



7th District News

COUNCILMEMBER ALEX PADILLA

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 11, 2000

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PADILLA ANNOUNCES \$25,000 REWARD IN APPARENT GANG-RELATED SHOOTING OF 9-YEAR-OLD PACOIMA GIRL
Padilla Also Asks LAPD, Recreation & Parks Dept., Operation Healthy Neighborhoods Program To Address Gang Activity Near City Parks

LOS ANGELES – Councilmember Alex Padilla today proposed a \$25,000 reward for the witnesses who come forward with information resulting in the identification, apprehension, and conviction of those responsible for the shooting of a 9-year-old girl as she sat in her living room with her father Saturday night.

The 9-year-old was seriously wounded by a stray bullet one block away from where gang members were shooting at each other near Hubert H. Humphrey Park in Pacoima.

“Those responsible for this horrible crime are an ongoing threat to the people of Los Angeles, and they must be brought to justice,” said Padilla. “My deepest sympathies go to this young girl and her family, and I wish her the speediest of recoveries.

“In addition, I have asked the LAPD and the City’s Recreation and Parks Department to develop a strategy to combat gang activity in and around parks in our neighborhoods.”

Padilla also introduced a motion today directing the LAPD and the Parks Department to explore how resources in the newly proposed Operation Healthy Neighborhoods Program will deter gang-related activity in and around City parks.

LAPD officers are currently canvassing the neighborhood where the shooting occurred to find possible leads in the case. Those who may be able to provide additional information regarding the case should contact Detective Sanchez at LAPD Foothill Division by calling (818) 897-6970.

Gang-related killings have risen 84% in the first five months of the year 2000 compared with the same period a year earlier.

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

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