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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION ANNOUNCES TRAFFIC OFFICERS' GRADUATION

LOS ANGELES (May 28, 2008)—The City of Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) has graduated 20 new Parking Enforcement and Traffic Control Officers today. The ceremony, attended by friends, family members and LADOT staff was held at Grace E. Simmons Lodge, in the City of Los Angeles, CA.

The twelve week course trains new officers to perform functions such as emergency response to natural disasters such as flooding, brush fires and earthquakes. In addition, officers become adept at handling traffic during power outages, special events and peak-hour periods. They also provide traffic control to relieve congestion and provide for safe vehicle operations.

“We welcome our new Traffic Officers to the City family and look forward to providing all of our stakeholders continued professional services with the addition of these 20 new team members” said Rita L. Robinson, General Manager, LADOT. “We will be better able to implement the Mayor’s and the City Council’s traffic relief initiatives such as Tiger Teams and License Plate Recognition programs, with the Traffic Officers who graduate today” she added.

Chief Jimmy Price, Chief, Parking Enforcement and Traffic Control Operations, Mr. Amir Sedadi, Assistant General Manager, Office of Regulatory Services, Transportation Commissioner, and a former City Traffic Officer himself, John W. Frierson, Ms. Robinson and Transportation Committee Chair, Councilwoman Wendy Greuel, officiated today’s event. “I am so pleased to see these talented men and women join LADOT’s professional team of Traffic Officers. Our City deserves top shelf people serving the public, and I can see from their faces the eagerness to go out there and help keep Los Angeles moving forward” said Councilwomen Wendy Greuel.

Area commuters can visit <http://trafficinfo.lacity.org/> for real-time traffic information. Real-time traffic reports are a product of LADOT, innovators of Automated Traffic Surveillance and Control System (ATSAC) technology.

LADOT is dedicated to moving Los Angeles forward as quickly and safely as possible. Drivers, bus riders, bicyclists, and pedestrians are encouraged to visit LADOT’s web site at: www.ladot.lacity.org for information about DASH, Commuter Express, bicycling in the city, and an array of transportation services.