

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
JUNE 13, 2003**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT
MARK MAZZAFERRO (707) 649-5462
(707) 208-5198**

CITY OF VALLEJO AWARDED \$141,000 TRAFFIC SAFETY GRANT

VALLEJO – The City of Vallejo has been awarded a \$141,294 grant from the State of California’s Office of Traffic Safety to promote traffic safety and anti-DUI programs.

The grant was part of \$35.2 million in federal funds administered through the state Office of Traffic Safety to support programs such as the detection of alcohol and drug-impaired drivers, occupant protection programs, and pedestrian and bicycle safety initiatives. Cities, counties, and state departments throughout California will share in the grants.

Dan Armenta, of Armenta Management Consulting, applied for the grant on behalf of the City. Armenta has now secured \$3,566,089 in grants for the City, with another \$980,000 pending within the next three or four months.

“This is an example of an idea that was brought to the council five years ago that I thought would bring revenues to the City,” City Manager David Martinez said. “Dan’s performance certainly shows it is one idea that has worked well for us.”

The funding will be used to continue a successful DUI program and allows the Vallejo Police Department and Vallejo Fire Department to implement a seat belt safety program in the City of Vallejo as well.

“The Office of Traffic Safety is interested in implementing seat belt safety programs that targets kids zero to 6 years of age,” Armenta said. “After receiving training, all Vallejo fire stations could be designated as baby safe zones for parents who would like their car seats inspected, while the police department will conduct a monthly enforcement program for seat belt use, much like a DUI checkpoint program.”

Other Solano County cities receiving grants include the \$169,633 for the Fairfield Police Department and \$120,000 for the Suisun City Police Department.