

JOSÉ HUIZAR COUNCILMEMBER OF THE FOURTEENTH DISTRICT

## PRESS RELEASE

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## COUNCILMEMBERS JOSE HUIZAR INTRODUCES 245 MOTION TO OVERTURN BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS DECESSION ON ELEPHANT HILL DEVELOPMENT

**LOS ANGELES**— Councilmember José Huizar, District 14, introduced a 245 motion to assert jurisdiction over the Board of Public Works who recently decided to grant the necessary B permits to developer Monterey Hills Investors which would allow this project to move forward without the environmental review that the City Council required. The motion received the necessary 10 council votes.

In July 2007, Council voted (8-2) to support Councilman Huizar in his request to require a further environmental impact report on Elephant Hill. After the vote is was asserted that the project should not move forward without supplemental environmental work being conducted. The vote was largely seen by El Sereno residents as a community and environmental victory given the strong community opposition to the project.

"My goal has been to ensure that constituents concerns were properly addressed and that we leave a green legacy for future generations. Constituents in El Sereno have been concerned about this project and its environmental review for years," said Councilman Huizar.

"I wanted to see further research into the EIR because there are a lot of changes to the original development plan that was approved back in 1993. For example, the project has expanded beyond the area originally approved and it now contains 52 lots instead of 24 lots as originally proposed. There is also significant new evidence of subsurface drainage and presence of a sinkhole." he added.

"I listened to the community, I understood their concerns and that's why I have been fighting for this issue. The 245 motion I introduced today does not guarantee that the project will not move forward, but rather asserts the City Council's jurisdiction over the Board of Public Works and our earlier vote to require a further EIR," he added.

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