

# CITY OF OAKLAND

## AGENDA REPORT

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OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK  
OAKLAND

2007 SEP 13 PM 5: 53

**TO:** Office of the City Administrator  
**ATTN:** Deborah Edgerly  
**FROM:** Police Department  
**DATE:** September 25, 2007

**RE: An Informational Report from the Office of Chief of Police Detailing  
Citywide Statistics and Law Enforcement Efforts Related to Burglaries, Auto  
Burglaries, and Robberies in the City of Oakland**

### SUMMARY

As requested by the Rules and Legislation Committee on July 12, 2007, staff has prepared an informational report detailing City of Oakland statistics related to robberies, burglaries, and auto burglaries. Also contained in this report are proactive measures taken to address these trends in 2007. This report also provides comparisons to past years' statistics including a breakdown of the specific beats and Police Service Areas (PSAs). Statistical information can be found as attachments in pages 8 through 14 of this report.

### FISCAL IMPACT

This is an informational report. Fiscal impacts have not been included.

### BACKGROUND

Staff examined crime statistics for this year (up to August 25, 2007) and compared them to the same period in 2006 (see Table 1), and found that there has been a decrease in:

- Robberies (-1%)
- Residential Burglaries (-3%)

However, crime statistics also revealed there were increases in:

- Auto burglaries (+26%)
- Commercial Burglaries (+7%)

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Crime	Reports Entered Year-to-Date	Year-to-Date Last Year (2006)	% Change Compared to Last Year
<b>Robbery</b>	2,656	2,673	-1%
Armed/Strong Armed	2,117	2,141	-1%
Attempted Robbery - 664/211 PC	229	185	24%
Residential Robbery - 212 PC	112	102	10%
Carjacking - 215 PC	198	245	-19%
<b>Burglary - 459 PC (Includes Attempts)</b>	5,490	4,967	11%
Auto	2,469	1,964	26%
Residential	2,069	2,132	-3%
Commercial	751	701	7%
Other (Includes boats, aircraft, etc.)	201	170	18%

TABLE 1

**KEY ISSUES AND IMPACTS**

*Robbery Crime Trends*

Robbery cases continue to be analyzed by investigators, patrol officers, commanders, Problem Solving Officers (PSOs), Crime Reduction Team (CRT) members, and the Crime Analysis Unit. Three trends currently taking place are of particular concern to the City. The first trend was identified last year and continues to take place today. This robbery trend is called "rat packing" and is being committed by subjects traveling in groups. The group will approach one victim (usually walking alone at the time) and make threats. The group essentially commits the strong-arm robbery by out-numbering the victim. Some of the robberies are committed by using force, such as punching, pushing, and kicking. In some instances, the suspects wear a hooded sweatshirt covering their face to make it difficult for victims to identify them; this last tactic is a growing concern.

The second trend facing the City is a new phenomenon that juveniles and young adults are engaged in. Many young people are purchasing and wearing a new type of hooded sweatshirt that zips up in front which when zipped all the way up, covers the wearer's head and conceals the individuals face so it can not be seen. The material covering the head has a printed picture of a man wearing a mask which conceals the true identity and characteristics of the wearer. This technique is becoming more prevalent, especially in street and convenience store robberies.

The final trend was also identified previously. Many of the City's robbery victims are non-English speaking and/or undocumented workers who are known to carry large amounts of cash. The street term for these robberies is "amigo checking," and is still very prevalent. As stated in a previous report, the prevention of *amigo checking* offenses is complicated by the distrust in law enforcement and, apprehension of suspects is complicated by the lack of suspect identification associated with the cross-racial nature of the offense.

The City is also experiencing a significant rise in attempted robberies. In the past, some victims have handed money and property over to the suspects prior to the suspects even demanding it. The victims were apparently doing this out of fear. Interviews with robbery suspects yielded information indicating the suspects committed these robberies to obtain quick cash, with little consideration given to the chance of being apprehended or the associated consequences.

