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COUNCILMEMBER ALEX PADILLA WINS APPROVAL FOR TRAFFIC OFFICERS AND SAFETY STUDY AT ARMINTA ELEMETARY SCHOOL

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LOS ANGELES B Councilmember Alex Padilla won unanimous Council approval today for his motion addressing traffic problems and safety issues at Arminta Elementary School in Sun Valley. The intersection of Beck Street and Strathern Street will receive traffic officers, assigned by the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD), to assist students walking to and from school. Additionally, the Department of Transportation (DOT) will work with parents and administrators from Arminta Elementary School to decide on the implementation of additional safety measures.

"Over 100 parents from Arminta Elementary School have signed a petition asking me to get help from the City with traffic enforcement, stop signs, 'smart' crosswalks, and traffic signals at Beck and Strathern Streets," said Councilmember Padilla. "Protecting the lives of children walking to school is one of my basic responsibilities. In Los Angeles County alone, more than 200 pedestrians are killed and 5,000 are injured each year, and nearly a third of them are children. This statistic is unacceptable."

Councilmember Padilla has also led Los Angeles' efforts to receive its share of the State of California's \$20 million "Safe Routes to School" program to repair sidewalks, paint crosswalks, and to make other safety improvements near schools. A Citywide inter-agency task force has begun a series of meetings to apply for the funds.

The 7th Council District serves the communities of Arleta, Mission Hills, North Hills, North Hollywood, Pacoima, Panorama City, Sun Valley, Sylmar, and Van Nuys.

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