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***CITY COUNCIL APPROVES HOMELAND SECURITY PLAN
Plan to Provide Additional Police Officers, Enhance Regional Security Coordination***

LOS ANGELES-Committed to ensuring the safety and security of Los Angeles and its residents, Councilman Bill Rosendahl and his colleagues have approved an ambitious Homeland Security and Disaster Preparedness Plan.

The council unanimously endorsed a new counter-terrorism and emergency preparedness plan, proposed by Mayor Villaraigosa, that will strengthen the City's emergency response capabilities by: providing staff and resources to the Los Angeles Police Department's (LAPD) Counter Terrorism and Criminal Intelligence Bureau (CTCIB); providing additional police officers and civilian positions to the new Joint Regional Intelligence Center; forming a new task force to detect terrorist activity around key City targets; forming new sections within the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) to respond to terrorist attacks, natural disasters and provide disaster response training; and expanding bomb squad capacity within the City including LAX.

Rosendahl, who pledged to find more police officers and enhance public safety in his district, said he was very supportive of the plan.

"This plan makes safety and security a number one priority for residents in Los Angeles," Rosendahl said. "It enhances the City's ability to respond to terrorist attacks and natural disasters by increasing coordination among our city, state and federal entities and expanding the number of trained personnel available to respond in the event of an emergency."

The council also approved enhancements to the City's existing Operation Archangel program, a national model for protecting critical infrastructure. The program, which is funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, lacks funding for sworn personnel costs. The approved plan provides the program with the necessary funding.

The plan, which Police Chief William Bratton recently told a Council District 11 audience was a top priority for the LAPD, will cost approximately \$2.5 million and is expected to be phased in over the next several months.

Rosendahl, a member of the City's Budget and Finance committee, said he was pleased the plan dramatically improved the City's counter-terrorism and emergency preparedness infrastructure while recognizing the City's current financial impediments.

“This plan successfully finds a middle ground between our City’s public safety responsibility and fiscal responsibility,” Rosendahl said. “I want to thank the mayor for his proactive leadership and foresight in providing protection to our great city.”

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