



NEWS FROM **PUBLIC WORKS AGENCY**

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MEDIA ADVISORY **May 6, 2005**

Peralta Creek Restoration Celebration

Creek Habitat Restored in Fruitvale District for Community Park Improvement

WHAT: Ribbon Cutting and Presentation to Celebrate the Completion of the Peralta Creek Restoration Project

WHERE: Cesar Chavez Park, 3705 Foothill Boulevard

WHEN: Saturday, May 7, 2005, 11:00 a.m.

WHO: Oakland City Council President Ignacio De La Fuente, Oakland Public Works Director Raul Godinez II, Representative from Office of Congresswoman Barbara Lee, Officials from Alameda County, the Department of Water Resources, the Urban Creeks Council, and the Unity Council, and community volunteers.

Oakland, CA – With the assistance of local schools and the community, the Peralta Creek Restoration Project has just been completed! The project included removal of concrete walls, a concrete flood bypass tunnel, and restoration of habitat and hydrological function to a 250-foot stretch of the creek. Changes to the creek will improve water quality and flood control, as well as plant diversity, access, and habitat for native fauna. The restoration project is the result of a successful collaboration between the City of Oakland, Alameda County, the Urban Creeks Council and the Unity Council, and is funded by the Department of Water Resources and the Alameda County Flood Control and Water Conservation District. Additional services for the project were provided by the East Bay Conservation Corps and the Friends of Sausal Creek.

The restoration received support from community members and local schools who have already contributed hundreds of volunteer hours to the project by raising native plants and planting them at the creek site, weeding, and monitoring the water quality of the creek. The creek site will be used as an outdoor classroom by local schools to teach science lessons and give students the opportunity for hands-on learning and stewardship.