Officers and investigators have learned that citizens are listening to safety tips that are provided, reading literature, attending meetings, and becoming more attentive to their surroundings. Though not recommended by law enforcement, citizens are also fighting back when approached during attempted strong-arm robberies, often times refusing to surrender their money or property.

### *Burglary Crime Trends*

The burglaries occurring in the City are being scrutinized much like robberies. The burglaries continued to be committed (in large part) by juveniles and juvenile burglaries continue to rise. Patrol officers, PSOs, CRTs, investigators, and citizens continue to work together to observe, report, and apprehend the offenders; however, it is difficult to establish a definite / specific trend or series concerning these crimes.

When burglary arrests are made, investigators look for consistent patterns or modus operandi (MO) that would lead to the recovery of stolen property or closure of other cases. Search warrants are prepared and served in an effort to restore property to the rightful owner(s).

The largest increase in burglaries is auto burglaries. The majority of items stolen from vehicles in auto burglary crimes are small change, stereos, and items left in public view. Many of the reported auto burglaries come from apartment building garages and commercial parking lots. The items that are stolen rarely have the serial numbers recorded or have little to no identifying information, which makes it difficult to return recovered items to the proper owner.

### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

Preventing robberies and theft is a major goal of the Police Department. The Department looks to identify causes, intervene, and address the underlying circumstances to prevent these crimes. To assist OPD in achieving this goal, staff is using technology to help identify and monitor suspects that have recently been returned to the community. An example of this is the use of the SecureAlert Global Positioning Satellite (GPS) Electronic Monitoring bracelet.

The Department has established a working partnership with the Alameda County Probation Department (adult and juvenile agencies). The Police Department, in conjunction with the

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Alameda County Probation Department, is currently working on a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to expand the use of the GPS monitoring bracelets. This will enable the Probation Department and the Police Department to effectively monitor violations of probation for individuals equipped with the bracelets, which serves as a great deterrent for criminal activity and is extremely cost effective when compared to incarceration.

### *Juvenile Crime*

As detailed in a separate report, the Youth & Family Services Division (YFSD) was established and has been functioning for the past few months. The second phase, consisting of the Campus Life and School Safety (CLASS), is in operation and working with the newly created processing unit.

The YFSD has taken the lead in the Department's efforts to:

- Reduce juvenile crime within the City, with a special emphasis on status/incorrigible offenders;
- Link eligible youth offenders (status and criminal<sup>1</sup>) to diversionary/first time offender programs and tracking their city/county recidivism rates;
- Provide patrol units with investigative services and resources;
- Provide classroom instruction and mentoring to Oakland's youth in crime/violence prevention through a pilot program, *Youth Crime Watch of America*

### *Enforcement*

PSA Commanders consistently conduct analysis of the crime in their respective PSAs and designate target locations where robberies and burglaries are on the rise. It is imperative that PSA Commanders use all of the information available to them to identify current crime trends and focus their resources. With this information, several operations have been implemented to address robberies.

At the end of May 2007, PSA Commanders from PSAs 1 (West Oakland), 2 (North Oakland), and 3 (Central Oakland) saw emerging robbery trends consistent in all 3 areas. The demographics of the victims, suspects, and MO were similar in several neighborhoods. These area commanders shared resources and strategically deployed personnel into the hotspots for 30 days (end of May through end of June). This project produced the following results:

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<sup>1</sup> 601 Welfare and Institution Code (W&I) Status Offenses: Behaviors that if the subject was and adult would not be a violation, i.e., incorrigible, running away curfew violations (if applicable).

300 W&I Dependant cases: Cases in which the subject child is a victim/ward of a case/situation.

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Robbery Warrant Arrests	3
Robbery On-View Arrests	6
Narcotics Related Arrests	13
Firearms Recovered	2
Field Contacts	107
Citations Issued	10
Misc. Warrant Arrests	9
Other Misdemeanor Arrests	7
Other Felony Arrests	10
<b>Total of Arrests</b>	<b>50</b>

To measure the effectiveness of this project, the number of robberies in May was compared to June 07:

PSA	June Robbery	May Robbery	Change
1	38	53	-28.30%
2	51	50	2%
3	32	62	-48.40%

The sharp decrease of robberies in two of the three areas indicates the effectiveness of collaborative focused enforcement efforts. The challenge is to balance these operations with the other needs of the individual PSA's.

