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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CITY OF CUPERTINO RECEIVES STATEWIDE AWARD

The League of California Cities selected the city of Cupertino as a 2004 Helen Putnam Award winner. The 2004 award winners were honored today during the League's annual conference in Long Beach.

The city of Cupertino received the Grand Prize in the category of Internal Administration for its Balance or Bust Board Game. The Balance or Bust Board Game takes players through a fiscal year making two million dollars in cuts. The game forces players to examine core values and define which services are most important to the community.

The Helen Putnam Award recognizes outstanding achievement and innovation by cities whose contributions to community residents and businesses have resulted in lower costs or more effective delivery of services.

The award is given annually in nine categories of: effective advocacy; housing programs & innovations; enhancing public trust, ethics & community involvement; intergovernmental relations & regional cooperation; community services & economic development; planning & environmental quality; internal administration; public safety; and public works, infrastructure, transportation. Of the 167 nominations submitted in 2004, 24 cities were honored with awards.

Established in 1898, the League of California Cities is a member organization that represents California's incorporated cities. The League strives to protect the local

authority and autonomy of city government and help California's cities effectively serve their residents. In addition to advocating on cities' behalf at the state capitol, the League provides its members with professional development programs and information resources, conducts educational conferences and research, and publishes *Western City* magazine.

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