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**FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT  
MARK MAZZAFERRO (707) 649-5462**

### **VALLEJO COUNCIL VOTES TO SUPPORT PROTECTING VLFs**

VALLEJO – The Vallejo City Council, in a special session held Monday, voted unanimously to join and support a coalition of local governments that has been formed by the League of California Cities to protect vehicle license fee payments, including the filing of lawsuits.

“Even with Governor Schwarzenegger’s actions on Friday, we still need to do whatever is necessary to make sure our funding remains in tact,” said Vallejo Mayor Tony Intintoli, Jr. “These fees are constantly under threat of being taken away.”

The decision was made late last week to hold the special meeting after the League of California Cities and the California State Association of Counties announced it would form a coalition of local governments to file a lawsuit against the state of California to ensure vehicle license fee backfill payments were made.

Prior to that action, the Vallejo City Council had voted unanimously to slash \$2.2 million from the Fiscal Year 2003-2004 budget in order to deal with the loss of funding the City was facing.

In the meantime, Gov. Schwarzenegger announced Friday he would restore funding to the cities and counties affected by the reduction in VLF fees, ordering the State Controller to begin issuing checks beginning Dec. 26, 2003.

Even with the news of restored vehicle license fee payments, City Manager David Martinez recommended keeping those \$2.2 million in cuts in place as the City prepares for possible midyear budget adjustments in February as well as the 2004-2005 fiscal year.

“We should keep those cuts in place so that we’re better prepared for mid-year and the next fiscal year,” Martinez said. “This year we had a \$2 million Fund for Economic Uncertainty. With these cuts, we can have that fund replenished for the next fiscal year.”

The council will vote on final approval of the cuts at the January 6, 2004 council meeting.