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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Vernon City Council to hold special meeting to consider ‘De León Plan’ for municipal reform**

**Vernon, CA** – Vernon city council members will convene for a special meeting on Thursday, August 25 at 4:00 p.m. at Vernon City Hall to consider a series of proposed municipal reform recommendations submitted in a letter to city officials on Monday, August 22 by California State Senator Kevin de León (D-Los Angeles) as an alternative to disincorporating the City of Vernon through pending state legislation.

Among the Vernon municipal reforms urged by Senator de León are the establishment of an independent housing commission and construction of approximately 50 new housing units; appointment of an independent reform monitor for no less than four years; implementation of the Van de Kamp Report recommendations; various city charter reforms governing term limits, fund transfers and prevailing wages; and the establishment of a “Good Neighbor Program” to benefit residents of Vernon’s surrounding communities.

In his letter to Vernon City Administrator Mark Whitworth, Senator de León wrote, “I truly believe that the City is on the cusp of historic reform and the creation of a model government that will serve as a beacon in a sea of long troubled communities. Now, the City must seize the opportunity by rolling up its sleeves and moving forward on these measures that will remake Vernon and improve its neighbors’ quality of life. I look forward to working with the City, its workers and businesses, on this important effort and making it a reality. Protecting 55,000 jobs for hard working women and men is a priority, as is rooting out the historic corruption that has been present for decades.”

**Vernon was founded in 1905 to create jobs in California. Vernon’s 1,800 businesses create more than 105,000 jobs in the Los Angeles area – including 55,000 jobs within the city’s 5.2-mile boundary. The Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation designated Vernon as California’s ‘Most Business Friendly City.’ Vernon generates more than \$330 million in state income and sales taxes, \$1.1 billion in taxable spending. Vernon’s businesses provide more than 4.4 billion in salaries and wages annually for workers in Los Angeles County.**

**To view ‘Vernon Works’, go to: <http://cityofvernon.org/iworkinvernon/>.**

*Exclusively Industrial*

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