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## **WHITE HOUSE, FEDERAL OFFICIALS VISIT OAKLAND TO DISCUSS EFFORTS & IMPACT OF STIMULUS PROGRAM**

*Mayor Ron Dellums, Congresswoman Barbara Lee, Other Political & Community Leaders Highlight Programs & the Need for Additional Stimulus Support During Morning Overview & Bus Tour*

**Oakland** – The city of Oakland today hosted officials from the White House, the United States Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and the United States Transportation Department to highlight community benefits from the stimulus funds, including access to contracting opportunities. The federal officials joined local and national community leaders in Oakland City Hall to participate in a press conference and overview presentation regarding Oakland’s efforts on the stimulus program.

“The city of Oakland takes pride in the fact that we have an opportunity to showcase our stimulus efforts to senior federal officials,” said Mayor Dellums. “The Obama Administration understands that job creation is the byproduct of a community, or society’s commitment, to solve other problems. Whether we are dealing with greening our environment or providing a loan for a small business to stay afloat, these stimulus funds have allowed us to address these issues while preserving and creating new jobs for our community.”

“I am very proud that Oakland was one of only two cities chosen by the White House to host such an important event,” Congresswoman Barbara Lee said. “As the largest city in the 9th Congressional District, Oakland is the perfect venue to host this summit. I am thankful to Mayor Dellums, City Council President Jane Brunner and their staff for all they have done to make today’s event a success.”

During the first year of the stimulus project, under the leadership of Mayor Dellums, the City of Oakland and other partners collaboratively secured over \$200 million in stimulus funds. The funds are estimated to provide more than 7,000 jobs in the region and over 2,000 additional jobs statewide over a three-year period.

“The U.S. economy is headed in the right direction and the Recovery Act has a lot to do with that. Think of how much more pain we would be in right now with two million more Americans out of work,” said Green For All CEO Phaedra Ellis-Lamkins. “But we need an economic recovery that goes deeper and wider than ever before so that the most vulnerable, the most chronically unemployed, can find a place in the new economy.”

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The officials then joined Mayor Ron Dellums on a bus tour of key sites that have been funded by stimulus dollars. The chosen sites reflect Oakland's collaborative efforts on stimulus that will further improve Oakland's workforce and economic development. The stops on the bus tour included:

- Cypress Mandela Training Center: has been a driving force in the implementation of the Oakland Green Jobs Corps, which fights global warming and unemployment simultaneously by providing pathways out of poverty for low-income residents. The Center is the community resource committed to enhancing the viability of the construction trades industry through quality life skills and technical training in directed pre-apprentice programs that promote positive life changes, teach multi-trade expertise, environmental assessment, administrative operations and a bridge career connections for empowering a diverse socio-economic community at large. They, along with other partners have received the following ARRA grants:
  - **Green Jobs State Stimulus Funds: (\$937,511)** to provide the city with unique opportunities to effectively utilize stimulus funds while also helping to green the city, while assisting at-risk young people to develop job skills for the emerging green economy.
  - **California Clean Energy Workforce Training: (\$1,000,000)** to provide training for low-income, unskilled, and dislocated workers in energy efficiency, renewable energy, and renewable transportation technology.
  - **Brownfields Remediation Job Training: (\$500,000)** to provide environmental job training projects that will facilitate job creation in the assessment, remediation or preparation of brownfields sites for sustainable reuse;
  - **On the Job Training Support Services: (\$55,000)** to supplement federal training programs and support the training programs of state departments of transportation for highway construction contractors, apprentices and trainees.
- Lucasey Manufacturing Corporation: is a family-owned Oakland manufacturing plant that makes television mounting systems for local, national and international distribution. Founded in 1954, Lucasey will be able to continue its operations and retain many jobs at its Oakland plant, thanks in part to a Small Business Administration (SBA) \$2 million guaranteed loan through Community Bank of the Bay. Through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, the SBA has waived loan guaranty fees, saving Lucasey more than \$50,000 immediately. The firm will also save over \$100,000 annually with a lower-interest loan. Lucasey's 50 employees, many of whom are Oakland residents, include machinists, welders, powder coaters, glass molders, technical writers, packers and administrative personnel.

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“MBDA, along with its strategic partners, is dedicating to ensuring that minority-owned firms in the Bay area are able to access grants and contracts made available through the Recovery Act. From modernizing the inland ports to greening public housing in the region, minority-owned firms are capable and qualified to work on these, and many other projects. Minority-owned firms create jobs and build wealth in our communities. The success of these firms means success to our greater economy,” said MBDA’s National Director, David A. Hinson.

Mayor Dellums was joined on the tour by various community leaders and partners, including: the White House’s Director of Urban Affairs Adolfo Carrion, HUD’s Deputy Secretary Ron Sims, United States Department of Transportation’s Undersecretary of Policy Roy Kienitz, Minority Business Development Agency’s (MBDA) National Director David Hinson, the Small Business Administration’s Associate Administrator Jess Knox, Councilmembers Brunner, De la Fuente, and Reid, Green For All’s CEO Phaedra Ellis-Lamkins, and PolicyLink’s CEO Angela Glover Blackwell.

“The stimulus and all economic recovery efforts must help those hit first and worst by this recession -- low-income people and communities of color,” said Angela Glover Blackwell, founder and CEO of PolicyLink, a national research and action institute based in Oakland. “Smart, targeted investments like we have seen in Oakland are crucial to ensuring we come out of the other side of this recession with a more just and equitable economy.”

Following the bus tour, the group reconvened for a Procurement Summit where representatives from public agencies and the MBDA will encourage minority businesses to participate in stimulus funded projects. Local public agencies will highlight important current opportunities. Event cosponsors include: Office of Mayor Dellums, Barbara Lee, Member of Congress, City Council President Jane Brunner, Councilmember Larry Reid, Senator Barbara Boxer, State Senator Loni Hancock, Assemblyperson Sandrè Swanson, Assemblyperson Nancy Skinner, Alameda County Supervisor Keith Carson, Minority Business Development Agency, Northern California MBEC, AC Transit, BART, Port of Oakland, Oakland Housing Authority, Oakland Unified School District, East Bay Community Foundation, African American, Chinatown, Hispanic, Metropolitan, Vietnamese Chambers of Commerce, Ella Baker Center, Green for All, Policy Link, and SEIU 1021, City of Oakland chapter. Special event underwriting from Turner Construction.

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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/pages/Ron-Dellums/98961200747>

 : <http://www.twitter.com> “Mayor Dellums”