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CARDENAS FILLS SEAT ON PUBLIC WORKS BOARD

LOS ANGELES (July 2, 2007)—Ernesto Cárdenas officially begins his tenure as a member of the City of Los Angeles Board of Public Works today. He will attend his first Public Works Commission hearing at 9:30 a.m. at the Edward R. Roybal Session Room in City Hall.

Cárdenas was appointed by Mayor Antonio R. Villaraigosa to the City's only full-time policy-making board on May 11 to replace Yolanda Fuentes who is now the Mayor's associate director of neighborhood and community services. Cárdenas' appointment was confirmed by the City Council on June 13, 2007.

The commissioner is an accomplished mechanical engineer whose 21-year career with AT&T, formerly SBC, brings extensive experience in project management, corporate real estate, building infrastructure programs, contractor relations and government affairs. In his tenure as senior project manager for the company, Cárdenas enforced best management practices and applied his engineering and real estate expertise to handle a \$50 million annual project budget.



An experienced city commissioner, Cárdenas served on three different boards from 2000 through 2005. Former Mayor Richard Riordan appointed him to the North Valley Area Planning Commission in 2000 where he worked on the area's issues regarding land use, conservation and zoning regulations. In 2003, he filled a seat on the Transportation Commission until former Mayor James K. Hahn assigned him to serve on the City Planning Commission. In that function, Cárdenas advocated for the balance between the preservation of communities and economic development through land use.

In his spare time, Cárdenas is involved in the community. Besides being a 15-year veteran volunteer for the Pasadena Tournament of Roses, he is also an active co-founder of the Andrés y María Cárdenas Family Foundation. The commissioner was president of the non-profit organization from 2001 through 2007, running its operations that provided college scholarships to deserving students from eight high schools in the East San Fernando Valley. As of 2007, the organization's efforts have benefited 330 students that received \$520,000 in scholarships.

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Commissioner Cárdenas earned his masters degree in business administration from California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, and his undergraduate degree in mechanical engineering from University of California, Santa Barbara.

For more information about the Board and Department of Public Works, call the Public Affairs Office at (213) 978-0333, send an e-mail to pao@lacity.org, or visit the Department web site at www.lacity.org/DPW/dpwhome.htm.

The five-commissioner Board of Public Works manages the Department of Public Works, the City's third largest municipal division with a \$559 million operating budget. The Department awards more than \$500 million in construction and personal service contracts annually, and oversees the construction, renovation, and operation of public projects such as municipal buildings, streets, bridges, street lights, water treatment plants, sewers and sidewalks, and provides essential public services like recycling and solid waste management.

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