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**For Immediate Release**

**May 24, 2006**

Contact: Safiya Jones, 213-473-7011

**ROSENDAHL, CITY OFFICIALS TO RE-OPEN VENICE PIER  
Local Landmark Open to Public for Memorial Day**

**Who:** Los Angeles City Councilmember Bill Rosendahl  
Los Angeles City Councilmember Ruth Galanter (ret)  
Jon Kirk Murki, General Manager, Department of Recreation & Parks  
DeDe Audet, President, Venice Neighborhood Council  
Clabe Hartley, Owner, Cow's End Restaurant

**When:** 5:30 p.m., Thursday, May 25, 2006

**Where:** Venice Pier (end of Washington Boulevard at the beach)

**Parking:** Public parking is available in front of and south of the pier at the end of Washington Boulevard.

**What:** Councilman Bill Rosendahl will join community members and city officials for the reopening of the Venice Pier, Thursday, May 25. Last winter, an historically heavy surf damaged the Venice Pier, causing the popular landmark to close to the public – much to the frustration of locals, visitors, and fishermen.

Working with Rosendahl's office, the Department of Recreation & Parks and the Bureau of Engineering will be reopening the pier just in time for Memorial Day weekend, the traditional kickoff to summer.

In order to reopen in time for summer, city officials have created temporary walls and barriers to replace the guardrail that was torn off during the storms. With funding secured by Rosendahl, temporary barriers will be permanently replaced in the next few weeks, restoring the popular pier to its former appearance.

The pier, now a famed attraction for locals and tourists alike, officially opened in 1965 as the Venice Fishing Pier. Built as one of a series of marine recreational developments under a statewide recreational program, the pier was designed specifically to meet the needs of Southern California sports fishermen. During the 1990's, the pier suffered from extensive damage caused by several storms and was forced to close. Under the direction of then Councilwoman Ruth Galanter, who secured millions in Proposition A funds, the pier was rebuilt and reopened in 1998. Since its first reopening, the Venice Pier has helped spur an economic revitalization along Washington Boulevard, drawing restaurants, shops, and nightclubs.

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