*Prevention / Education*

The Police Department values the importance of educating citizens in hopes that their new found knowledge will prevent them from becoming crime victims. With this in mind, staff has sponsored or participated in events to promote this component of enforcement strategies. These events include:

- Crime Prevention Safety Fair (PSA 3) held in 2006
- Crime Prevention Safety Fair (PSA 5) held in early 2007

Both of these events included seminars on personal safety and home safety, as well live self defense demonstrations and police K-9 demonstrations. The Department invited vendors to these events, who offered citizens an opportunity to enroll in self defense courses and home burglary alarm protection programs, or to purchase self protection devices. Free steering wheel locks were also provided to participants.

Additionally, Neighborhood Services Coordinators (NSCs) continue to work with PSOs to educate citizens on the importance of practicing good safety techniques. Through Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council meetings as well as Home Alert meetings, staff is constantly updating citizens on crime trends and prevention tips. Staff from the City Administrator's Office conducts security inspections of homes and businesses throughout the City to provide owners valuable tips

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on how to make their homes/businesses safer through environmental design. Simple concepts such as trimming bushes around the location, enhanced lighting, and security alarms are stressed to the owners.

Taking advantage of technology, PSA Commanders post vital crime information on the six different Yahoo groups to keep citizens informed. Some of the information posted includes:

- Recent arrests in the respective PSA
- Crime trends
- Positive community projects
- Drug Hotline Calls
- Prevention tips (robberies, burglaries)

### *Intervention*

Recognizing the often short term effects of arresting individual violators, the Police Department has committed significant resources in the area of intervention.

Police staff has built strong relationships with Measure Y funded programs, such as Youth Uprising, where staff worked collaboratively with the group to co-sponsor youth outreach events to promote a safer Oakland. Recognizing the power of the music culture and the message it brings to the youth, OPD and Youth Uprising have facilitated regular meetings between rappers and police personnel (“Rappers & Police for a Violent Free Oakland”). The purpose of these meetings is to explore ways for the two groups to work together and send a more positive message to young people, and promote better relationships and a safer community.

Also, staff recognizes that many of the City’s shootings/homicides are a result of poor conflict resolution skills of the parties involved. To help address the problem of conflict resolution, a group called the “Peace-Making Team” was formed. Comprised of representatives from OPD, Youth Uprising, and Youth Employment Partnership (YEP), the Peace Making Team comes together to provide mediation services to members of the community; the Team has helped multiple groups resolve differences without resorting to violence.

During the period of May – June of this year, multiple shootings occurred between the ACORN and Campbell Village/10<sup>th</sup> and Center areas of the City. A member of the Peace Making Team was able to provide outreach in these neighborhoods by bringing a credibility factor that was known by the criminal element. Part of his outreach included speaking to individuals in the identified “hot spots” and providing alternatives to gun violence. The work done by this Team member, combined with other OPD strategies resulted in the cessation of this particular cycle of violence in the Prescott area of Beat 2Y.

## SUSTAINABLE OPPORTUNITIES

*Economic:* The Department's analysis of crime, specifically robberies and burglaries, is another tool used to reduce crime in Oakland and improve the quality of life for residents and merchants. This leads to a lower crime rate, which in turn encourages economic development and prosperity.

*Environmental:* There are no environmental opportunities associated with this report.

*Social Equity:* The Department's response to crime leads to the identification, arrest, and successful prosecution of those responsible for committing crimes in Oakland. It serves as a deterrent and reduces recidivism rates thereby making the City a safer place.

### Disability and Senior Access

There are no ADA or senior citizen access issues identified in this report.

