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**CITY OF VALLEJO WORKING TO IMPROVE LEVEL OF LOCAL SPENDING  
Report reveals over \$25 million in spending in local economy for goods and services**

VALLEJO – While the City of Vallejo is doing a good job at making purchases with local vendors, there's a major effort under way to do an even better job, according to a report by the City's Purchasing Department.

From January 1, 2002 to November 1, 2002, the City of Vallejo spent over \$25 million with local merchants and vendors for various goods and services, according to the report.

"That's a significant number, one we're proud of, and one we want to improve," said City Manager David Martinez. "We know money spent here benefits us directly and indirectly. Whenever possible, we need to keep local dollars local."

Some of the top vendors the City did business with during the 10-month period studied included Wilson Cornelius Ford with \$787,929 in purchases; Vallejo Garbage Service, \$495,782; Hess Construction, \$410,145; Continental Security, \$239,650; and R&R Maher Construction, \$120,240.

"Clearly we've made a commitment to use local vendors whenever possible," said Vallejo Mayor Tony Intintoli, Jr. "By the same token we have to go outside city limits for services that aren't available in Vallejo. Still, whenever possible, we need to and want to shop locally."

Some of the suggestions for improving the City's level of spending within Vallejo include devising a comprehensive plan to establish goals and objectives for enhancing contracting opportunities for local businesses; posting all contract opportunities on the City's web site; and developing a committee to include City staff, citizens, and local business advocates to assist with developing a plan of action.

"This is one of several major priorities I have for the Finance Department," said Finance Director Fred Wright, who oversees the Purchasing Department.