FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PADILLA WINS APPROVAL FOR SEWER HOOKUP PROGRAM FOR LOWER-INCOME RESIDENTS

Thousands of City Residents Rely on Septic Tanks

LOS ANGELES – Councilmember Alex Padilla today won unanimous approval for his motion directing funds from the City of Los Angeles' Neighborhood Preservation Program to be used to assist lower-income families to install sewer line hookups.

Nearly 2,000 households residents in Councilmember Padilla's district in the northeast San Fernando Valley still rely on aging septic tanks for disposal for household sewage. Many homes built in the area decades ago were not hooked up to sewer lines – a standard home construction practice today.

Sewer hookup costs for residents range from \$5,000 for those within a 50-foot radius and up to \$17,000 for homes further away from sewer lines.

"This is great news for the thousands of residents throughout the City who lack basic sewer service," said Padilla, Vice-Chair of the City's Public Works Committee. "It's time to welcome all residents of our City into the 21st century with the basic, fundamental public works infrastructure needs each and every one of us deserve."

The City's Housing Department administers the Neighborhood Preservation Program and offers financial assistance to low-income residents to empower them to correct "Housing Quality Standards" as defined by the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Under the HUD criteria, such standards include poor roofing, faulty electrical wiring, and deficient plumbing and waste disposal systems.

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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