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## **REYES TAKES ANTI-GRAFFITI PROGRAM CITYWIDE**—Councilman expands pilot project following its overwhelming success in five Council districts

Councilmember Ed P. Reyes launched a Citywide program today that targets graffiti hot spots, such as vacant lots and construction sites, for clean-up.

The program authorizes property owners to install signs on temporary walls in exchange for the removal of graffiti and illegal signs on those walls and up to 1,500 feet around the properties. Temporary walls surrounding construction sites and vacant lots are often targets for graffiti.

“The program is open to any company or person who is able to clean up graffiti,” said Reyes. “The graffiti abatement program proved to be an excellent way to wipe out neighborhood blight, based on its great success as a pilot project in five Council districts, including mine.”

Specifically, the program allows temporary signs to be installed on temporary construction walls, protective sidewalk canopies, and solid wood fences surrounding vacant lots located on private property in commercial or industrial zones.

The signs would be allowed to remain in these areas for as long as the building permit associated with the construction site remains in effect. Signs in areas not designated as construction sites would only be allowed for a one year period.

Failure to maintain the specified area clean of graffiti and illegal signs on public property could result in the revocation of the building permit and removal of the signs.

“The graffiti abatement program not only beautifies neighborhoods, it improves public safety especially in areas that are magnets for crime such as gang activity,” Reyes said.

The program is being monitored by the Department of Public Works’ Office of Community Beautification and the Department of Building and Safety.

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