



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**ECONOMIC SUMMIT SHOWCASES OAKLAND'S DYNAMIC BUSINESS CLIMATE**  
*Leaders to Discuss Economy, Business Growth and Progress Made by the Oakland Partnership*

**OAKLAND, CA** – Mayor Ron Dellums and the Oakland Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce will convene hundreds of business, civic and community leaders for the third annual **Oakland Partnership Economic Summit** on Friday, May 1<sup>st</sup> at the Oakland Marriott. George Zimmer, Founder/CEO of The Men's Wearhouse, will be the keynote speaker.

New this year is a dynamic showcase featuring scores of leading-edge companies that are putting Oakland on the map. Exhibitors include: **Numi Tea**, a fast-growing Oakland tea producer featured in Business Week and other national publications; **Rainin Instruments**, North America's largest manufacturer of pipettes, an advanced medical monitoring device; **Electric Motorsport**, leading-edge producers of environmentally-conscious electric motorcycles; **Green Heart Global**, makers of 100 percent recyclable clothing hangers whose clients include Gap and L.L.Bean; **EarthSource Forest Products**, one of the most respected and comprehensive sources of FSC-certified and environmentally healthy wood products in North America (President Obama's new family dog will reside in a home constructed from their products!); and **Lucid Design Group**, makers of dashboards that track energy use for homes, schools and businesses and the 2009 winner of California's prestigious "Flex Your Power" Award.

Several local CEOs of these fast-growing, innovative companies will be featured speakers, including **Michael Murray**, CEO, Lucid Design Group; **Kirsten Tobey**, Co-Founder/CEO, Revolution Foods, and **Michael LeBlanc**, Founder/Principal of Pican, a new Oakland restaurant located in burgeoning Uptown arts and entertainment district.

"A primary focus of my administration is to bring key stakeholders to the table to address the significant issues facing Oakland," said Mayor Dellums. "Through the Oakland Partnership, I established an overarching goal to develop a sustainable economic plan to create a thriving, innovative, equitable, globally competitive regional economy that benefits all Oakland residents and businesses. This public-private collaboration has produced viable strategies for generating jobs to invigorate Oakland's economy."

With a special focus on how federal stimulus funds will impact Oakland and our regional economy, Mayor Dellums will host a roundtable discussion with key officials who are helping lead the charge, including: **Dale Bonner**, Secretary, State of California's Business, Transportation and Housing (BT&H) Agency; **Lenny Mendonca**, Chairman, Bay Area Council and Chair of the McKinsey Global Institute; **Jane Brunner**, President, Oakland City Council; **Omar Benjamin**, Executive Director, Port of Oakland; **David E. Dowall**, Professor of City and

Regional Planning, University of California at Berkeley; and **Sharon Cornu**, Executive Secretary-Treasurer, Alameda Labor Council.

**Joe Haraburda**, President and CEO of the Oakland Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce, will present a progress report on the Oakland Partnership, which despite the economic downturn has shown progress towards its overall goal of creating 10,000 new jobs over a five-year period.

The Summit opens at 7:30 a.m. with the Showcase Oakland! Expo and continental breakfast. Speakers and panelists will continue through 12:30 p.m. and the Expo remains open until 1:00 p.m.

Tickets are currently on sale and space is limited. Sponsorship opportunities are also available including sponsorship of the Showcase Oakland! Expo exhibitors from key sectors, including Green Technology, Healthcare, Life Sciences, Trade & Logistics, Art & Design, and Specialty Food Production.

*About the Oakland Partnership: At its founding on May 3, 2007, Mayor Dellums announced an ambitious goal of creating 10,000 new jobs and invited stakeholders in Oakland's economy to join a public-private collaboration called the Oakland Partnership to create a vibrant economy for Oakland in which more Oakland residents participate and from which more benefit. The work of the Oakland Partnership is facilitated by the Oakland Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce. More information is available at [www.oaklandpartnership.com](http://www.oaklandpartnership.com).*

**PRESS CONTACTS:**

Samee Roberts, Marketing Manager  
City of Oakland  
(510) 238-2136  
[sroberts@oaklandnet.com](mailto:sroberts@oaklandnet.com)

Karen Engel, Director of Economic Development  
Oakland Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce  
(510) 874-4800, ext. 320  
[kengel@oaklandchamber.com](mailto:kengel@oaklandchamber.com)