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City Hall (213) 473-7011 West LA (310) 575-8461 Westchester (310) 568-8772

**For Immediate Release**

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Contact: Safiya Jones, (213) 473-7011

**ROSENDAHL SAYS CENTINELA IS OPEN FOR BUSINESS**  
***Councilman Takes Action to Expedite Street Widening Project***

**LOS ANGELES** – Councilmember Bill Rosendahl is urging residents to remember that businesses along Centinela Avenue in Del Rey are still open for business – despite a lengthy and disruptive street widening project.

Rosendahl met last week with Centinela merchants and took quick action to expedite the construction project, which has been adversely impacting local businesses such as Paco's Tacos, New Flavors Restaurant, Cinderella Clothing, Mattress For You, Rubino Gallery and Hotcakesbakes Bakery.

"We are doing everything in our power to get this project done rapidly," Rosendahl said. "In the meantime, these wonderful local stores and restaurants are open for business."

Rosendahl said too many residents and commuters have assumed lane closures and construction activity have meant the stores have been closed.



"The businesses along Centinela are part of the heart and soul of Del Rey," Rosendahl said. "I urge all our neighbors to remember them during the holiday shopping season."

After meeting with the merchants, Rosendahl immediately took steps to expedite the project. During his visit, he called Ronald Deaton, general manager of the Department of Water and Power, to move the project along. He has also assigned his staff to bird-dog the efforts of DWP, Department of Transportation,

the Bureau of Engineering, and the contractor.

Construction began along Centinela Avenue, between Culver Boulevard and Washington Boulevard, in May 2006 in order to ease traffic congestion along the busy corridor. The project will improve the north/south traffic flow along the corridor by widening the streets to include two south bound lanes and two north bound lanes. The completed project will include left turn pockets, a landscaped median with street lights, and full time parking on the west side of the street and restricted parking during peak commute hours on the east side of the street.

The sidewalks in front of the business will likely be finished by the end of this week. The street will be repaved and striped by Christmas, and all lanes should be open by January. Additional lighting and landscaping will be completed by late February or early March.

The construction has not affected any of the businesses' operating hours. Customer parking is available in parking lots located behind each business.

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This message was sent to by:

Councilman Bill Rosendahl  
200 N. Spring Street, Room 415  
Mailstop 218  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

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