FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 9, 2000

Ph. (213) 473-5774

CONTACT: David Gershwin

PADILLA DIRECTS CITY TO STUDY NEW VALLEY BUSWAYS Dedicated busways, expansion of Rapid Bus service could serve northeast Valley

LOS ANGELES – Councilmember Alex Padilla today introduced a motion directing the City's Department of Transportation (DOT) to work with the Metropolitan Transit Authority (MTA) to report on the possible development of a Curtiba, Brazil-type busway along a north-south corridor in the San Fernando Valley, and to explore the feasibility of establishing new MTA Rapid Bus Service lines.

"The time is now to take a positive step forward by expanding and improving bus service in the San Fernando Valley," said Councilmember Padilla, Vice-Chair of the San Fernando Valley Transportation Zone Interim Joint Powers Agency (JPA). "The success of the Metro Red Line subway in the Valley is a great start, but our transportation needs don't stop where the Red Line ends in North Hollywood. From constructing busways, to expanding Rapid Bus service to include a major north-south corridor in the Valley, we need to find the best transportation solutions and stop gridlock before it starts. To effectively address public transit needs in the Valley, we can't just look at east-west routes – we have to go north-south as well."

Possible routes to serve the northeast San Fernando Valley include:

- Van Nuys Boulevard from Ventura Boulevard to Glenoaks Boulevard
- Lankershim Boulevard from the North Hollywood Red Line Station to San Fernando Road
- San Fernando Road from the Burbank Multimodal Center to Sylmar

Padilla's motion will be heard in City Council next week.

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.

#