CONTRA COSTA COUNTY
SUPERVISOR FEDERAL D. GLOVER
DISTRICT FIVE
315 E. Leland Road
Pittsburg, CA 94565

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

INFO: 925-427-8138

88 programs, services share grants from Keller

Less garbage means less funding for scores of community services and programs throughout East County.

For the first time since it began, the Keller Canyon Landfill Mitigation Fund has less money to award than previous years. The Keller fund this year is $1,354,907, down from last year's $1.6 million.

The allocations to 88 programs and agencies was passed by the Board of Supervisors today (Aug. 12).

A portion of the tipping fees are put into the county-run Keller Canyon Landfill Mitigation Fund, which is awarded to a host of East County services as wide ranging as 3rd and 4th graders' tours of the Antioch museum to after-school tutoring to providing school resource officers in Oakley and Bay Point.

"Housing construction is almost at a standstill," said Supervisor Federal Glover, who oversees the grant program. "That means a drastic reduction from those homebuilders who dump their building debris in the landfill."

"In the economic slowdown this country is in, there is more need but less money to give out," said Glover.

Despite the reduction in the size of the annual grants, partial or full funding was awarded to 88 East County programs, one more than last year.

The mitigation fund is part of the agreement between the county and Keller Canyon Landfill for locating in the hills south of Pittsburg in the early 1990s. It was not until 2001, when Glover took office as supervisor did he begin using the fund to award proposals benefiting East County – particularly for Pittsburg and Bay Point -- for youth, code enforcement, community beautification, public safety and community services.