



May 24, 2011

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Fred MacFarlane – (213) 369-8425

Vernon City Council calls special meeting to consider housing, compensation and term limit proposals

Vernon, CA – The five-member Vernon City Council has scheduled a Special Meeting on Thursday, May 26 at 8:30 a.m. to consider adoption of five staff recommendations proposed by City Administrator and Fire Chief Mark Whitworth that, if approved by a majority vote, would establish a city housing commission, adjust compensation for city department heads, call for an election to set term limits for city council members, and adjust salaries and benefits for city council members.

City Administrator Mark Whitworth called the resolutions to be placed before the Vernon City Council on Thursday, May 26, “solid and substantial steps forward for the City of Vernon.”

“The proposed establishment of a more open, transparent and inclusive governance structure, if approved by our Council, will provide a firm foundation for Vernon’s future,” Mr. Whitworth said.

On April 19, Vernon council members unanimously approved a resolution authorizing the city administrator to conduct a series of surveys related to salaries for city department heads and council members, rental rates for city-owned housing units and officeholder term limit policies in effect in other jurisdictions. The resolution called for findings of the surveys to be returned to council by June 2.

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