



Media Advisory

Oakland City Administrator

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Dedication Ceremony Celebrates Renovation of Lake Merritt Pergola

Oakland, CA—To honor the completion of one of the first of many Lake Merritt improvement projects funded by Measure DD, the City of Oakland is hosting a community ceremony to dedicate the renovated Pergola at Lake Merritt. City officials will be joined by the project architects, historic preservationists and community members in this festive event celebrating the project's completion.

What: **Ribbon-cutting Ceremony and Brief History of the Pergola**
Special performance by the Oakland School for the Arts Choir
Refreshments will be served

When: **Saturday, March 3, 2007 at 11 a.m.**

Where: **Lake Merritt Pergola**
El Embarcadero, Northeast end of Lake Merritt, directly opposite the Lakeview Library

Who: **Councilmember Nancy Nadel, District 3**
Councilmember Pat Kernighan, District 2
Mayor Ron Dellums' Representative Karen Stevenson
Valerie Garry, President, Oakland Heritage Alliance
Naomi Schiff, Measure DD Community Coalition

"The Pergola is a special spot," said Councilmember Nancy Nadel. "Whether it is the place you took your wedding photos, or the place you do your warm-up exercises before running the lake – it has always been one of the most beautiful vantage points of the lake, truly a treasure; and now it is an even more beautiful treasure."

Councilmember Pat Kernighan said, "To many people, the Pergola is the symbol of Lake Merritt. I am very happy that the city has been able to restore this historic structure through Measure DD so that it will be enjoyed by generations to come."

Background

The Pergola and Colonnade at the end of the eastern arm of Lake Merritt was constructed in 1913, designed by architect Walter Reed. It was part of a package of improvements for Lake Merritt, instituted by Mayor Frank K. Mott in 1908. Walter Reed was responsible for the design of the Municipal Boathouse and the East 18th Street Pier, which are also slated for improvement under Measure DD.

For more information about the Pergola renovation project, see www.oaklandpw.com.

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