FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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HONORABLE MELISSA YBARRA ELECTED MAYOR OF VERNON

Vernon, CA (April 17, 2019) – At the council meeting held on Tuesday, April 16, members of the Vernon City Council certified the City’s 2019 General Municipal Election results and selected a new mayor and mayor pro-tem pore. Honorable Melissa Ybarra was selected as mayor by the majority of the Vernon City Council, while Honorable Leticia Lopez was selected as mayor pro tempore.

Ybarra was elected to the Vernon City Council in a special election in February of 2015, and re-elected to serve her first full five-year term in office in April 2017. Today’s election marks Mayor Ybarra’s second time in the office of mayor, having served as the City’s first female mayor in 2017.

As a member of the City Council, Mayor Ybarra has represented Vernon on the board of several area organizations including the Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts, Eco-Rapid Transit, Southeast Community Development Corporation and the Southeast Water Coalition. Mayor Ybarra currently serves as the City Council representative on the Vernon Housing Commission where she also serves as Vice Chairperson. A life-long Vernon resident, Mayor Ybarra is an active member of the local community, volunteering her time to work with organizations including the Vernon City Elementary School Site Council and the Linda Marquez High School, Huntington Park Institute of Applied Medicine School Site Council.

Honorable Leticia Lopez was elected by a unanimous vote of the five-member city council to serve as mayor pro tempore. Elected to the Vernon City Council in April of 2016 as a write-in candidate, Mayor Pro Tempore Lopez is serving a five-year term. As a member of the City Council, Mayor Pro Tempore Lopez represents the City on various external and internal boards, and is currently the City Council representative on the Vernon CommUNITY Fund Grant Committee, where she also serves as Chairperson. Mayor Pro Tempore Lopez holds a Bachelor’s Degree in Human Development from California State University Long Beach and a Master’s Degree in Human Development with a concentration in Leadership in Education from Pacific Oaks College.

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The City of 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.

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