



City of
OAKLAND
California

News from City of Oakland

MEDIA ADVISORY

November 3, 2011, 11:00 am

Update on Downtown Demonstrations

Next Media Briefing Today at 1 pm

Oakland, CA—Yesterday, the City of Oakland facilitated a long day of primarily peaceful protests with some isolated incidents of violence and vandalism. A series of demonstrations, sit-ins, teach-ins, and marches throughout the City started at 9 am and continued until well past midnight. The crowd swelled to nearly 7,000 people that shut down operations at the Port of Oakland.

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Around midnight, a select group of people intent on engaging in illegal activity--including vandalizing property, lighting fires, and assaulting the police--splintered into smaller groups and spread throughout the area in and around Frank Ogawa Plaza. The Oakland Police Department responded to a late-night call that protesters had broken into and occupied a downtown building and set several fires. Several private and municipal buildings sustained heavy vandalism. Dozens of protesters wielding shields were surrounded and arrested.

Crews from the City of Oakland's Public Works Agency worked through the night to board up broken windows and doors, clear debris, remove graffiti, pick up litter, and secure damaged buildings in the downtown area, particularly around Frank Ogawa Plaza. Public Works crews have been redirected today to facilitate clean-up efforts. The City's priority is to return downtown Oakland to a more functional status as soon as possible. The City is assessing damage to downtown businesses. City offices are open for business during regular business hours.

The following is a summary of the situation as of 11:00 am today:

Oakland Police Department Operations during the late night

- No arrests during the day (between 7 am and midnight)
- Preliminary arrests: 80+ (after midnight)
- Injured civilians: 5
- Injured Officers: 3
- Mutual Aid support: 15 agencies
- Tear gas and bean bags were administered to disperse individuals who failed to leave.

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Business Impacts

- During the afternoon, a handful of businesses were vandalized, including major damage to Chase Bank, Bank of America, Wells Fargo, and Whole Foods
- During the evening, a large number of local businesses were vandalized. Multiple buildings were tagged and windows were broken. The City is requesting that property owners who suffered major vandalism file police reports.

Traffic Impacts

- Streets are open.
- Transit is running as scheduled

Public Works

- Graffiti abatement on buildings at 150 and 250 Frank Ogawa Plaza, and BART entrance
- Replacing 30 square feet of paving stones (about 70) that were removed from Plaza near the Frank Ogawa statue and near the fountain.
- Replacing windows in all three City Buildings around the Plaza: Tully's on the ground floor of 150 Frank Ogawa Plaza, Oakland Police Department and Cypress Security offices in 250 Frank Ogawa Plaza, ground floor of City Hall.
- Garbage clean-up, debris removal, and pressure washing.

City Services

- The City of Oakland is open for business today; all City offices are open during regular business hours.

Port of Oakland Operations

- The Port of Oakland is now fully operational.
- Workers in the maritime area of the Port continue to return to their jobs, and seaport operations are returning to normal.
- Operations at the Oakland International Airport and real estate areas continue as normal from yesterday.
- All entrances to the Port are open. There are truck traffic lines at some gates and terminal operations are processing backlogs from yesterday's disruptions.

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- The most current field reports confirm that in the Port area there were no injuries, no property damage, and no major security problems from last night's demonstrations. There was a limited incursion into a private rail facility, and trespassers were escorted off peacefully.
- There are no public street closure at this time.
- For updates regarding the Port of Oakland, please contact Robert Bernardo at (510) 627-1401 or rbernardo@portoakland.com, or Marilyn Sandifur at (510) 627-1193 or msandifur@portoakland.com.

Next Media Briefing:

When: Today, November 3 at 1 pm

Where: Emergency Operations Center
1605 Martin Luther King, Jr. Way, Oakland

Who: Mayor Quan
City Administrator Deanna J. Santana
Oakland Police Chief Howard Jordan

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