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Press Release

Bypass completion demonstrates local cooperation

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(Oct. 27, 2008) Today's opening of the final phase of the Highway 4 Bypass is the culmination of years of work put forth by East County leaders and planners and serves as an example of regional cooperation.

East County cities and the County put aside old rivalries to create the State Route 4 Bypass Authority through a Joint Powers Agency Agreement in 1989.

"It is also one of the few examples in California of local government paying for a new highway," said Supervisor Federal Glover, who represents District V in Contra Costa County.

The Bypass Authority set policy for the State Route 4 Bypass project, which is principally funded by local developers' fees. As a county supervisor, Glover has been on the Authority since he was elected to the Board of Supervisors in 2001 and was instrumental in making the Bypass a reality.

"Together with Antioch Mayor Don Freitas and Oakley Councilman Brad Nix, we cobbled together an agreement between the cities and county to fund and build the project," when it state and federal highway funds dried up, said Glover.

The County Public Works Department provided the lead technical support with assistance from the cities of Oakley, Antioch and Brentwood.

The State will take over the maintenance of the bypass and it will become the new alignment of State Route 4 early next year. The original Highway 4 with its heavy truck traffic often caused congestion in the downtowns of Oakley and Brentwood. The cities will become responsible for the maintenance of those portions of the original Route 4 within their city limits, Brentwood Boulevard in Brentwood and Main Street in Oakley.