Association of Bay Area Governments

Representing City and County Governments of the San Francisco Bay Area



Press Release June 7, 2011 For Immediate Release Contact: Kathleen Cha, 510/464-7922, kathleenc@abag.ca.gov Halimah Anderson, 510/464-7986 halimaha@abag.ca.gov Leah Zippert, 510/464-7995, leahz@abag.ca.gov

San Francisco Bay Trail Project Suspends Funding for Bay Trail Segment in Vallejo

Oakland...The San Francisco Bay Trail Project, a non profit organization administered by the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG), announced that it has suspended a \$200,000 grant awarded to the Greater Vallejo Recreation District (GVRD) to construct a segment of Bay Trail along an existing roadbed in Vallejo. The issue of concern is that the proposed half mile Bay Trail segment on the Glen Cove property in Vallejo is part of a larger GVRD development that affects sensitive Native American burial sites.

ABAG officials have consulted with GVRD, representatives of the Native American community in Vallejo, and the California Native American Heritage Commission's designated Most Likely Descendant. As a result of these discussions and public input, ABAG has placed a hold on the Bay Trail funds until cultural land use issues are resolved. ABAG Executive Director Ezra Rapport added, "Through our work on the Bay Trail, we recognize the environmental and cultural sensitivities that exist along the edge of the bay and we are hopeful that GVRD and the community can come to a cooperative solution."

The San Francisco Bay Trail Project provides funds and technical assistance for trail planning and construction to shoreline land managers, enlists public participation in trail-related activities, and publicizes the Bay Trail and its region-wide benefits, as part of its mission to plan, promote, and advocate for implementation of the Bay Trail. The San Francisco Bay Trail is a visionary plan for a shared-use bicycle and pedestrian path that will one day allow continuous travel around San Francisco Bay. Currently, 310 miles of trail have been completed. Eventually, the Bay Trail will extend over 500 miles to link the shoreline of nine counties, passing through 47 cities and crossing seven toll bridges. For more information about the Bay Trail, go to http://baytrail.abag.ca.gov/.

###

Founded in 1961, ABAG is the regional planning agency for the nine counties and 101 cities and towns of the Bay Area and is recognized as the first council of governments in California.