



**7<sup>th</sup> District News**

## **COUNCILMEMBER ALEX PADILLA**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **PADILLA DIRECTS LAPD TO REPORT ON STATUS OF FEDERAL GRANTS**

**LOS ANGELES** – Councilmember Alex Padilla today introduced a motion directing the LAPD and the Mayor’s Office of Criminal Justice Planning to report on the status of two U.S. Department of Justice Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) grants to the City of Los Angeles: a \$163,492 Risk Management program grant and a \$240,996 Advancing Community Policing program grant. Both of these programs were awarded more than a year ago, but the City has not yet spent these funds. In addition, Padilla’s motion asks the LAPD and the Mayor’s Office to provide plans and recommendations for moving forward quickly on spending these funds, and to identify any other untapped federal grants.

Councilmember Padilla met with Department of Justice officials in Washington, D.C. earlier this week to discuss how these COPS grants could be spent by the City of Los Angeles to fund additional supervisorial positions within the LAPD. In the LAPD’s Board of Inquiry Report on the Rampart corruption scandal, a lack of effective field supervision was noted as “glaring.”

“We must end the finger-pointing on all sides,” said Padilla. “We need to move forward and utilize these federal grants to improve the administration and operation of the LAPD. In these difficult times at the LAPD, minimizing administrative problems and encouraging community-based policing are two positive steps we can take to improve the quality of law enforcement in our City.”

Councilmember Padilla’s motion will be heard before the City Council’s Public Safety Committee on Monday, March 20.

***The 7<sup>th</sup> 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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