



NEWS ADVISORY

Story for Saturday, April 26, 2014 at 11:00 a.m.

April 21, 2014

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Fred MacFarlane – (213) 369-8425

California State Senators Kevin de León, Ricardo Lara and Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard to join Vernon city officials to officially launch the ‘Vernon CommUNITY Fund’

Vernon, CA – California State Senator **Kevin de León**, state Senator **Ricardo Lara** and Congresswoman **Lucille Roybal-Allard** will join Vernon Mayor **W. Michael McCormick** and Vernon council members on **Saturday, April 26 at 11:00 a.m.** at **Salt Lake Park (3401 E. Florence Avenue, Huntington Park, CA 90255)** for the official launch of the **Vernon CommUNITY Fund**.

The Vernon CommUNITY Fund has been authorized by the Vernon City Council to provide grants to charitable and governmental entities for worthy projects in and around the City of Vernon that benefit the residents of Vernon and residents of the city’s surrounding communities and improve their quality of life.

The Vernon CommUNITY Fund is the fulfillment of a pledge made in 2011 by Vernon city officials to establish a ‘good neighbor’ relationship with Vernon’s surrounding communities.

Under Vernon’s initial ‘Good Neighbor Program’ – which preceded the formal establishment of the Vernon CommUNITY Fund – city leaders authorized a grant of \$624,000 to the City of Huntington Park for the installation of a state-of-the-art artificial turf system on a dirt soccer field at Salt Lake Park.

Under the Vernon CommUNITY Fund’s structure, a seven-member Grant Committee appointed by Vernon City Council members will review grant applications from local nonprofit organizations serving a designated ‘Vernon Area’ and choose worthy projects to support with city grant funds.

Senators De León and Lara, and Congresswoman Roybal-Allard will participate in a groundbreaking ceremony marking the start of construction and installation of the new

artificial turf soccer field at the 'Salt Lake Park Soccer Circle' in a festive Huntington Park community park and recreation event that will precede the formal community announcement of the Vernon CommUNITY Fund.

Huntington Park Mayor Rosa E. Perez and members of the Huntington Park City Council, as well as, Vernon Mayor W. Michael McCormick and members of the Vernon City Council will join De León, Lara and Roybal-Allard.

#

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.