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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Vernon Business Development Advisory Committee adopts mission to retain and attract companies to city

Vernon, CA – At its inaugural meeting today, the newly appointed 10-member City of Vernon Advisory Committee for Business Development voted unanimously to adopt as its mission the task of working with city officials on proposed policies to support Vernon-based businesses and attract new businesses to the city.

Advisory committee members elected Steve Halpin to serve as committee chair. Mr. Halpin is president and CEO of Vernon-based Norman, Fox & Co. Vernon City Councilmember Michael McCormick was elected vice chair of the advisory committee.

The Vernon Business Development Advisory Committee was established as part of the comprehensive municipal reform package approved by Vernon City Council last year. More than 40 ethics, open government and good governance reforms measures have been implemented by the City of Vernon in the past 12-months.

Business Development Advisory Committee members were provided with a 2012 report on the state of the local and state economy from Kimberly Ritter of the Kyser Center for Economic Research at the Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation and a presentation from Kristine Guerrero of the California League of Cities on the impact of the recent California Supreme Court decision on community redevelopment agencies throughout the state.

The Vernon Advisory Committee for Business Development will meet monthly. The following persons were selected to serve on the advisory committee:

Steve Halpin, President and CEO, Norman, Fox & Co.

Reid Delphey, Partner, Delphey-Gerdes Engineering

Tim Hatfield, Manager, Castle & Cooke Cold Storage

John McMillan, Industrial Real Estate Broker, Cushman & Wakefield

Exclusively Industrial

Neil Mishurda, Executive Vice President and founding shareholder, Xebec Realty Partners

Ed Rendon, Director of Public Affairs, Teamsters Joint Council 42

Stan Stosel, Senior Assistant Business Manager, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local 47

William J. Davis, Mayor Pro Tempore, City of Vernon

W. Michael McCormick, Councilmember, City of Vernon

Mark C. Whitworth, City Administrator and Fire Chief, City of Vernon

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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. For more information, go to www.cityofvernon.org.