Complaint filed against Jimmy Hahn and City Hall for the alleged illegal use of public money to wage their campaign against Valley Cityhood – The renowned law firm of Rutan and Tucker filed an official complaint today against Jimmy Hahn charging him with engaging in illegal campaign activity to defeat Valley Independence. The complaint filed on behalf of the United Chambers of Commerce includes a “cease and desist” request to the Mayor’s office, demanding City Hall officials and employees stop expending taxpayer funds to illegally campaign against the Cityhood measure. The City’s activities violate the California Constitution, the California Penal Code, and legions of California judicial opinions which have repeatedly held that any use of public funds or resources to “provide an advantage” or “take sides” in a ballot election is illegal. The letter accused the Mayor with the illegal use of City employees, City resources including computers, telephones, facsimiles, City resources to create “talking points” and other “campaign manuals” which layout a “blueprint” to defeat the Cityhood ballot measures, the distribution of campaign propaganda to City Commissioners, employees, and staff at various meetings wherein City Commissioners are instructed on how to campaign against the Cityhood ballot measures, the overt trading of City services in exchange for commitments to oppose Cityhood, and the use of City Hall and other public facilities to convene campaign meetings whereby prospective donors and opponents of cityhood meet to discuss campaign strategy with members of the Mayor’s office. A copy of the complaint is available at www.valleyindependence.org. More to follow!

“Rally for the Valley” – This Saturday, August 10th, there will be a major Valley Independence Rally at 10:00 AM. The Rally will kick-off the independence Campaign. Supporters of Valley Independence are asked to attend this Rally and bring friends! There will be fun and food. It will be a chance to pickup lawn signs and other Cityhood materials. Come and meet the Valley Candidates, find out the facts, and sign up to volunteer on this historic campaign. The Rally will be in the heart of the Valley at the Airtel Plaza Hotel, 7277 Valjean Ave., Van Nuys, (north of Sherman Way, west of Woodley Avenue).

Valley Independence Ball a Hit – Thank you to the many Valley supporters who attended the San Fernando Valley Independence Ball. The event was a sell out with over 350 Valley Independence supporters in attendance. The evening featured standup comedians, an introduction of the Valley candidates, a young 13 year old singer that stunned the crowd and moving presentation by the Sons of the American Revolution in the original uniforms. A big thank you to Bill Powers, Lydia F. Soriano and others who were instrumental in organizing this memorable evening. Proceeds from the Independence Ball went to the Independence Committee to help get our positive message out to the Voters.

Valley Files Fundraising Report – Last week the Valley Independence Committee filed its financial report listing its contributors. The Independence Committee reported that it has received over $600,000 in contributions and pledges from over 200 contributors since it began its fundraising campaign on June 20, 2002. In July, David Fleming agreed to Co-Chair the SFVIC Finance Committee. “We are very pleased with our fundraising progress thus far,” said Richard Katz, Co-Chair of the committee. “Our filing shows that average citizens are writing checks to support us. They are giving because they want to”. Contributors to the Mayor’s campaign, on the other hand, are special interests with business before the city who are giving because they have to. We are certainly the little guys in this battle and we have passion. The Hollywood and Valley cityhood campaigns, as well as the campaigns of the many pro-cityhood candidates will be a combined force in favor of the Valley’s right to self-govern against the Mayor’s campaign to protect City Hall power and maintain the status quo.

Valley Candidates have until August 9th to file papers – Over 95 Valley community activists and residents have filed to run for the new fourteen Valley Council seats and the office of Valley Mayor. If you believe you have the leadership and ideas to make a difference in your community this is your opportunity to make a difference. To run for office you need to live in the Valley, collect between 20 – 30 signatures from registered voters in your district and file the simple papers required by August 9th. There is no cost to file. The more quality candidates the better our ability to start our new city on the right track. If you are interested, please call Jeff Brain, (818) 501-1035.