Dear Neighbor,

This is a monthly newsletter designed to keep you informed about Measure Y, Oakland's Violence Prevention and Public Safety Initiative. If you know others who are interested in this information, please forward it to a neighbor.

**Project Re-Connect - Giving Parents the Tools for Change**

Project Re-Connect provides seven week parent education and gang awareness training for parents living in Central and East Oakland as part of Measure Y's gang prevention strategy. "Anna" and "Julio" were a couple struggling with how to best discipline their children. Read about how they gained the tools to better parent as a team at the Measure Y website.

To find out more about the next Project Re-Connect Parenting and Gang Awareness Classes starting September 16th at Melrose Elementary School at 6:15pm call (510) 482-1738 or projectreconnect@sbcglobal.net.

**This Year's National Night Out a Success**

From West Oakland to San Antonio Park, Lake Merritt to North Oakland, Oakland Hills to East Oakland and everywhere in between, over 29,000 residents, religious groups and members of business associations attended a record 400 National Night Out Parties in the City of Oakland on Tuesday, August 5th.

National Night Out is an annual event designed to strengthen neighborhood spirit and unity by helping neighbors get to know one another. The parties were visited by Mayor Ron Dellums and over 200 staff from the City of Oakland, including police officers and firefighters, as well as Measure Y funded community based organizations. Check out the National Night Out site on YouTube for more details.

If you were inspired to become more involved in your neighborhood by this years National Night Out, go to the Measure Y website's Join Your Neighbors to Fight Crime page to find out how.

**Update on Plan to Reach 803 Officers in '08**

From Mayor Ron Dellums' Website:

With police brass and proud family members and loved ones in attendance, the Oakland Police Department welcomed 30 new officers onto on July 25, 2008, bringing the total to 778 officers - another step closer to Mayor Ron Dellums' commitment of reaching 803 by the end of the year.

"I'm proud of the men and women who will be graduating from the Police Academy and joining our police force to protect and serve the residents of this city," said Mayor Dellums. "We made a commitment to fully staff our police force and we will meet that goal without question by the end of the year. The police recruitment plan we put forth demonstrates what can be done when the City of Oakland comes together and makes a commitment towards a common goal."

The total of 778 officers is the highest OPD has been staffed since Measure Y passed in 2004. During the mayor's State of the City address at the beginning of this year, he made a commitment to reach the city's authorized police force strength of 803 officers. Mayor Dellums said we would do it "this year -- no matter what it takes".

Questions? Comments? Have a story to share about your neighborhood? For more Information, please visit us at www.MeasureY.org.

Sincerely,

The Measure Y Team

We are: Police, Fire, and Community Programs for a Safe Oakland