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REYES ROLLS OUT BICYCLE PLAN –*Reyes urges planners to prioritize bikes in City's public transportation plan, calls for pilot project in his district*

Councilmember Ed P. Reyes introduced a motion today that explores bringing renowned bicycle projects, such as bike boulevards, road diets and bike stations, to his district, and thus to the City of Los Angeles, for the first time.

Reyes' motion seeks to implement these and other eco-friendly measures into Council District One to reduce congestion and improve air quality in the nation's most-polluted City.

"We have the Gold Line and Red Line here," he said. "Now we need to tie in the loose ends by creating a bike network linking people to key spots like work, school, shops and museums. This motion will complement the overall network of infrastructure for public transportation."

The bicycle motion is the latest in Reyes' ongoing mission to reduce car trips by Los Angeles' growing population of 3.8 million. In addition to this bike measure, Reyes has spearheaded transit-oriented districts—housing and business communities built around public transportation—the Metro Gold Line and enhanced DASH bus routes.

Specifically, Reyes' motion calls for planners to explore innovative bike projects—successful in cities from Portland to Paris—that offer safe, efficient and affordable modes of travel for people of all abilities. These approaches could include the following:

- **Bicycle boulevards**, through streets for bikes in which roadways have been modified with new striping, curbs and markers
- **Road diets**, incorporating bike lanes or sidewalks streets for more efficient and safer transportation for pedestrians, bicyclists and motorists
- **Bike stations**, a bicycle program in which users rent a bike online, or at a convenient location like a Metro stop, and drop it off at a docking station.

Reyes' motion also calls for a public workshop in his district in early 2008 for residents, bicyclists, businesses and others to weigh in on bicycle projects in their neighborhoods. The input would be used to develop the pilot project in Reyes' district which includes northeast Los Angeles, Dodger Stadium, Chinatown and MacArthur Park.

"We have made significant headway in adding rail lines, which improve public transportation regionally, and bus routes that enhance it Citywide," said Reyes, a veteran planner who chairs the City's Planning and Land Use Management Committee. "But we are far behind in providing eco-friendly transportation, such as bicycles, at the neighborhood level. This motion does just that."

Reyes' motion would be included in the City's Bicycle Plan, which is being updated by the transportation and planning departments. The plan is expected to be completed in 2009.

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