



## PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
July 19, 2006

Contact: Tony Perez or  
Monica Valencia  
(213) 485-3451

### **REYES HOSTS LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL MEETING TODAY AT HISTORIC MACARTHUR PARK— *First Meeting At Westlake Location Highlights Park's Renaissance***

Councilmember Ed P. Reyes, joined by his Council colleagues, LAPD Chief William Bratton and City Attorney Rocky Delgadillo, welcomed Angelenos to an offsite City Council meeting at the historic MacArthur Park tonight, Wednesday, July 19, at 2230 W. 6th St.

“We are here to celebrate the fact that this park is headed back to being historical for all the right reasons,” Reyes said at a press conference before the 6 p.m. City Council meeting. “Once home to the City’s highest homicide rates, MacArthur Park has transformed from a neglected park to a popular spot for families to enjoy picnics, joggers to exercise and people to walk their dogs. MacArthur Park is making history.”

During the press conference, Reyes highlighted several historical and recreational events at MacArthur Park.

On May 1, more than 400,000 people converged at MacArthur Park for the historic immigrants rights march.

In October 2005, Thich Nhat Hanh, Nobel Peace Prize nominee and Zen master, led hundreds in a peace walk around the park.

In 2004, City and community leaders launched the Rediscover MacArthur Park campaign which featured free concerts by Pasadena Pops Orchestra, nature guides and walking tours of public art.

Today’s press conference preceded a City Council meeting. The agenda included discussions of parking violation fees of catering trucks, the Los Angeles River, the Mayor’s Million Trees Initiative and the Route-to-School Maps program.

“Five years ago, no one could have imagined that we would ever host a City Council meeting at MacArthur Park,” Reyes said.

###