



News from the Office of Mayor Ron Dellums

& the Neighborhood Services Division, City of Oakland

For Immediate Release August 1, 2008

Contacts: Felicia Verdin Roland Holmgren
Community Programs Supervisor Public Information Officer
City Administrator's Office Oakland Police Dept
(510) 238-3128 (510) 238-7230
(510) 867-8450 (cell)

Mayor Calls on City Residents to Host Block Parties on August 5th *City Looks to Surpass Success of 2007 National Night Out with goal of 400 parties*

Oakland - Mayor Ron Dellums and the Oakland Police Department invite Oakland residents to celebrate National Night Out on Tuesday, August 5 by organizing a block party in their neighborhoods. The annual National Night Out is America's night out against crime through a citywide event designed to both strengthen neighborhood spirit and unity, and raise crime prevention awareness by helping neighbors get to know one another.

"National Night Out sends a simple, yet profound message to the residents of Oakland," said Mayor Dellums. "When neighbors know each other, neighborhoods become safer. I am confident that the 2008 National Night Out block parties will again serve as a great motivation for people to get out and get to know their community." Community events like National Night Out have proven that when neighbors know each other, trust increases, information travels faster, and resources can be mobilized to solve problems more effectively – resulting in a stronger, safer community.

National Night Out events will be held on Tuesday, August 5 between 7:00pm and 9:00pm and can include a block party, barbeque, ice cream social or any other activity held outside that involves neighbors. National Night Out events can happen everywhere including apartment buildings, condominiums, townhouse complexes and in single-family neighborhoods.

In 2007, 36 million people participated in National Night Out activities nationwide, with 317 parties hosted in Oakland alone. This year, the City has set an aggressive goal of 400 parties. So far 175 parties have registered, with 225 additional parties still needed to achieve our goal. The deadline to register block parties is 5:00 p.m., Monday, July 28th. Registered block parties will receive a visit from police officers, firefighters and other City staff who will have give-away items for kids and special gifts for party hosts. To register an event on-line visit <http://www.oaklandnet.com/nno2008.html> or contact Brenda Ivey, National Night Out Coordinator, at (510) 238-3091 with the following information:

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- Name of host
- Address
- Home and work telephone numbers
- Address of specific location of the outdoor event
- Nearest cross street
- Email address
- Approximate number of people attending

Community members may block off their street by simply registering for this event. There is no special permit required to participate.

For those who have never organized a block party, a Block Party Guide is available by contacting the Oakland Police Department or by visiting their web site at <http://www.oaklandnet.com> (See National Night Out under the Events heading).



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