

## JOSÉ HUIZAR COUNCILMEMBER OF THE FOURTEENTH DISTRICT

## PRESS RELEASE

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## JOIN COUNCILMEMBER JOSE HUIZAR AND THE NATIONAL MEXICAN WATER POLO TEAM FOR RIBBON CUTTING CELEBRATING THE NEW POOL WIND PANELS AT ROOSEVELT HIGH SCHOOL IN BOYLE HEIGHTS

**LOS ANGELES**—City Councilmember José Huizar will host a ribbon cutting to celebrate the installation of more than 450 new wind pool panels to surround the entire Olympic-sized pool at Roosevelt High School in Boyle Heights on Monday, March 19, 2007. The pool is accessible to the students of Roosevelt High School and the general public.

This ribbon cutting ceremony will feature a water polo tournament between the National Olympic Mexican team versus the City of Los Angeles Premier Adult team. The National Olympic Mexican team is visiting Los Angeles as a stop on its United States tour.

"It's unacceptable that the City have a facility with panels and windows that were damaged, yellowed, cracked and containing large holes in them," said Councilmember Huizar. "That is why I secured \$405,000 to replace the panels and to increase security, privacy and protection for students and swimmers."

Salvador Valencia, who grew up in the nearby Pico-Aliso Public Housing Development stated, "Becoming a life guard at the Roosevelt Pool was the best thing that ever happened to me...I was hanging out with the wrong crowd and getting into trouble, but then I had a responsibility to my community and was able to make a positive impact to local youth". He concludes, "If it weren't for my involvement with the Roosevelt Pool, I would be dead, in jail or out there as a junky."

In addition to securing the initial funds, Councilmember Huizar, along with then Councilmember and now Mayor, Antonio Villaraigosa, was instrumental in securing a \$2.7 million grant from the state to complete the renovation of the pool and bathhouse facilities. Design plans for this renovation project are 50% complete and construction is expected to begin in July of next year.

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