on January 3, 2012.
- Books and other materials are not due until January 5. Patrons are asked to not attempt to return materials in library book drops until January 3.

Oakland Animal Shelter

- December 24 and December 31: Open from 12 noon to 5 pm
- December 27 and December 29: Open from 4 to 7 pm.
- Will be closed on December 25, 26, 28 and 30 as well as January 1.
- People who find stray animals and cannot hold them when the shelter is closed should call 510-777-3333 between the hours of 7 am to 3:30 pm to be put in touch with a Shelter representative.
- The shelter will resume a normal operating schedule on January 3 from 4 to 7 pm.

Office of Parks and Recreation

- Visitors will have access to parks; however gates and restrooms will be closed and staff will not be on site.
- Program sites will be closed on December 24, 25 and 31, as well as January 1.
- Fee-based programs and Winter Camps will continue at participating sites.

Human Services

Senior Centers

- All senior centers will be closed December 24 through January 2.

Head Start/Early Head Start Programs

- Head Start and Early Head Start sites will be closed December 24 through January 2.

Broadway Shuttle

- The shuttle will not operate on December 26 or January 2.
- The shuttle will operate a normal Saturday schedule (6 pm to 1am) on both December 24 and December 31.
- The shuttle will operate a normal schedule December 27 – 30, including extended Friday night service to 1am.

Remaining Business Closure Days for Fiscal Year 2011-12

Business closure days generally occur once a month in conjunction with observed City holidays. For FY 2011-12, four remaining days are scheduled as follows:

- Friday, January 13, 2012
(Monday, January 16 is Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, a City holiday)
- Friday, February 10, 2012
(Monday, February 13 is Lincoln's Birthday, a City holiday)
- Friday, March 30, 2012
- Friday, April 13, 2012

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