



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – **January 27, 2009**

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CITY OF VALLEJO AND POLICE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION REACH AGREEMENT ON LABOR CONTRACT

An agreement modifying the collective bargaining agreement between the City of Vallejo and the Vallejo Police Officers Association (VPOA) was approved by the Vallejo City Council this evening. This agreement was the result of several months of negotiations between representatives of the VPOA and city staff under the auspices of chapter 9 bankruptcy proceedings. The VPOA membership ratified the agreement over the past weekend. Over \$6 million in General Fund savings will be achieved by salary reductions exceeding 18% between July 1, 2008 and June 30, 2010. Additional long term savings will be achieved through caps on medical benefits for current employees and retirees and reductions in sick leave and annual leave benefits for new employees. The agreement, also, eliminates minimum staffing provisions of the agreement, providing the city with the flexibility to modify staffing and service levels as needed over the term of the agreement. The supplemental agreement extends the labor agreement with VPOA through June 30, 2012.

“This agreement represents a very positive deal for the City and residents of Vallejo,” said Police Chief Robert Nichelini. “It will allow the Department to manage staffing and service levels while maintaining wages and benefits at a level necessary to recruit and retain officers in a very tight police labor market.”

As a result of this agreement, the City of Vallejo will withdraw its motion to reject the VPOA Collective Bargaining Agreement and the VPOA will withdraw its appeal challenging the City’s eligibility for bankruptcy protection. The agreement also establishes a cap and payment schedule for VPOA’s bankruptcy claims. “From a bankruptcy standpoint, I believe this was a very good agreement,” said attorney Marc Levinson.

During the council’s discussion of the proposed agreement at tonight’s council meeting, Mayor Osby Davis stated that his decision to vote to approve the agreement was “based on what I think is good for this community. Police services are one of the most important services that we provide to this community.”

A complete copy of the Supplemental Agreement is available on the City of Vallejo website at [City Council Agenda with Staff Reports](#)

The City of Vallejo continues to be hopeful that it can reach agreements with the three other labor groups representing the remaining employees of the City of Vallejo (International Association of Firefighters, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and Confidential Administrative, Managerial and Professional Association). A hearing on the City's motion to reject the collective bargaining agreements with the aforementioned groups is scheduled to commence on February 3, 2009.