

*City of*  
**VERNON**  
CALIFORNIA



# RESIDENT NEWSLETTER

August 2022

## Welcome Back to School, Students!

It's that time of year again and we wish our families well as students return to school. Please be mindful of your surroundings, keep a lookout for students and parents crossing busy streets, and remain patient during pick-up and drop-off times at local schools, as we know that additional traffic in these zones can often be challenging. Vernon Police will have an increased presence in busy areas in the City during these initial weeks of the school year.



## Passport Services at City Hall



Vernon's City Clerk Department has been certified by the United States Department of State as a Passport Acceptance Facility. U.S. Citizens can now apply for passports at City Hall and take their identification photo! Appointments are available through the City's online scheduling system. To make an appointment, or to learn more, visit [www.cityofvernon.org/passport](http://www.cityofvernon.org/passport).

## Up-to-the-Minute News

Follow us on social media for the latest City related news and events! Scan here!



# RESIDENT NEWSLETTER

## Community News

### Sterigenics Update

Sterigenics is a global medical equipment sterilization business that has multiple locations throughout the country and California, with a site in Vernon. The company has recently received attention because of its use and elevated levels of Ethylene Oxide (EtO).

The South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) regulates air emissions in the Vernon area and reports that measurements of EtO in the community near Sterigenics are below health risk levels, and has not recommended plant closure. The City is in close communication with SCAQMD and will work as a partner on any action plans needed to address air emission concerns as they continue to monitor; and the City is actively working with Los Angeles County Public Health.

Vernon continues to prioritize the safety and welfare of the public and will support SCAQMD's expert-guided recommendations.

For further information, please visit [www.cityofvernon.org/sterigenics](http://www.cityofvernon.org/sterigenics).

### Rendering in Vernon

The South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) oversees rendering plant operations, enforces regulations and upholds best practices. Although Vernon does not govern these facilities, it recognizes that they can affect the community with nuisance odors.

Vernon is working diligently with SCAQMD to remain informed on rendering compliance and SCAQMD enforcement efforts in the City. Committed to the community, Vernon is engaged with neighboring city leaders to convey its support for SCAQMD regulations that mitigate rendering odors (such as equipment enclosures that reduce smells from being released into the air). Vernon plans to conduct its own odor study and take action to implement local controls to alleviate rendering impacts in the area.

You can report odor issues to SCAQMD at (800) 288-7664. To learn more, visit [www.cityofvernon.org/rendering](http://www.cityofvernon.org/rendering).



**South Coast  
AQMD**

### Project West Side

Vernon is evolving. The City is currently developing a mixed-use specific plan that leverages its proximity to the Arts District and Downtown Los Angeles to bring about revitalization. Project West Side will bring cleaner commerce, retail (like grocery stores), and additional housing.

The primary goals for the plan include: Increasing Vernon's residential population; increasing the level of goods and services available to residents of the community; creating a strong community identity and sense of place; and providing new employment and housing opportunities.

We value community feedback. Stay tuned for upcoming announcements on how you, as a resident, may comment on Project West Side. Learn more at [www.reimaginevernon.com](http://www.reimaginevernon.com).





# RESIDENT NEWSLETTER

## City Events

Vernon regularly hosts events to connect with the community. Most recently, the City invited residents to join in on its Graduation Celebration and Summer Kick-Off event, coordinated a Job Fair for Vernon businesses and regional workers, and participated in National Night Out 2022, a special event for public safety professionals to mingle with community members. Below are some photos of these amazing events! We look forward to seeing you next time!



Vernon grads and scholarship grantees receive accolades.



Summer Kick-Off  
June 9th



Vernon Job Fair  
June 23rd

A job seeker who scored a new opportunity rings the bell!

National Night Out  
August 2nd



Serious potato sack competitors race to the finish line!





# RESIDENT NEWSLETTER

## Calendar



### Regular Vernon Housing Commission Meeting

**September 14, 2022 @ 6:00 pm (via Zoom)**

Meets quarterly to discuss all matters related to City-owned housing stock and public is welcome to participate.

### Career Day

**October 5, 2022 @ 5:00 pm (In-person and via Zoom)**

Educational session hosted by Vernon's City staff to inform high school students about career options in government.

### Halloween Spooktacular

**October 27, 2022 @ 5:00 pm (In-person)**

Come on out to City Hall for a Halloween Maze, fun family activities, free food, raffle prizes, and festive giveaways!

### City Council Meetings

**1st and 3rd Tuesdays Monthly @ 9:00 am (In-person and via Zoom)**

Public meetings where City Council deliberates on matters pertaining to Vernon and provides policy direction to City staff.



## Housing Info & Contacts

Vernon Village Park Resident requests?

**Call Solari Enterprises at  
(323) 771-0202**

City-owned housing maintenance requests, questions, or comments? Use our Housing Hotline!

**Call (323) 826-1472 OR  
housing@cityofvernon.org**

After hours urgent requests? To report electrical outages, internet issues, or immediate City-owned housing tenant needs...

**Call (323) 826-1465**

### Online Utility Bill Pay Now Available!

Residential customers can now go online to pay their electric bill. Once you receive your bill, visit [www.cityofvernon.org/payonline](http://www.cityofvernon.org/payonline) to make a payment with a credit card, Paypal, or Venmo.

### City-owned Housing Automatic Rent Payments

The City offers a convenient method to pay your rent and avoid any late fees. Automatic monthly payments are available! To enroll in auto-pay, contact the Housing Hotline.

### City-owned Housing Lease Updates & Unit Transfers

Do you want to renew the lease for your rental, or add someone as an authorized occupant? Are you interested in transferring to a different residential unit? Contact the Housing Hotline for info.

### Payment Drop Box

The City offers a payment drop box for your convenience. Submit payments at any time in our secure drop box located just outside the first floor entrance to City Hall (near the Police Department).