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New Restaurants and Bars to Open in Oakland's Two Major Community Benefit Districts

*Several New Downtown Oakland & Lake Merritt/Uptown Eateries Will
Open for Restaurant Week*

Oakland, CA – January 20, 2012 – The past few months have seen a further increase in business growth in Oakland's Downtown and Lake Merritt/Uptown business communities, according to the boards of each district—especially in the restaurant sector.

“Word about the positive aspects of downtown and uptown Oakland is now getting out to a national audience, thanks to articles such as the recent [New York Times](#) feature which listed Oakland as one of five top travel destinations in the world, and we are seeing this further reflected in solid new business development and job creation,” said JC Wallace, Downtown Oakland District Association President.

Deborah Boyer, Lake Merritt/Uptown District Association President points out that one of the really significant contributions these restaurants will make to both Uptown and Downtown is the new jobs to be created, with more to come. “The opening of three eateries will add 32 jobs, 25 of them full-time positions,” says Boyer. “That’s a significant number of new jobs coming in to sustain these increasingly important and revitalized downtown neighborhoods.”

Notable new restaurants and bars include:

- [Plum Bar](#), located at 2216 Broadway in Oakland next to the Plum Restaurant, will feature well-crafted cocktails, and a menu of snacks, sharable dishes, hearty sandwiches and desserts.
- [Ike's Lair](#), will be located at 2210 Broadway and will feature their world-famous sandwiches in the Lake Merritt/Uptown District.
- [Noble Cafe](#) will open mid-January, and will feature quality organic dishes at their 100 Grand Avenue location. Noble promises to be the first 0% carbon footprint café in the US.



Many restaurants and bars are open in the downtown and uptown districts, awaiting the celebration of [Oakland's Restaurant Week](#). This January 20-29, Visit Oakland will host the 2nd annual Oakland Restaurant Week, held in correlation with [Visit California's Restaurant Month](#). The ten-day event celebrates Oakland's thriving culinary scene, providing both locals and visitors with a unique opportunity to taste some of Oakland's finest cuisine.

“We have some of the best restaurants, cafes and bars in Northern California right here in Oakland and we have the views, the weather, the public transit and the parking to make it a pleasant experience for businesses and diners to come here,” said Chris Curtis, Lake Merritt/Uptown District Association Vice President. “Oakland is obviously open for business.”

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The Downtown Oakland and Lake Merritt/Uptown District Association were formed in February 2009. Property owners in both Downtown Oakland and the Lake Merritt/Uptown Districts voted by a margin of almost 8 to 1 to support a voluntary property tax to fund services that would improve the quality of life in their respective communities. The associations meet and function jointly. Services funded by these Districts include maintaining cleanliness and order in the public rights of way, improving district identity and advocating on behalf of the area's property owners, business owners and residents.

For more information, see the Oakland Restaurant Week page at visitoakland.org/restaurantweek, and follow the Visit Oakland [Twitter](#) feed and [Facebook](#) page for the latest updates.