## RECOMMENDATION / RATIONALE

The Department continues to collect and analyze data related to all crimes and crime trends. In addition to our increased patrol presence, staff continues to explore and utilize the latest technology to thwart the efforts of would be criminals.

## ACTION REQUESTED OF THE COUNCIL

This is an informational report; therefore, no action is requested of the Council. Staff recommends acceptance of this report.

Respectfully submitted,



Wayne G. Tucker  
Chief of Police

Prepared by:  
Captain Edward Tracey  
Strategic Area Command

Captain Jeffrey Loman  
Criminal Investigation Division

APPROVED AND FORWARDED TO  
THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE:

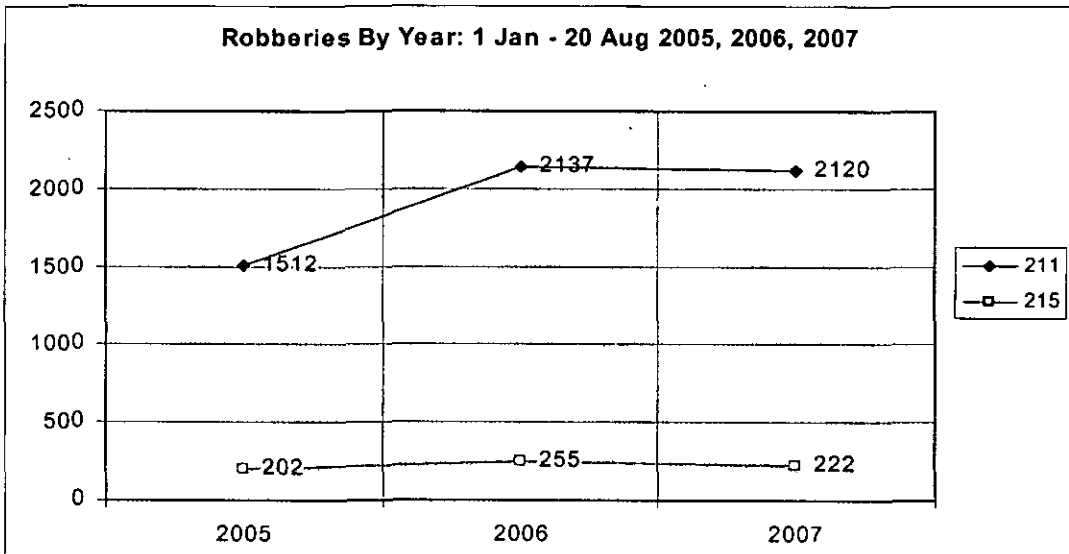
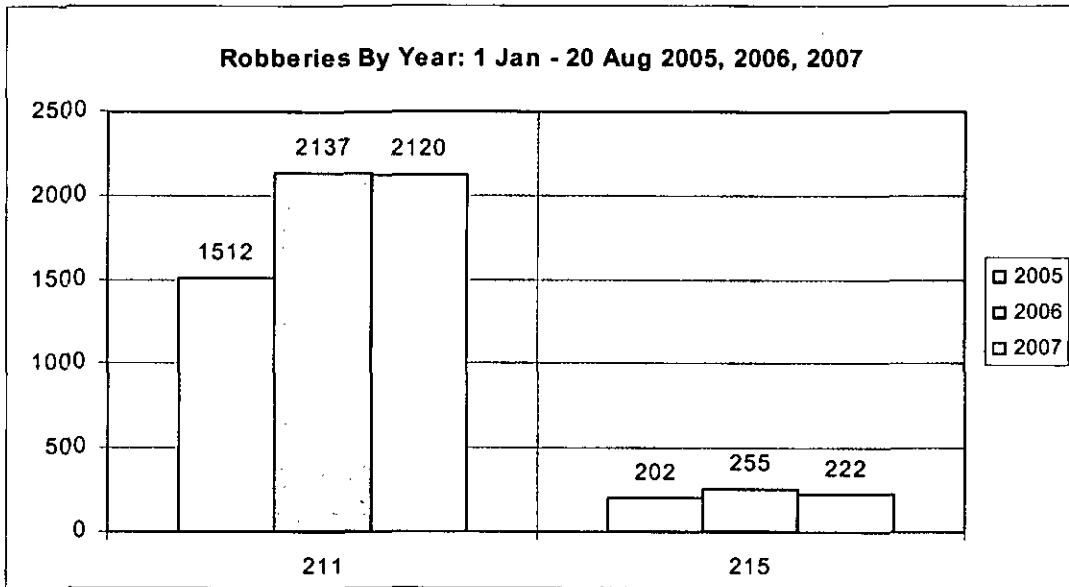
  
