

Councilman
TONY CARDENAS
6th Council District



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MEDIA ADVISORY

Cardenas Fighting for Air Quality in Sun Valley *Councilman Directs Environmental Affairs to Apply for \$100,000 for Air Monitoring System Near School*

LOS ANGELES — Today, as part of his continuous fight for Environmental Justice, Councilman Tony Cardenas introduced a motion that could secure \$100,000 for air monitoring in Sun Valley. The motion directs the Environmental Affairs Department to grab the money through the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's National Air Toxics Community-Based Program.

Cardenas identified this grant program which offers up to \$600,000 in competitive grants resulting in 6-10 cooperative agreements ranging in value from \$60,000 to \$100,000. The money, if awarded, will target air-monitoring and pollution prevention efforts - something the community has been waiting years for. Earlier this year, Cardenas introduced a motion designating Sun Valley as an Environmental Justice Improvement Area. The air-monitoring project will cover a two-mile radius near Byrd Middle School and Fernangeles Elementary, where children have complained of nosebleeds.

The Environmental Affairs Department has to submit the 2004 grant application by May 14, 2004.

"Identifying funding for vital causes is not only rewarding, but necessary in ensuring the safety of my communities," said Cardenas. "I will continue to fight for Sun Valley and look for new ways to improve the quality of life of its residents. This is a step in many more to come."

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