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**NEWS RELEASE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Community, Councilmember Huizar to Celebrate Boyle Heights' Roosevelt Pool Dedication and Hollenbeck Bridge Restoration Groundbreaking**  
*\$2.7 million Roosevelt High School pool renovation complete, while Historic Hollenbeck Bridge and Park restoration set to get underway*

**LOS ANGELES (Feb. 26, 2009)** - Los Angeles City Councilmember José Huizar will celebrate Thursday with City leaders, students and community members at the official dedication of the \$2.7 million Roosevelt High School pool renovation and a groundbreaking ceremony for the restoration of the Historic Hollenbeck Park Bridge.

The pool restoration, which includes a major renovation of the year-round pool and locker and shower facilities, will be used by the school while remaining a public pool operated by the Department of Recreation and Parks, which means thousands of area boys and girls will get to swim in the new facility each and every summer.

"A quality swimming facility is a real necessity here in Boyle Heights," said Councilmember José Huizar about the Roosevelt facility, which first opened in 1950. "I'm thrilled that I was able to work with our City family to make sure our students and community members would have a state-of-the-art pool that they'll enjoy for years to come."

Following the morning dedication for the pool, community members will again join Councilmember Huizar and other officials from the City's Recreation and Park and the Bureau of Engineering departments for a groundbreaking ceremony to restore the Historic Hollenbeck Park Bridge, a Boyle Heights landmark used by thousands of Angelenos for its picturesque setting overlooking Hollenbeck Park Lake.

Through the years, countless people have posed on the bridge for photographs for special occasions, such as weddings, quinceañeras and baptisms. It has been closed to pedestrians for five years.

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## Huizar dedicates Boyle Heights' pool and historic bridge

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At the \$450,000 Capital Improvement project ceremony, where workers will soon painstakingly restore and replicate the historic bridge one piece at a time, the Councilmember will announce that he secured an additional \$150,000 for other park improvements that are expected to coincide with the six-month bridge restoration, including landscape improvements, tree plantings and the installation of an exercise-equipment fitness zone.

“For many Angelenos, myself included, the Historic Hollenbeck Park and Bridge represent more than just land and lumber,” said Huizar, who took his wedding photos on the bridge. “They are a piece of our lives and a destination that holds unforgettable memories. With these improvements, we’re guaranteeing that new memories will soon play out on a daily basis.”

Improvements to the Roosevelt High School Pool, which was finished ahead of schedule in order to be ready for the 2008-2009 fall opening, include the construction of a new pool deck; upgraded showers, toilets and changing rooms and offices; new heaters in the locker rooms and new landscaping ground covering and irrigation system.

Following Thursday’s dedication, the Roosevelt Boys and Girls Water Polo Teams are expected to play a scrimmage match in the new pool.

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