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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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CITY COUNCIL TO CONSIDER EXTENSION OF ERN WITH LENNAR

VALLEJO – The Vallejo City Council will consider granting a 150-day extension to the Exclusive Right to Negotiate Agreement (ERN) with Lennar Mare Island, LLC for Reuse Area 1A, approximately 191 acres in the northern part of Mare Island. The original ERN was approved by the City Council on November 2, 2004.

“We’ve been negotiating with Lennar regarding the northern part of Mare Island for the past four months,” said Craig Whittom, Community Development Director for the City of Vallejo. “We are requesting that the City Council extend the negotiating period to continue our effort to achieve an agreement whereby infrastructure is installed in the near term to support up to 1.2 million square feet of job generating land uses, such as office and research and development space.”

There’s more at stake than just infrastructure, Whittom said.

“We are currently investigating with Lennar how the 1.2 million square foot development program could be intensified (potentially with additional recreational and multi-family residential development) to support the overall development of the area,” he said. “The existing zoning allowing 1.2 million square feet assumes relatively low density development. Considering additional intensity could create higher land values, and in turn support the level of infrastructure investment needed.”

Mare Island Naval Shipyard closed in April 1996. Since that time, the near 5,200 acre parcel has been the focus of a base reuse plan that many have considered a model for the rest of the country. With over 40,000 jobs on the Island at its peak during World War II, the goal of the reuse plan is to provide between 7,000 and 10,000 jobs and assimilate the property back into the City of Vallejo.

Lennar is already the master developer for over 650 acres of Mare Island.

The Vallejo City Council meeting begins at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, May 17, 2005 and is held in council chambers at 555 Santa Clara St.

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