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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **A.J. Wilson appointed Interim Vernon City Administrator**

**Vernon, CA** – Members of the Vernon City Council announced today the appointment of A.J. Wilson to serve as the city’s interim city administrator during the city’s ongoing executive search for a permanent city administrator.

Mr. Wilson is a public administration consultant with more than 40-years of public management experience. He most recently served as executive director of the San Bernardino International Airport Authority and Inland Valley Development Agency. He has served as a senior advisor to city managers in San Bernardino and Riverside.

Mr. Wilson was former deputy mayor in St. Louis, Missouri and city manager in the cities of Pomona, Santa Ana, Kansas City, Portland (Maine), and interim city manager in Norco. Mr. Wilson is president of Wilson Communications, LLC, a management services consulting firm.

In September 2015, Vernon council members engaged Bob Murray & Associates, an executive search firm, to recruit qualified candidates for city administrator. Council members are expected to interview prospective candidates in the coming weeks.

Former Vernon City Administrator Mark C. Whitworth retired on December 28, 2015 after more than 26-years of public service as a Vernon firefighter, fire captain, battalion chief, fire chief and city administrator. City leaders thanked Mr. Whitworth for his years of service and wished him well in his retirement and future endeavors

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