



MEDIA RELEASE FROM **OAKLAND PUBLIC WORKS AGENCY**

For Immediate Release:

March 31, 2008

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Photo/Video Opportunity

Return of Horses and Stage Coach to Montclair Western Town

What: Montclair Western Horses Installation Photo/Video Opportunity
Interviews available upon request

Who: Public Works Agency

When: 12:00 noon, Monday, March 31, 2008

Where: Montclair Park, 6300 Moraga Avenue, Oakland, CA

Oakland, CA – The City of Oakland Public Works Agency, Park and Building Maintenance Division will be installing the newly refurbished historical horses and stage coach in the Montclair Western Town located in Montclair Park.

Originally designed and built in the late 1950s by the Parks and Recreation carpentry shop under direction of Bert Truebody, Western Town provided new opportunities for imaginative play for children of that era. Since then, many Oakland children have enjoyed their time on and around the Wells Fargo replica.

The newly restored horses have had a complete retrofit and have been refinished to their original glory including new ears, reattached legs and fresh paint. The stage coach was sandblasted to remove the lead-based paint, with help from the Friends of Montclair Park. Public Works replaced broken spokes, reinforced the chaise and re-welded all seams to close off any pinch points that a child could get caught in. The coach was then primed and painted back to its original red and yellow colors which will last the children of Oakland for many years to come.

This is another example of the City's commitment to enhance the parks for the enjoyment of Oakland youth and adults.

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