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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Vernon mourns passing of Councilmember Michael A. Ybarra**

**Vernon, CA** – Honorable Michael A. Ybarra, elected to the Vernon City Council as a good governance reform candidate in April 2012, passed away yesterday (Friday, September 26) in Sacramento. Councilmember Ybarra’s family members informed city officials of his passing. He was 61.

Vernon City Administrator Mark Whitworth said, “Our city mourns the loss of Councilmember Michael Ybarra, a dedicated public servant with deep roots in this community. Councilmember Ybarra worked diligently to keep Vernon on its good governance path. He was a strong supporter of Vernon’s businesses and kept a close eye on city fiscal issues. Councilmember Ybarra will be deeply missed by our city’s mayor, mayor pro tem and his city council colleagues; our city’s residents, business owners, labor representatives; and our city administrators and staff. We send our condolences to Councilmember Ybarra’s family and friends. They are in thoughts and prayers in their time of profound loss. Mike Ybarra was taken from all of us far too soon.”

Councilmember Ybarra was born and raised in Vernon. He was a lifelong Vernon resident. A U.S. ARMY veteran, Councilmember Ybarra formerly worked as an aerospace quality engineer in Vernon for more than 23-years.

Councilmember Ybarra’s family members have resided in Vernon since the 1860s. Councilmember Ybarra’s father – Vernon Mayor Pro Tem Emeritus Thomas A. Ybarra – served on the Vernon City Council for 43-years. Honorable Esteban Peralta, Councilmember Ybarra’s great uncle, served on the Vernon City Council for 15-years during the 1930s and ‘40s.

Councilmember Ybarra is survived by his wife, Susana Rodriguez-Ybarra, and three daughters.

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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.’**

*Exclusively Industrial*

**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).**