

## CONTRA COSTA COUNTY SUPERVISOR FEDERAL D. GLOVER DISTRICT FIVE

## Press Release

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## Keller mitigation funds awarded to 90 groups

MARTINEZ (Aug. 11, 2009) -- Ninety agencies or programs received \$1,375,179 in grants from the Keller Canyon Landfill Mitigation Funds for this fiscal year. The Board of Supervisors approved the allocations this morning at the Board meeting.

Although the total amount is slightly higher than last year, because of the downturn in the economy, the Keller fund was not as much as anticipated, said District V Supervisor Federal Glover, who administers the fund for the County.

"We had to cut everything," said Glover. "Last year, the nonprofits took a big hit and I couldn't see reducing their grants two years in a row considering the important role they are playing in helping our community in these times when government services are being cut back."

Since a high of \$1.6 million in 2007-2008, the mitigation fund dipped considerably because of the mortgage meltdown that slowed the amount of debris coming from the construction of new homes. The Keller mitigation fund is based on the amount of tonnage accepted by the landfill.

From afterschool tutoring to Midnight Basketball, programs helping young people were high on the supervisor's priorities in determining the awards, especially those programs that steered young people away from trouble or provided training in life and job skills.

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.