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Office of the City Administrator

### Attachments:

1. Pages 8 through 14 of this report contain robbery and burglary statistics for the years 2005 - 2007.
2. Council District/Community Police Beat Map

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Oakland Police Department			
Robbery (211 PC) & Car Jacking (215 PC) Summary			
1 Jan - 20 Aug 2005, 2006, 2007			
	2005	2006	2007
211	1512	2137	2120
215	202	255	222
<b>Total</b>	<b>1714</b>	<b>2392</b>	<b>2342</b>





**2007 Robberies Count by Beat**  
 1 January - 20 August 2007

BEATS	211	215	TOTALS BY BEAT
01	8	1	9
02	59	6	65
03	96	3	99
04	72	3	75
05	26	3	29
06	35	8	43
07	34	0	34
08	76	8	84
09	38	0	38
10	64	6	70
11	37	2	39
12	99	5	104
13	17	0	17
14	50	1	51
15	45	1	46
16	39	1	40
17	103	6	109
18	39	10	49
19	94	5	99
20	79	15	94
21	101	7	108
22	62	2	64
23	119	11	130
24	78	7	85
25	54	10	64
26	51	14	65
27	123	13	136
28	10	4	14
29	40	2	42
30	94	22	116
31	40	11	51
32	51	10	61
33	41	7	48
34	72	9	81
35	81	12	93
<b>TOTALS BY TYPE</b>	<b>2,127</b>	<b>225</b>	<b>2,352</b>

**2006 Robberies Count by Beat**  
 1 January - 20 August 2006

BEATS	211	215	TOTALS BY BEAT
01	7	1	8
02	87	6	93
03	75	7	82
04	84	7	91
05	37	6	43
06	40	4	44
07	36	3	39
08	68	3	71
09	45	0	45
10	46	2	48
11	23	1	24
12	85	1	86
13	15	1	16
14	66	2	68
15	37	2	39
16	27	0	27
17	106	9	115
18	36	1	37
19	88	7	95
20	74	7	81
21	68	13	81
22	62	3	65
23	95	8	103
24	72	12	84
25	55	6	61
26	55	8	63
27	127	19	146
28	15	3	18
29	59	3	62
30	135	32	167
31	42	22	64
32	86	23	109
33	41	6	47
34	80	19	99
35	45	17	62
<b>TOTALS BY TYPE</b>	<b>2,119</b>	<b>264</b>	<b>2,383</b>

