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ZINE MOTION INCREASES LAPD PATROLS IN THE VALLEY

(Los Angeles) – Councilman Dennis P. Zine introduced a motion today to increase Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) patrols in the San Fernando Valley. The motion was co-presented by Councilman Smith and was signed by Councilmembers Alarcon, Greuel, and Cardenas, whose Districts are all within the San Fernando Valley.

The motion addresses both the spike in gang crime and the reduction of patrol cars in the Valley due to LAPD’s reassignment of officers. Despite the efforts of the LAPD and other City agencies to curb gang-related crime, violent crime increased by 44% in the Valley in 2006. Recent reports demonstrate an additional escalation of approximately 15% for the first half of 2007. Moreover, recent LAPD staffing shifts to meet additional demands have re-deployed traffic officers to other duties.

“While I realize that the resources of the LAPD are stretched thin, the Valley community deserves to have substantial police presence patrolling the streets,” said Councilman Dennis P. Zine, member of the Public Safety Committee, retired LAPD Sergeant, and current Reserve Officer. “The Valley should be a priority, and the City must work to increase the number of officers in the field serving the Valley community.”

The motion requests a report from the LAPD to the Public Safety Committee within 30 days on its efforts to increase patrols in the San Fernando Valley.

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