

NEWS – OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT

COUNCILMEMBER ALEX PADILLA 7TH DISTRICT



CITY HALL, 200 NORTH SPRING STREET, ROOM 465, LOS ANGELES, CA 90012 PHONE (213) 847-7777 FAX (213) 847-0707 www.lacity.org/council/cd7

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 13, 2004

CONTACT: David Gershwin Ph. (213) 473-5774

PADILLA ANNOUNCES FUNDING FOR ANTI-POVERTY PROGRAMS IN NORTHEAST VALLEY

Nearly \$700,000 allocated to job training, assistance for seniors, youth programs, sidewalk construction

LOS ANGELES – Council President Alex Padilla announced today that the City Council has unanimously approved funding for nearly \$700,000 in programs throughout the northeast San Fernando Valley. The funding – also known as Community Development Block Grants – is part of the City's annual allocation of federal anti-poverty funds throughout Los Angeles.

"Investing directly in the neighborhoods that need it most will ensure a brighter future for the northeast San Fernando Valley," said Padilla, a lifelong resident of the area. "Both social services and infrastructure investment will provide hope and opportunity for future generations."

The Community Development Block Grant funding approved by the City Council today will pay for the following projects and initiatives in the Seventh Council District:

- *Sidewalk Improvements*, Laurel Canyon and Fox Street, Pacoima, \$139,468: New sidewalks and widening of the roadway at the location.
- *Sidewalk Construction*, **Dronfield Street**, **Sylmar**, \$138,309: Construction of new sidewalks, access ramps, and installation of street trees.
- Sidewalk Improvement Program, Rayen Street, North Hills, \$32,188: New curb, gutter, and sidewalks in North Hills.
- Funding For The Chrysalis Center, \$50,000: Funding will provide both homeless and low-income persons and families with pre-employment, employment, and post-employment service and help clients reduce and eliminate any barriers to employment in the Northeast San Fernando Valley. Chrysalis, founded in 1984, opened its Pacoima branch in 2001
- *Business Development Program*, \$50,000: A targeted micro-entrepreneur program in Pacoima to support new and expanding small businesses by providing clients with models for business plans and assistance with loan applications and other business development services. The City's Community Development Department will administer the program.

-MORE-

- Handyworker Program, \$283,813: Funds for the Handyworker Program will be used to modify the homes of seniors them to become more self-sufficient in their own neighborhood and to provide additional safety, security, and ease of use in the home. Examples of home improvements include relocating electrical outlets, lowering countertops, installing wheelchair ramps, and modifying shower and bathroom, facilities. The program is administered by the LA Housing Department and will serve 114 clients.
- *Youth Opportunities (YO) Valley*, \$200,000: The YO Valley program serves San Fernando Valley youth from ages 14-21 to provide comprehensive case management, youth development, education and employment preparation activities to enable them to be successful in school and in their future professional careers.

#

The 7th Council District serves the communities of Lake View Terrace, Mission Hills, North Hills, Pacoima, Panorama City, and Sylmar.