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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE March 21, 2000

PADILLA DIRECTS CITY TO DONATE LAND AT HANSEN DAM TO CHILDREN'S MUSEUM

LOS ANGELES – Councilmember Alex Padilla today introduced a motion directing the City Attorney and the Department of General Services to draft a lease agreement for a new site for the Los Angeles Children's Museum. The proposed site, a one and one-half acre parcel, is located next to the intersection of Foothill Boulevard and Osborne Street in the community of Lake View Terrace. Councilmember Padilla's motion calls for the City to lease the parcel to the non-profit Children's Museum Foundation at no cost to facilitate the construction of an 80,000 square foot museum at the location.

"Hansen Dam is a wonderful facility that's readily accessible to residents of the San Fernando Valley, the City of Los Angeles, and the entire region," said Padilla. "Hansen Dam, with its recreational lakes, golf course, walking and equestrian trails, and baseball and soccer fields is a very popular family destination. Over 250,000 kids come to the Children's Museum each year. Hansen Dam would make a great new home for the Children's Museum, and I know area families would welcome this cultural resource in their neighborhood."

The Los Angeles Children's Museum, currently located adjacent to City Hall in the Los Angeles Mall, is seeking to relocate to a new site. The Board of Trustees must decide on a site location no later than June 2000 in order for them to receive over \$9 million in City funds towards the planning, design, and construction of a new facility. The funds were allocated by Proposition K, passed by City voters in November 1996.

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.