



# LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

**ALEX PADILLA**

SEVENTH DISTRICT

**Press Advisory**  
**October 20, 2005**

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## **Alex Padilla and San Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians to Participate in Tribal Ceremony at Archaeological Site in Mission Hills**

Council President Alex Padilla will join members of the San Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians for a traditional tribal ceremony at the archaeological monitoring site of the North Valley Animal Shelter currently under construction. In July, work crews discovered a Mission Period wall while conducting grading work for a new animal shelter. Upon learning of the discovery, Padilla called for the city to hold off on the construction until further investigation of the archaeological findings could be conducted. Those investigations have been completed.

Tribal elders and members of the San Fernandeño Tataviam Tribe will perform tribal ceremonies by singing songs and prayers. The ceremony will be held in anticipation of the city moving forward with proper preservation and protection of the archaeological site. Plans for building an interpretive display of the archaeological site at the facility are underway.

The Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians is the historic and traditional Native American Tribe of the northwestern portion of Los Angeles, Ventura, and Kern Counties of California. Tataviam is a designation of the Tribe meaning 'People Facing the Sun.' The heritage of the Fernandeño Tataviam has been proven to have roots in the Los Angeles area that are 4,000+ year old. Cultural resources that are unearthed are given a traditional tribal ceremonial made in remembrance of the Fernandeño Tataviam Tribe's ancestors. Tribal elders and members of the Fernandeño Tataviam Tribe perform tribal ceremonies by singing traditional songs and prayers. Tribal ceremonies are lead by the Tribal Sahóvit (Spiritual Leader).

**What:** Tribal Ceremony at archaeological site in Mission Hills

**When:** Friday, October 21, 2005  
8am

**Where:** North East Valley Animal Services Center (under Construction)  
11030 Stranwood Avenue  
Mission Hills, CA 91345

**Who:** Los Angeles City Council President Alex Padilla, Tribal President Rudy Ortega Sr., Cultural and Environmental Department Director Randy Guzman-Folks and Tribal Administrator Rudy Ortega, Jr.