



July 2, 2009

**MAYOR DELLUMS MEETS WITH FEDERAL LEADERS TO PROMOTE
THE PORT OF OAKLAND**

*Leaders Discuss Federal Resources for Ports to Serve Environmental Health and Economic
Development Priorities*

OAKLAND –Mayor Ron Dellums today met with U.S. Secretary of Transportation, Ray LaHood, Senator Barbara Boxer, Congresswoman Barbara Lee, State Secretary of Business, Transportation and Health Dale Bonner, and other officials in a roundtable discussion focused on the need for a larger federal role as the Port of Oakland works to (1) reduce truck and other emissions for health and environment benefits; 2) provide good paying jobs; and (3) spur economic development and growth for the region.

Mayor Dellums said: “In this region we are very much aware of the health and the well-being of our citizenry and the need to maintain environmental integrity, as we address the issues of global warming. We need the help of the federal government to level the playing field so that it does not become an issue of competition, but rather an issue of cooperation. My sense is that the U.S. Secretary of Transportation understands that and will be a significant advocate in that regard.”

Today’s visit to the Bay Area was Secretary LaHood’s first visit to a port. He chose this area because of the strong collaborative and innovative leadership with regards to Port issues. The Secretary announced support for a marine highway system to get trucks off the road and facilitate transportation needs to move goods from the Port to other parts of the country. The Secretary supported the proposal for the appointment of a Port czar to ensure effective coordination and communication among the nation’s ports. He also said that the Port and City of Oakland were well positioned for federal discretionary grants to support transportation infrastructure development and environmental health goals.

Congresswoman Lee commended Mayor Dellums’ leadership in leading the charge for the region with Oakland serving as the Model City centerpiece where environmental health, equity, and economic development principles can operate together. As the 4th busiest container port in the United States, Oakland is a significant economic driver for California and the Northwest region.

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For more information on Mayor Ron Dellums and the City of Oakland, please visit and bookmark the following Web accounts:



: <http://www.youtube.com/ronalddellums>



: <http://www.facebook.com> "Mayor Ronald V. Dellums"



: <http://web.me.com/mayorrondellums>



: <http://www.mayorrondellums.org>



: <http://www.twitter.com> "Ron Dellums"