

HAWAIIAN AIRLINES ANNOUNCES NEW SERVICE AT OAKLAND INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

On Thursday, May 1st, Hawaiian Airlines inaugurated service at Oakland International Airport. I was pleased to join Hawaiian's CEO Mark Dunkerley, and the Port's First Vice-President Mark McClure and Aviation Director Steve Grossman at a press conference to discuss details and to launch the first flight. Hawaiian offers daily nonstop service between Oakland and Honolulu, departing Oakland at 9:00 a.m. and returning at 9:30 p.m. Hawaiian's CEO announced at the press conference that his airline had hired many of the Aloha and ATA employees who had lost their jobs as a result of the closure of these airlines last month. I wish to acknowledge Steve Grossman and airport staff for their efforts in assisting Hawaiian Airlines with start-up of service at Oakland within just three weeks—and for restoring this important service to the Hawaiian Islands.

PORT EMPLOYEES REBUILDING TOGETHER AT OAKLAND AVIATION HIGH SCHOOL

On Saturday, April 26, the Port of Oakland employees volunteered with a non-profit organization called *Rebuilding Together* to make repairs and paint the exterior of Oakland Aviation High School, a charter school located on Oakland International Airport's North Field. The mission of Rebuilding Together is to bring volunteers and communities together to repair and restore houses and non-profit facilities. More than 140 volunteers including Oakland Aviation High School students, parents, Port staff, and students from UC Berkeley and Wyotech, repaired and painted the buildings. Airport tenant Andale Restaurants donated lunch for the volunteers. United Airlines donated two round-trip tickets for the event's raffle and provided much-needed furniture to the school for its teachers' lounge.

The airport's Rental Car Center provided parking spaces for volunteers, and Urban Releaf planted 15 trees and gave students instructions on how to care for them.

Oakland Aviation High School operates as a fully comprehensive public high school that connects students with interest in aviation to post-secondary education.

Business and aviation courses are taught by instructors from Peralta Colleges. The school's aviation curriculum was certified by the Federal Aviation Administration in 2007 and 125 students are currently enrolled. I'd like to comment Port staff for taking the time to volunteer and help the school.

PORT EMPLOYEES AT THE 7TH ANNUAL EARTH DAY SHORELINE CLEANUP

On Saturday, April 19, 2008, 45 volunteers including Port staff, friends and relatives, BART staff, Port consultants and community members participated in the Port's 7th Annual Earth Day Shoreline Cleanup. Approximately 12 cubic yards of trash were collected along the Oakland Estuary from the Ferry Dock to Estuary Park in two hours. Following the event, volunteers were treated to lunch and raffle prizes that were provided by Ben and Jerry's, Maersk, R&M Environmental, the Port and BART. Prizes were also awarded for discovery of the most unusual item—an hourglass and sting ray skeleton! Wow. The next shoreline cleanup is scheduled for September 2008.