FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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COUNCILMEMBER PADILLA APPLAUDS FCC'S DECISION TO EXAMINE BROADBAND CABLE ACCESS POLICY

LOS ANGELES – Councilmember Alex Padilla, Chair of the City's Information Technology and General Services Committee, has welcomed the Federal Communications Commission's decision to act on the issue of open access.

"I'm pleased that FCC Chairman Kennard has decided to address this important technology policy for our nation's consumers," said Padilla. "Cities such as Los Angeles are 'pushing the envelope' of telecommunications policy. As technology becomes integrated into every aspect of our economy and our daily lives, government must ensure that it grows responsibly and provides the greatest benefit possible to consumers. Equal and non-discriminatory access to technology and consumer choice must be at the forefront of this policy discussion."

Padilla, a graduate of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), has issued a policy recommendation for the City of Los Angeles to adopt a policy of "open access" for cable Internet service. The 9th Circuit Court opinion issued last week, which defines cable Internet service as a telecommunications service, is being reviewed by the Los Angeles City Attorney, with a report to the City Council expected in July.

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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