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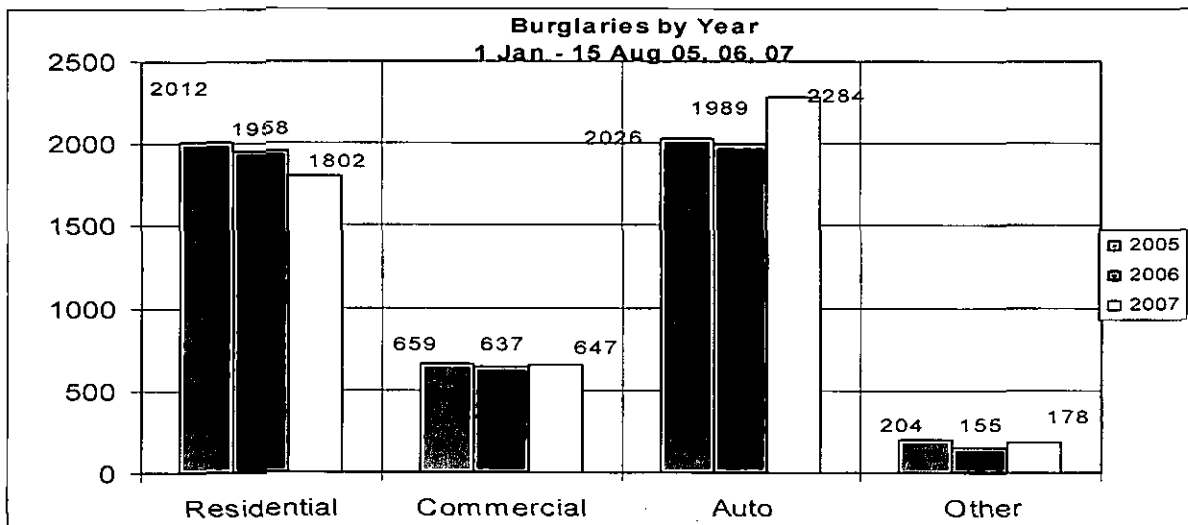
**2005 Robberies Count by Beat**  
**1 January - 20 August 2005**

BEATS	211	215	TOTALS BY BEAT
01	6	1	7
02	55	6	61
03	55	2	57
04	81	3	84
05	24	6	30
06	44	14	58
07	12	5	17
08	62	4	66
09	45	4	49
10	28	4	32
11	21	4	25
12	59	1	60
13	9	0	9
14	56	2	58
15	41	1	42
16	11	2	13
17	64	5	69
18	22	2	24
19	67	4	71
20	43	7	50
21	48	10	58
22	26	0	26
23	81	5	86
24	36	8	44
25	32	4	36
26	36	12	48
27	89	11	100
28	6	1	7
29	46	7	53
30	120	18	138
31	47	16	63
32	43	16	59
33	14	7	21
34	38	8	46
35	21	5	26
<b>TOTALS BY TYPE</b>	<b>1,488</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>1,693</b>

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**All Burglaries YTD**  
 1 Jan - 15 Aug 2005, 2006, 2007

	2005	2006	2007
Residential	2012	1958	1802
Commercial	659	637	647
Auto	2026	1989	2284
Other	204	155	178



**Council Districts Community Policing Beats**

1	9X, 10X, 10Y, 11X, 12X, 12Y, 13X, 13Y
2	3X, 14Y, 15X, 16X, 17X, 17Y, 18X, 18Y, 19X
3	1X, 2X, 2Y, 3Y, 4X, 5X, 5Y, 6X, 7X, 8X
4	13Y, 22X, 22Y, 24Y, 25X
5	20X, 21X, 21Y, 23X, 24X, 27X
6	25Y, 26X, 26Y, 27Y, 28X, 29X, 30X, 30Y
7	31X, 31Y, 31Y, 32X, 32Y, 33X, 34X, 35X, 35Y

**2007 YTD Burglary Count by Beat**  
 1 January to 15 August 2007

BEATS	AUTO	COMMERCIAL	RESIDENTIAL	OTHER <sup>2</sup>	TOTAL
01	64	23	8	2	97
02	44	15	48	4	111
03	115	53	7	2	177
04	148	70	14	11	243
05	58	21	36	5	120
06	35	16	34	2	87
07	43	24	59	4	130
08	162	50	51	11	274
09	73	16	30	8	127
10	31	13	53	3	100
11	26	9	25	2	62
12	11	50	92	8	161
13	156	17	81	6	260
14	153	13	45	4	215
15	48	7	24	6	85
16	51	6	43	2	102
17	41	6	77	1	125
18	19	5	55	4	83
19	56	33	23	7	119
20	25	15	16	7	63
21	29	5	72	5	111
22	84	14	91	5	194
23	48	26	30	1	105
24	34	7	96	8	145
25	52	14	63	4	133
26	65	20	52	6	143
27	50	20	101	13	184
28	20	5	47	1	73
29	34	10	50	4	98
30	43	7	96	3	149
31	103	18	30	13	164
32	36	18	68	11	133
33	30	7	37	3	77
34	27	3	49	1	80
35	35	6	73	3	117
<b>TOTALS BY TYPE</b>	<b>2,049</b>	<b>642</b>	<b>1,776</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>4,647</b>

<sup>2</sup> "Other" burglaries include non-commercial structures such as boats, airplanes, barns, stables, etc.

