



NEWS FROM **OAKLAND PUBLIC WORKS AGENCY**

Media Advisory
May 15, 2007

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The Oakland Public Works Agency Presents Special Activities in Celebration of National Public Works Week

May 15, 2007: Present first annual Public Works Local Citizen Hero Awards at City Council

1. Maria Castellanos Maria's family joined the Oakland Public Works Agency's Adopt-A-Spot program in 2005, when her youngest daughter was months old and her eldest daughter, was 2. Maria is life-long member of her Oakland neighborhood, committed to beautification improvement and believes in teaching community service. She started picking up litter with her young girls and has become an inspiration to all.

2. Julia Baker and Robert Bodner of NCPC-27Y (Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council 27-Y has undertaken numerous and far-reaching projects to make a significant impact on the community. They tirelessly worked to pass a fireworks ordinance, marshaled a neighborhood church to "clean up" the immediate vicinity surrounding neighborhood, encouraged the City to plant trees on several streets such as Wadean Place, 55th Avenue, Wentworth and Edgerly. NCPC-27Y also sponsored a "National Night Out" event to give residents an opportunity to come out to enjoy and celebrate the positive atmosphere that this group is all about creating.

3. Gordon Piper works to promote the beautification of Oakland through hands-on dedication and commitment. Gordon participates on the Keep Oakland Beautiful Board, Mayor Ron Dellums' Beautification Task Force, Wildfire Prevention Assessment District, and the Oakland Unified School District Garden Advisory Council. He developed and maintains the Firestorm Memorial Garden, Gateway Garden and Gateway Exhibit Center. He also has a variety of tree planting projects and school gardens!

4. Mr. Kong Lao reports all types of conditions ranging from graffiti removal to illegal dumping, pot holes, traffic signal & street lights and the like. He works for the Fruitvale Unity Council District and is an advocate for the well being and safety of his community. We honor his focus and dedication.

5. Marilyn Beach is our neighborhood's eyes on the street. Every morning for 20 years, she walks upper Harrison Street, to Moss and Bayo Vista to clean and beautify the neighborhood. She is not afraid to jump in and help out!

May 14 - 24, 2007: Environmental Sustainability Exhibits on Display

Exhibits by the Public Works Agency (on display at City Hall 3rd Floor and Dalziel Lobby) show the goals and accomplishments of Oakland's efforts as we move forward as a green city. The Seven Environmental Accords: **Water, Energy, Waste Reduction, Transportation, Urban Design, Environmental Health and Urban Nature** are featured.

May 21, 2007: Public Works Goes to School

PWA Director Raul Godinez II and staff will visit Melrose Elementary School to present educational activities on traffic safety, environmental issues and awareness of what public works is and does in the community.

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