



## ***News from***

### **Office of the Mayor**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **City Prevails in Court on Trash Issue**

### **Judge Orders Waste Management to Pick-up Trash Immediately**

*Oakland, CA* – Today, Superior Court Judge Richard Keller granted the City of Oakland's motion for injunctive relief against Waste Management of Alameda County (WMAC) for creating "irreparable harm to the health and safety" of the people of Oakland by not abiding by its contractual duties to pick up garbage, yard waste and recycling.

"I'm sure I speak for all residents and business owners in Oakland that we are grateful that the court chose to side with us and order Waste Management to do its job under its Franchise Agreement with the City of Oakland," said Oakland City Attorney John Russo.

Since the July 1<sup>st</sup> lock-out of WMAC's union employees, there has been an accumulation of trash, recycling and food waste scraps throughout Oakland. The City of Oakland has received more than 1600 emails and phone calls about failed pick-ups.

Mayor Ron Dellums said Judge Keller's ruling bolsters the City's position that the situation must be resolved immediately. He stated, "Each day that goes by without adequate garbage service represents an unacceptable hardship for Oakland residents and businesses jeopardizing their health and economic welfare. We are confident that by harnessing the power of our collective efforts, Oakland will drive the garbage crisis to a swift and definitive resolution for the benefit of all of the cities affected by the lock-out."

The City of Oakland is united in its pursuit to bring this crisis to a close. The Mayor continues to participate in talks between the parties convened by a federal mediator, which resume tomorrow. Public Works staff continues to monitor the situation through telephone and email customer service hotlines and the City Attorney is exhausting all legal options to force Waste Management to pick up the garbage. A letter to Oakland residents and business owners detailing the city's legal remedies is attached.

(continued)

Oakland residents and business owners should continue to put their garbage, recycling and green waste bins out on their normal collection day. Missed pickups should be reported by telephone to (510) 238-SAVE (7283) or [recycling@oaklandnet.com](mailto:recycling@oaklandnet.com). It is important to document any missed pick-ups and help the City recover fees from Waste Management by reporting missed service. Waste Management announced in full-page newspaper ads that they would not collect fees for missed service.

For a copy of the July 7<sup>th</sup> Waste Management advertisement and the letter describing the City of Oakland's legal remedies, please see the Office of the City Attorney's website: [www.oaklandcityattorney.org](http://www.oaklandcityattorney.org).

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