

**RICHARD ALARCON –**  
**3 MINUTE STATEMENT (CITY VIEW)**

**For Wednesday, January 28th at 3:00 PM**

Hi, I'm Richard Alarcon and I've had the pleasure to serve as the Councilmember of the Seventh District for seven and a half years, fighting to create good jobs, increase public safety, improve our quality of life, and pull together much-needed resources during times of disaster.

Right now our country is facing the worst economic crisis in my lifetime, with job losses rising and thousands of families in the Valley losing their homes. Our country is inspired by the hope of a new leader, President Obama, who we hope will bring a greater and more fair share of federal resources to Los Angeles.

But change needs to be inspired from the local level. That's why I have worked to bring a greater share of City resources to the 7th District. During these tough economic times, creating jobs and opportunity is critical.

This past January, we broke ground on Plaza Pacoima, which will create over 700 new jobs and bring a Costco, Lowe's and Best Buy to our neighborhood. And last year I joined with the mayor to create a free truck driving academy at the old Lopez Canyon Landfill site to bring hundreds of jobs to Seventh District residents.

I will continue to create new jobs by working to revitalize the old Montgomery Wards site, opening a Community College satellite campus and utilizing Community Redevelopment funds to stimulate our economy.

Safety is also our priority, so I worked with the LAPD to bring in 40 additional officers to Panorama City, contributed \$100,000 from my budget for LAPD overtime, and \$600,000 for gang intervention services.

We established a gang injunction zone in Sylmar, and Gang Reduction Zones in Pacoima and Panorama City and we reduced crime dramatically.

To increase basic city services, I am adding 100 miles of street sweeping, more pedestrian and traffic signalization around parks and schools, and more speed humps than anywhere in the City.

Last Spring, I announced plans to open a pediatric trauma care center at Northridge Hospital, aided by "Richie's Fund," a fund I created as a State Senator because there's never been a pediatric trauma care center in the Valley.

The Sayre and Marek fires destroyed 600 homes in the north east valley. As the Councilman during the Northridge Earthquake, I know every moment counts when recovering from a disaster, so I created a \$100,000 relief fund for the victims, pushed the City to take charge of the debris removal, and have been working to help each of the families affected get the resources they need to help rebuild their lives.

We have accomplished a lot in the last two years – provided new jobs, reduced crime, increased our police force, improved local services, increased safety for our children and

responded quickly when disaster hit. Soon we will open one of the largest constituent service centers in Los Angeles in Pacoima, so that you will have access to a City Hall right in our neighborhood.

As a life long resident of the San Fernando Valley, I know how important it is that we create safer neighborhoods, better job opportunities and the best services the City can offer.

I look forward to working with you in to improve our communities and build opportunities for a better future. Thank you.

*THE END RICHARD ALARCON STATEMENT*