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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Vernon City Council approves governance reform proposals for housing, compensation and term limits

Vernon, CA – The five-member Vernon City Council today unanimously approved a comprehensive package of reform measures that establishes an independent city housing commission to manage all city-owned housing, creates compensation limits for city department heads based on levels established by other cities within the region, calls for an election to set a two term limit for city council members, and reduces salaries and eliminates certain benefits for city council members.

City Administrator Mark Whitworth said, “The City Council’s unanimous vote for Vernon’s city governance reform package promotes openness, transparency and inclusiveness in our city government. The changes being implemented by the City of Vernon raise the bar for municipal reform in Southeast Los Angeles County.”

Vernon council members unanimously approved the city’s good governance reform package after reviewing a series of comparative surveys authorized on April 19 that provided data on salaries for city department heads and council members, municipal housing policies and officeholder term limit policies in other jurisdictions.

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/>.

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Exclusively Industrial