

7th District News COUNCILMEMBER ALEX PADILLA CITY HALL, 200 NORTH MAIN STREET, ROOM 312, LOS ANGELES, CA 90012 PHONE (213) 847-7777 FAX (213) 847-0707 WWW.LACITY.ORG/COUNCIL/CD7

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

COUNCILMEMBER PADILLA APPLAUDS LOCAL ROAD REPAIR FUNDING FROM STATE, INSTRUCTS CITY TO REPAIR PROBLEM STREETS

LOS ANGELES – Councilmember Alex Padilla today introduced a motion directing that the City of Los Angeles Department of Public Works repair problem streets throughout the City. AB 2928 (Torlakson), part of a statewide transportation congestion relief package signed by Gov. Davis yesterday, provides one-time funding of \$400 million for road repairs and will give \$1.4 billion over five years for local street and road maintenance. As one-time funding, this announcement represents an important opportunity to improve the quality of life for Angelenos by allowing projects to be customized for individual communities.

"The City of Los Angeles is experiencing a road repair crisis," said Padilla, Vice Chair of the Public Works Committee. "Los Angeles drivers pay \$1,831 in additional car maintenance costs over the life of the vehicle because of deteriorated and dilapidated roads filled with potholes. While we have doubled funding for street repair in the last six years, maximizing every funding source and leveraging every dollar used for street repair, it's still not enough.

"Considering our State's generous budget surplus this year, this one-time funding is a welcome and muchneeded opportunity to help Los Angeles fix its streets. 80% of all roads in California are local streets, and every vehicle trip begins and ends on a local street."

Padilla actively lobbied the State of California and worked closely with Assemblyman Tony Cardenas (D – Panorama City) to give local cities road repair funding, testifying before a conference committee of the State Legislature and leading a delegation of the California League of Cities to Sacramento to inform legislators of local infrastructure needs.

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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