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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Vernon voters pass three municipal tax measures to fund and preserve police, fire, health and essential city services

Vernon, CA – Vernon’s registered voters today voted to pass Measures K, L and M in the city’s April 9 Election. With passage of the three tax measures, voters approved raising an estimated \$8 million in general fund and public safety revenues to pay for existing city services, and – in combination with additional city program cuts – help balance the city’s fiscal year budget. 42-ballots were cast in today’s election.

Measure K passed on a vote of 37-to-5. Measure K is anticipated to generate an estimated \$4.5 million in general fund revenues through increases to existing rates. Additionally, modifications would be made to the city’s method for calculating business license taxes to enhance clarity and streamline the administration of the tax for businesses engaged in multiple business activities in the city and for contractors doing business at worksites in the city.

Measure L passed on a vote of 36-to-6. Measure L is anticipated to generate an estimated \$1.9 million in revenue annually for 10-years to fund public safety services and projects through a special parcel tax rate of \$0.03 per square foot on non-residential parcels. The proposed parcel tax would not be applied to the portion of a business’s square footage that is presently taxed under the city’s Warehouse Parcel Tax.

Measure M passed on a vote of 34-to-7. Measure M is anticipated to generate an estimated \$1.6 million through the levy of a one-percent (1%) utility users tax on electricity, natural gas, water, and telecommunications services. The proposed Vernon Utility Users Tax would sunset 10-years following its implementation date.

Vernon City Administrator Mark Whitworth said, “I am extremely pleased our city’s voters recognized their city’s pressing need to collect added taxes for our city’s general fund to support police and fire services, health and environmental control, and other critically important city services. The voters sent a message that they want to maintain their city’s level of public safety and provide funds to maintain critical infrastructure throughout their city.”

Vernon's voters re-elected Mayor William Davis to a new five-year term as a member of the Vernon City Council. Mayor Davis received 34-votes and ran unopposed on the city's ballot.

Mayor Davis said, "I'm gratified by the vote of support and confidence from our city's voters. Their vote was an endorsement of our city's continuing good governance reforms."

For more City of Vernon election information, go to **cityofvernon.org/elections**.

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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.