



JOSE HUIZAR  
COUNCILMEMBER, 14TH DISTRICT

## PRESS RELEASE

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### **COUNCILMEMBER HUIZAR MAKES DEADLY INTERSECTION AT FICKETT STREET AND CESAR CHAVEZ AVENUE SAFE**

*Boyle Heights Traffic Signal Dedicated in Memory of Those Who Lost Their Lives*

**LOS ANGELES (March 6, 2008)** – Councilmember José Huizar and leaders from Union de Vecinos dedicated a new traffic light at the intersection of Fickett Street and Cesar Chavez Avenue today. The new street light, which was a direct request from local residents, is a critical part of efforts to improve traffic and pedestrian safety in Boyle Heights. Representatives of the Los Angeles Department of Transportation and Union de Vecinos were also present at the dedication ceremony.

“Thousands of people use this intersection on a daily basis, from the students that go to Roosevelt High School, to the people that shop here at Cesar Chavez Avenue. It is absolutely critical that we do everything we can to allow children and families to cross the street safely,” said Councilmember José Huizar.

Local residents, including the families of individuals injured or killed at the intersection, adorned it with paper flowers in memory of their loved ones.

“No mother or father should have to worry about their children crossing the street. This new traffic light will reduce the speed of traffic through this intersection and reduce accidents,” said Councilmember Huizar.

The new traffic signal joins a traffic light on Cesar Chavez Avenue less than one hundred feet away. Together, the signals will control vehicular speed and give drivers ample time to slow down when necessary.

Over the last three years, the intersection of Fickett Street and Cesar Chavez Avenue has been the site of two fatal pedestrian incidents. In 2005, an elderly man was killed while crossing the street. In 2006, two children were struck by a vehicle while attempting to cross the street. One child died and the other spent five days in intensive care.

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