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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**NATIONAL CITY CITY COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY APPOINTS
QUINTERO TO FILL COUNCIL VACANCY**

NATIONAL CITY, CA – At a special meeting on February 12, 2019, the National City City Council unanimously voted to appoint Dr. Gonzalo J. Quintero to the vacant City Council seat created by the November 2018 election of City Councilmember Alejandra Sotelo-Solis as the City's new Mayor. The City Council opened the process to fill the council vacancy through an application process and invited registered voters in National City to apply to serve the remaining term of the position until December 2020. Applications were accepted through January 22, 2019 with 12 applications received. Following the withdrawal of one applicant, 11 applicants participated in interviews with the City Council on January 29, 2019.

Dr. Quintero, known by all as "Dr. Q", is an active member of his community, serving in many different capacities for his city and regional organizations. Dr. Quintero is a National City resident and registered voter and current Vice Chair of National City's Planning Commission. He previously served on the city's Traffic Safety Committee from 2011-2016, and is a current Board Member of Circulate San Diego, an organization focused on transportation justice, and a current Advisor and former Instructor of Marketing at San Diego State University's College of Extended Studies' Professional Certificate program.

Dr. Quintero is a proud Sweetwater High School alumni, a product of Southwestern College Transfer Program, and a three time graduate of San Diego State University. He holds a Doctorate of Education in Community College Leadership, a Master of Public Administration & Urban Studies, and a Bachelors of Arts in Public Administration & Urban Studies. Dr. Quintero is the General Manager of La Bella Pizza Garden in Chula Vista, a position he has held since 2012.

"I am from National City, I bought a home here and started my family here. I am always aware of National City's history and even more aware of our future potential. I am very excited about this opportunity to serve my community," Dr. Quintero said.

"Leadership is looking beyond oneself and working for the greater good. It is through that lens that I am happy that we reached a consensus while increasing community engagement in the selection process," said Mayor Alejandra Sotelo-Solis. Vice Mayor Ron Morrison adds that, "While we had several qualified candidates, we were able to agree on Dr. Q... My extreme thanks to all who came forward to serve. I am very pleased in our opportunity to move forward".

Councilmember Mona Rios is "...excited for this new Mayoral leadership, the unanimous support for our newest City Councilmember and looks forward to working cohesively into the future." Last night's vote helped show the community that the Mayor "...is going to lead us in the right direction," said Councilmember Jerry Cano.

Dr. Quintero was sworn into office following the City Council's vote. With his appointment, the National City City Council now consists of Mayor Alejandra Sotelo-Solis, Vice Mayor Ron Morrison, and Councilmembers Jerry Cano and Mona Rios.

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