

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
JANUARY 16, 2004**

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**VALLEJO TO PARTICIPATE IN KICK-OFF MEETING OF THE BAY AREA
CONSORTIUM COMMUNITY CHOICE AGGREGATION PROJECT**

VALLEJO – Representatives from the City of Vallejo and other cities will be meeting January 20, 2004 for the kick-off meeting of the Bay Area Consortium Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) demonstration project.

The meeting, set to begin at 9 a.m., will take place at Berkeley City Hall, 2180 Milvia St., in Berkeley.

The Local Government Commission and Navigant Consulting, Inc. will review the project, discuss the process for conducting the CCA feasibility analysis, and work with participants to establish overall project coordination. We will also share what we've learned to date regarding California Public Utilities Commission proceedings that will impact CCA implementation.

"I'm glad this project is ready to move forward," said City Manager David Martinez. "This is a critical time for cities, counties and other agencies in terms of finding creative ways to reduce costs. If this project is feasible it could provide major savings for Vallejo and other participating agencies."

Some of the advantages of Community Choice Aggregation include the potential for lower electrical rates for all customers, both residential and businesses, and the potential for a new revenue stream to the General Fund.

Agencies invited to the meeting include Pleasanton, Richmond, Oakland, Association of Bay Area Governments, Marin County, Emeryville, East Bay Municipal Utility District, Martinez, Manteca, San Ramon, Berkeley and Vallejo.

Topics on the meeting agenda include the status of various hearings and proceedings related to Community Choice Aggregation, the scope of work and a timetable for the East Bay consortium, and CCA organizational structures.

The Vallejo City Council approved entering into the Community Choice Aggregation project in July 2003. At that time only Vallejo and Berkeley had agreed to participate in the study. Since then other cities, counties and agencies have agreed to join the project.

Once the study is complete and a decision is made to move forward, an implementation plan would be created.