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**2006 Burglary Count by Beat**  
**1 January - 15 August 2006**

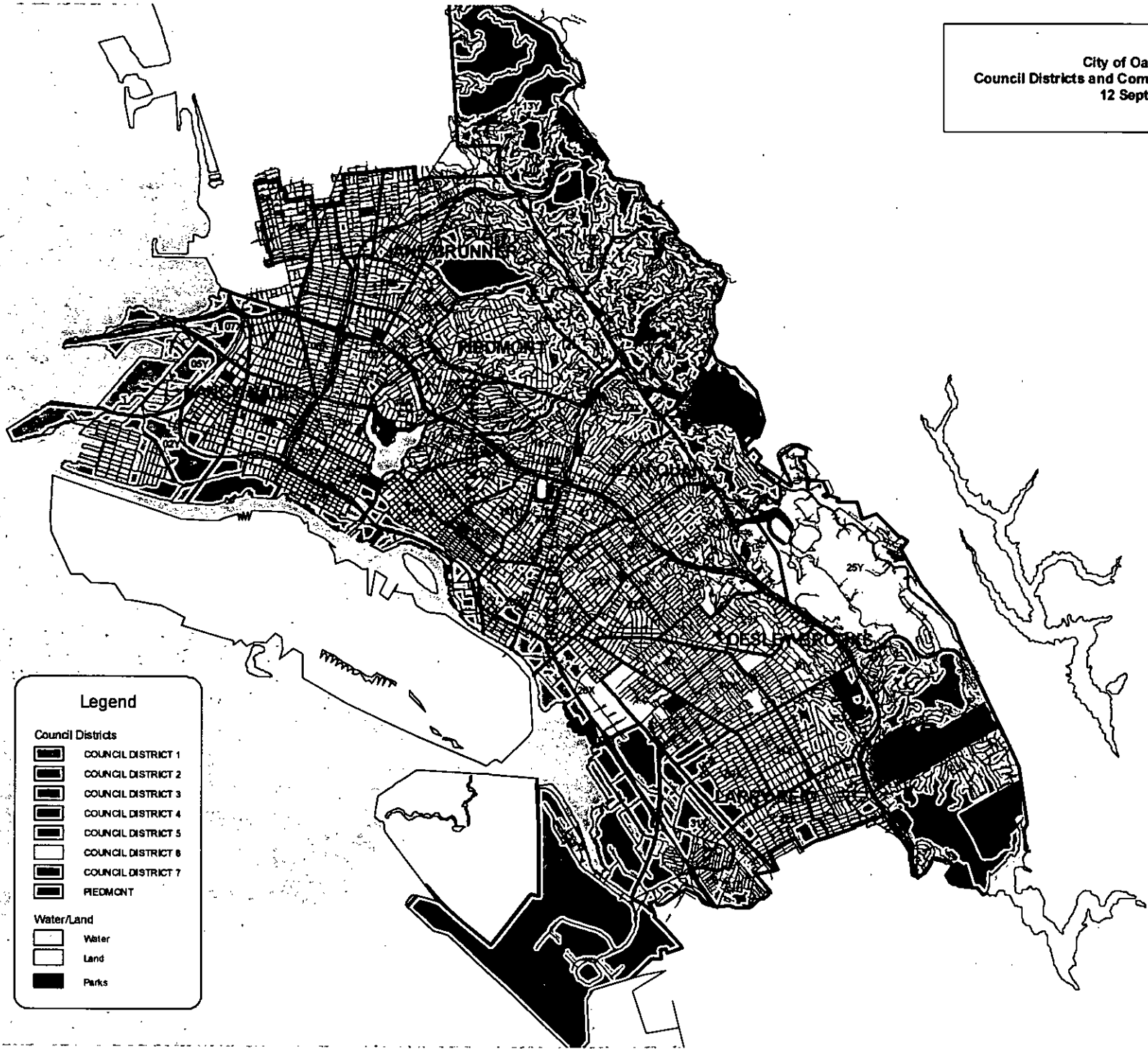
BEATS	AUTO	RESIDENTIAL	COMMERCIAL	OTHER	UNK	TOTALS BY BEAT
01	20	2	12	1		35
02	31	41	22	4	1	99
03	86	12	14	1		113
04	84	24	48	4	1	161
05	30	36	18	1	1	86
06	27	56	15	2	1	101
07	48	46	29	4	1	128
08	149	39	27	7	8	230
09	74	42	21	0		137
10	33	67	13	4		117
11	33	43	7	2	4	89
12	107	112	33	7	4	263
13	93	50	22	5	1	171
14	103	69	12	4	2	190
15	51	34	6	2		93
16	46	41	16	2	1	106
17	36	68	6	2	1	113
18	29	46	2	1		78
19	40	27	35	10	1	113
20	20	17	13	4		54
21	34	91	5	5	1	136
22	72	56	10	4		142
23	26	19	46	5	2	98
24	39	53	11	2		105
25	45	49	6	7	1	108
26	55	44	28	6	3	136
27	64	150	22	9	6	251
28	23	34	7	5	1	70
29	28	78	7	3	2	118
30	56	156	10	6	4	232
31	70	51	70	6	2	199
32	28	82	15	8	3	136
33	29	50	12	5	2	98
34	27	67	4	2		100
35	33	92	11	8	1	145
<b>TOTALS BY TYPE</b>	<b>1,851</b>	<b>1,954</b>	<b>635</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>4,668</b>

