FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE June 22. 2000

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COUNCILMEMBER ALEX PADILLA ISSUES STATEMENT ON 9TH CIRCUIT OPINION IN PORTLAND, OR. OPEN ACCESS CASE

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LOS ANGELES – Councilmember Alex Padilla, Chair of the City's Information Technology and General Services Committee, issued the following statement regarding the 9th Circuit Opinion in the City of Portland case on broadband cable access:

"Upon close reading of today's court opinion, it states that cable Internet service falls under the same 'open access' requirements that currently apply to telecommunications companies. This is great news, and affirms the policy that I have recommended at the City level: consumers must receive the highest level of service and choice from cable companies offering Internet access. We will continue to hold cable companies accountable so that they provide the residents of the City of Los Angeles with universal, non-discriminatory access to new technologies.

"In 1984, the City of Los Angeles set the standard for cable television service requirements that were ultimately incorporated in federal policy. I will now work closely with the California Public Utilities Commission and the Federal Communications Commission to develop both technical and customer service standards. In addition, we will work together to help create a thoughtful framework for government to protect consumers and to encourage the development of new high-tech services."

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.