

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

VALLEJO OFFICIALS TO PARTICIPATE IN LEGISLATIVE ACTION DAYS

VALLEJO – Mayor Tony Intintoli Jr. will lead a contingent of Vallejo officials on a two-day trip to Sacramento to meet with State lawmakers to urge them to avoid putting vital local services at risk as they pass the State budget.

Intintoli, City Manager David Martinez and Council members Pamela Pitts, Jerry Davis and Joanne Schivley will travel to the Sacramento to meet with elected officials as well as League of California City members to discuss the budget situation. Meetings will be held Wednesday and Thursday.

“We need to take this discussion to them and make sure they understand the impact any cuts will have on local government,” Intintoli said. “Having just returned from Washington, D.C. I know the importance of face-to-face meetings with elected officials.”

Meetings are scheduled Wednesday with State Senator Wes Chesbro, Assembly member Patricia Wiggins, Assembly member Lois Wolk, and State Senator Mike Machado. On Thursday, Director of Finance Steve Peace will meet with League of California Cities members, and at 10:15 a.m. a rally will take place on the steps of the State Capitol. Representatives from the Vallejo Police and Fire departments will also be in attendance.

“Local services are already part of the budget solution,” Martinez said. “Since the 1990s, nearly \$40 billion has been diverted from local governments to fund state obligations. The amount being diverted from local budgets and local services keeps growing each year and now amounts to nearly \$5 billion annually.”

Along with past state incursions on local budgets, drops in local revenues are making the situation worse for cities and counties.

“Local services and local revenues are also down from the slowed economy,” Intintoli said. “Local services are also stretched thin – at a time when population and demands for services are soaring. Further cuts from the state would compound problems locally.”

Martinez will announce at tonight’s City Council meeting that the City’s Fiscal Year 2003-2004 Budget will be released the afternoon of May 16, 2003.