



January 14, 2014

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Fred MacFarlane – (213) 369-8425

Mayor McCormick applauds AQMD Board's approval of new rule to impose stricter limits on harmful lead air emissions from lead acid battery recycling plants

Vernon, CA – Mayor W. Michael McCormick today applauded the members of the Governing Board of the South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD) for their approval of a new, stricter air emissions rule that will toughen emission standards for lead acid battery recycling facilities operating in the City of Industry and Vernon.

Mayor McCormick said, "The City of Vernon remains fully committed to working cooperatively with AQMD to protect public health and improve air quality for our city's workers, residents and the hundreds of thousands of residents living in our nearby communities.

In October 2013, members of the Vernon City Council passed a resolution seeking an AQMD health advisory for lead and arsenic emissions after AQMD staff issued a Notice of Violation to Exide Technologies for arsenic and lead emissions that had exceeded regulatory limits.

Mayor McCormick had also directed Vernon City Administrator Mark Whitworth to transmit the Council's resolution to the L.A. County Board of Supervisors and city councils of the cities of Los Angeles, Commerce, Bell, Maywood and Huntington Park to urge those jurisdictions to support the AQMD's then-proposed tougher rule on air emissions from lead acid battery recycling facilities.

###

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.