

#### Government

# Glover Wants To Attract New Business to the North Shore

The supervisor said wise budget planning has resulted in closing a \$100 million deficit. February 15, 2013





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#### by Bay City News

Contra Costa County Supervisor Federal Glover emphasized the county's wise budgeting in the face of a tough economy and the promising economic future in a state of the county speech this afternoon.

The yearly address was given before a packed conference room full of local legislators, labor and business leaders at the Pleasant Hill Country Club. The event was hosted by the Contra Costa Council, a group that promotes public policy affecting the region's economic vitality and quality of life.

Glover, who has served on the Board of Supervisors for more than a decade, said the county's savvy financial planning despite the economic downturn has paid off.

He credited the board's collaboration with labor groups for its ability to reduce layoffs while maintaining services.

Last year, the county closed a budget deficit of more than \$100 million, yielding a balanced budget this year, Glover said, prompting a round of applause from the audience.

Still, he noted, the county's finances are largely a reflection of the state and national economy.

"It is still a fragile improvement, and a full recovery is a few years down the road," he cautioned.

In 2013, Glover said he and other county officials hope to focus on the region's economic future, in part by strengthening enterprise zones established

in Pittsburg, Bay Point and Richmond.

The supervisor also highlighted the economic possibilities along the county's North Shore, which stretches from Richmond to Oakley.

"The North Shore is our county's greatest resource, but it is underutilized and I want that to change," Glover said.

The "North Shore Initiative" will be a county effort to unite major county players to bring new business to the area, he said.

Projects under the initiative could include dredging, improving port facilities, and paving the way for a commuter ferry system.

In addition to a potential ferry system, Glover said he hopes to continue to work to upgrade county roadways, as with the current widening of the highly-congested state Highway 4.

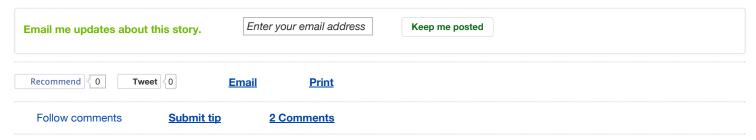
He said he also hopes to address gaps in the county's bus service by working to consolidate the four main bus companies and minimize the need for transfers.

The supervisor also spoke about the county's work to accommodate the influx of prisoners under the state's public safety realignment plan.

The Board of Supervisors last month approved a \$20 million Community Corrections Partnership budget to do that, with a large portion of the funding earmarked for programs to help reduce the rate of inmates returning to jail.

"Contra Costa County will operate as a lean machine, but like the Tin Man from the Wizard of Oz, a machine that has a heart," he said.

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# MIKE ALFORD 10:17 pm on Friday, February 15, 2013 Compleaty out of Touch With Reality ------ Much Like The People that are suppose to run our city! Reply

**Violet Grantham** 

Flag as inappropriate

2:24 pm on Sunday, February 17, 2013

Dear Federal Glover and other County Board of Supervisors:

On behalf of many Contra Costa residents and proximal property owners, we thank you with our past, present, and future hearts for allocating \$3,000,000 to the repair of the externae of the Finance Building/1903 Court House (625 Court--and the king pin of Martinez's Historic Fabric). It is ironic the repairs will be done by Carey & Co, the historic survey team upon which the RCD vs. Community Law Suit was pivoted. Nevertheless, when the "new" boss is the "old" boss, who can complain? Carey & Co. are known for their restorations of monumental buildings, have won awards for the same. It's too bad our Italian Fishing Village came at a cost to that. Anyway, we hope you can squeeze out the foundation repairs in too as the foundation is as emergent as the roof is and suffering from the same kind of water damage. It's all good, it really is. And the 630/610 Court Street development efforts are going to completely benefit from this effort as will the real estate in Martinez's Downtown Core. If anyone who works for the BOS, or not, and is on our City Council had a part in this allocation--please thank him/her/them for it. Between 630 Court, the State's resortation of 725 Court (sandstone columned building), the Library's recent work, and the efforts towards the Vets Hall, and now the USPS sending an engineer to the PO, we could not be more pleased. Thank you Federal Glover, etal!!!!!

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