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MARTINEZ ANNOUNCES PLANS TO RETIRE AT END OF CONTRACT

VALLEJO – City Manager David Martinez announced today that he plans to retire from the City of Vallejo when his contract expires on Dec. 13, 2003.

Martinez made the announcement Thursday morning during opening remarks of the City Council's semi-annual goal setting retreat being held on Mare Island.

“As you know, by contract, I have to provide notice in writing of the expiration of my contract at least 12 months but not more than 15 months prior to that expiration date,” Martinez said. “I'd like to officially announce that come Dec. 13, 2003 I will be leaving the City of Vallejo.”

There is a provision in Martinez's contract that allows the City Council to terminate him from employment before the contract expires, but that clause calls for a lump-sum payment of \$94,000 – or six month's pay.

“I've enjoyed my four years here in Vallejo,” Martinez said, “and I look forward to the rest of this year as well. I have nothing but the utmost respect for the mayor and the City Council, and I have enjoyed working with them during my time here.”

Martinez also announced that Finance Director Fred Wright would be leaving as well, noting that he had received a letter from Wright outlining his intentions to leave at the end of the year as well.

Vallejo Mayor Anthony Intintoli Jr. said he was sorry to see Martinez go.

“David Martinez has done a lot for the City of Vallejo in the four years he has been here,” Intintoli said. “He will be sorely missed by this community, as will Fred Wright.”

Martinez arrived in Vallejo in December of 1998. He inherited a City in financial turmoil, as the City had a \$1.1 million deficit in the General Fund. Eventually Martinez, along with Wright, built a General Fund reserve of over \$6 million and generally improved the City's overall financial health.

Included among his accomplishments during his four-plus years with the City are his work toward alternative energy projects, including solar panel projects on the roofs of City Hall, the JFK Library and the City's Corporation Yard; the City being named “Clean Air Champions 2002” by the Bay Area Air Quality Management District and the California EPA; a Helen Putnam Award for the City's work on public-private partnerships on Mare Island; work on the revitalization of the downtown area, including reaching agreements with Triad Communities, Inc. to produce a revitalization plan; increased investment in and repair of city infrastructure, including streets, totaling \$9 million; the resolution of a defaulted \$14.3 million loan to the State Department of Boating and Waterways; instituting fiscal reforms such as travel policy and credit card policy, and proposed and implemented a centralized purchasing program.