



News from
Office of the Mayor

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MAYOR SAYS MORE FUNDS SHOULD BE USED TO HIRE POLICE NOW
Sends 803 Plan to Council, Calls for Immediate Action to Approve Measure Y Allocation

OAKLAND – Continuing to push for reaching his goal of 803 officers this year, Mayor Ron Dellums today called on the City Council to approve the comprehensive police recruitment, training, and retention plan at its meeting next week. “We need creative and intensified efforts to get public safety officers into our neighborhoods now,” the Mayor said.

Coming on the heels of last month’s State of the City address where the mayor called for reaching the City’s authorized police force strength of 803 officers “this year -- no matter what,” the plan before Council authorizes the use of up to \$7.7 million from the existing Measure Y funds while projecting the city will reach its officer goal by this December.

“Last month we reorganized the Department, deployed additional officers to the streets, moved to hire community outreach workers in the more violent areas, and passing this comprehensive police officer development plan is the next step in our strategy to get communities the help they need,” the Mayor said.

The Mayor’s Office will go before the City Council on February 19th to present this proposal.

“The only strategy to break through the current hiring and retiring revolving door that is preventing the City from achieving a fully staffed police department is to engage in a significantly augmented recruitment drive that rapidly brings up the number of new officers on the force, as envisioned by Measure Y,” said Police Chief Wayne Tucker.

Among other things, the plan would achieve the following:

- **Increase the number of applicants entering the police academy by:** expanding targeted recruitment drives, expediting the application processes, and adding new police academies this year.
- **Increase the success rate of recruits in the Academy by:** implementing recently developed specific new interventions that will improve the candidate’s chances of meeting the department’s high standards for graduation.
- **Deploy fully trained academy graduates to the Oakland neighborhoods as soon as possible by:** providing enhanced incentives for OPD staff to serve as Field Training Officers.

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- **Significantly increasing the number of officers engaged in Measure Y activities**, such as problem solving officers, crime reduction teams, school safety and domestic violence strategies.

“We must take bold action now to finally achieve the augmented police services Measure Y intended,” said Mayor Dellums. “Passing this plan would be a significant step forward in reaching our goal of bringing peace to our communities that are being ravaged by violence.”

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