### 2005 YTD BURGLARY COUNT BY BEAT

1 January - 15 August 2005

	AUTO	COMMERCIAL	RESIDENTIAL	OTHER	UNK	TOTALS BY BEAT
01	38	14	2	5		59
02	54	30	48	5	3	140
03	35	52	6	1		94
04	74	68	20	4	3	169
05	35	12	18	3		68
06	24	9	51	5	1	90
07	82	16	39	6	1	144
08	100	45	53	11	5	214
09	64	13	29	2	3	111
10	49	18	69	3	5	144
11	35	8	36	1	1	81
12	122	29	66	9	2	228
13	67	12	75	8	5	167
14	104	17	61	9	3	194
15	46	6	53	4	1	110
16	48	8	37	1		94
17	42	6	120	2	4	174
18	21	4	73	2		100
19	70	31	31	8	4	144
20	28	13	25	5		71
21	31	5	93	5	3	137
22	90	13	65	6	4	178
23	33	15	24	3		75
24	36	13	83	4	3	139
25	58	14	66	5		143
26	58	39	73	7	5	182
27	62	16	99	15	4	196
28	28	6	32	5	2	73
29	42	21	122	9	1	195
30	57	16	141	9	8	231
31	85	34	33	5	2	159
32	33	16	52	6	5	112
33	28	6	38	3	1	76
34	33	7	61	3	3	107
35	40	11	72	14	2	139
<b>TOTALS BY TYPE</b>	<b>1,852</b>	<b>643</b>	<b>1,966</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>4,738</b>

City of Oakland  
Council Districts and Community Policing Beats  
12 Sept 07



**Legend**

**Council Districts**

- COUNCIL DISTRICT 1
- COUNCIL DISTRICT 2
- COUNCIL DISTRICT 3
- COUNCIL DISTRICT 4
- COUNCIL DISTRICT 5
- COUNCIL DISTRICT 6
- COUNCIL DISTRICT 7
- FEDMONT

**Water/Land**

- Water
- Land
- Parks