



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: City Administration – (323) 583-8811 Ext. 642

**CITY OF VERNON CLOSES CITY HALL TO THE PUBLIC**

**Vernon, CA** (March 16, 2020) – City of Vernon officials announced that effective Monday, March 16, 2020, at 9:00 a.m. Vernon City Hall including meeting spaces, public service counters, and police and fire administration will be closed to the public until further notice. This announcement follows the City’s declaration of a local state of emergency on March 14, 2020 in response to the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak. The restricted public access is a proactive measure to mitigate the transmission of COVID-19 and to protect the public health, safety and welfare of local citizens, businesses, and employees of the City.

Despite City Hall being closed, essential services including police, fire and emergency medical services, will remain intact and fully operational. City Administrator Carlos Fandino assured the local community that emergency operations will not be impacted by the facilities closure. “Businesses and residents can rest assured that they will continue to have access to emergency personnel in the City,” said City Administrator Fandino.

Many internal operations will continue as the majority of the City workforce will be equipped to work remotely. Small teams of staff will report to City Hall as needed to maintain operational continuity. The City is taking action that adheres to recommendations by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to implement social distancing to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

As we continue to monitor the COVID-19 pandemic, City leaders will adjust operations as necessary to limit negative impacts on the City. The Vernon City Council will hold a Special City Council Meeting at 9:00am on Tuesday, March 17, 2020 to consider additional preventative measures and impacts to the City as a result of COVID-19. The Council Chambers will be open to the public for the meeting, however the public is encouraged to submit comments electronically. Written comments may be submitted by email to [publiccomment@ci.vernon.ca.us](mailto:publiccomment@ci.vernon.ca.us).

The City will continue to update the community as new information becomes available via our website at [www.cityofvernon.org/COVID19](http://www.cityofvernon.org/COVID19).

###

**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](http://www.cityofvernon.org).**

**Follow and like the City of Vernon on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.**