

News from: Emergency Operations Center

MEDIA RELEASE

May 1, 2012

4 pm--Update on May 1st Demonstrations

Oakland, CA— The following is an update regarding May Day demonstrations. Most of the activities so far have centered on the downtown core, with Frank Ogawa Plaza serving as a hub, and the activities have largely been peaceful. The City of Oakland is committed to facilitating peaceful demonstrations, but we will respond swiftly to illegal activities or behavior that endangers public or police officer safety. Please note that the situation is fluid and we will keep you updated throughout the day.

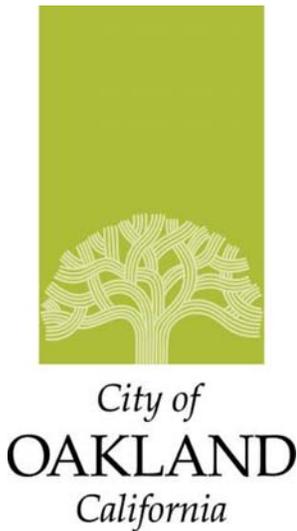
Oakland Police Department Operations

- At approximately 2:00 pm, a crowd of about 400 people assembled at 14th and Broadway and in Frank Ogawa Plaza. As officers attempted to make isolated arrests of individuals committing crimes, members of the crowd attempted to prevent those arrests. A dispersal order was given to the crowd and the gathering was declared an unlawful assembly at approximately 2:40 p.m.
- Around noon, a large crowd assembled at 14th and Broadway and began throwing objects at officers and striking them with metal corrugated shields while they were attempting to make an arrest. The crowd surrounded the officers and small amounts of gas were deployed on three occasions in limited areas to disperse the specific small groups of people who were committing the violent acts.
- Minimum of nine (9) arrests for various crimes including delaying/interfering with officers making arrests, failure to disperse, and violation of stay away orders.
- OPD is focused on preventing illegal activity while affording the majority their rights to assemble and march.
- Mutual aid has been called to assist with the anticipated large crowds this evening.

Traffic Impacts

- Temporary, intermittent street closures have occurred throughout the day, particularly at 14th & Broadway.
- Blockages and traffic disruptions are anticipated throughout the afternoon and evening in downtown Oakland.
- Traffic and transit conditions could rapidly change. The City advises downtown employers, employees, and residents to visit www.511.org or call 511 for up-to-date transit information.
- For additional public information or referrals, call 211.

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Vandalism/Damage

- Minor vandalism/graffiti at Bank of America at Kaiser Center; bank advised they are boarding up and closing for the day.
- Vandalism at Bank of the West (2127 Broadway).
- OPD van had windows broken.
- News vehicle had tires punctured.

How to Stay Informed

We will continue to use a variety of communications channels to keep the business community and the public informed of developments as they occur:

- Check our web site for regular updates: 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. To receive wireless alerts via mobile phone, be sure to check the “Send Wireless Alerts to this address” box and enter your mobile number and carrier. Once you’ve saved your subscriber preferences, select “Emergency Alerts for Merchants.”
- Sign up to receive public safety notifications from OPD through text/SMS, mobile applications, e-mail, and internet posts. Visit www.Nixle.com to register.
- Follow us on Twitter—for general City of Oakland news, follow @oaklandpubinfo. For specific public safety news, follow OPD @oaklandpoliceca.
- Contact the City of Oakland’s **Business Assistance Center** at (510) 238-7952 or visit www.OaklandBAC.com for support and additional information.
- If you don’t have a computer, **call (510) 444-CITY** for information and/or recorded updates.
- For emergencies—from a landline call 911; from a cell phone dial (510) 777-3211 (program this number into your cell phone now so it is handy in an emergency).
- To report any tips or suspicious activity, call the Oakland Police Department’s non-emergency line at (510) 777-3333 or email opdtip@oaklandnet.com.
- Visit www.511.org or call 511 for up-to-date traffic and transit information.

Keeping peace on our streets and protecting the safety of Oakland residents and businesses is our top priority.

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