



# RESIDENT NEWSLETTER

February 2023



Vernon's Gateway Arch is being installed at the intersection of Santa Fe and 25th

## Happy New Year from Vernon!

Happy New Year, Vernon residents! We wish you the best 2023 has to offer and look forward to serving you. We are optimistic about what's in store for the City. Development projects that include more clean commerce, residential, and retail establishments are potentially in the future. And, our gateway arch, a new and inviting City landmark is now under construction. Vernon continues to evolve!

Stay informed on local news by joining us for public meetings, visiting our website, following us on social media, and opting in to receive City notifications at [cityofvernon.org/notifications](http://cityofvernon.org/notifications).

## General Municipal Election on April 11, 2023

### General Information

The City's General Municipal Election will be held on Tuesday, April 11, 2023 to elect one Member of the City Council for a five-year term and submitting Measure W to the voters to extend the Public Safety Special Parcel Tax.

Election information can be accessed at [cityofvernon.org/elections](http://cityofvernon.org/elections), or you may contact the City of Vernon Voter Hotline at (323) 826-3665 with questions.

If not yet registered to vote, Vernon residents may do so by March 27, 2023 in order to cast a ballot for the April 11, 2023 General Municipal Election.

### Ballot Measure W

If approved by the voters, Measure W will extend the duration of the City's existing Public Safety Special Parcel Tax for five years.

What is the Public Safety Special Parcel Tax?

- Annual special tax that is applied based on square footage of non-residential properties only
- Allows the City of Vernon to maintain its current police, public health, and fire protection service levels

Measure W requires approval by two-thirds of voters in the April municipal election. A "yes" vote approves a five-year extension of the Public Safety Special Parcel Tax to maintain current public safety services. A "no" vote will result in the current Tax expiring on June 30, 2023.

Revenue generated by Measure W would be used for: (1) City police services; (2) City health services; and (3) contracted City fire protection services. Residents do not pay for the tax.

An Impartial Analysis and Argument in Favor of Measure W are available for review at [cityofvernon.org/elections](http://cityofvernon.org/elections).



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## Community News

### WEA Community Health Needs Assessment

The City of Vernon's Public Health Department, in partnership with the Wellness Equity Alliance (WEA), will be seeking input for a Community Health Needs Assessment. In the coming weeks, residents may see WEA staff visiting Vernon neighborhoods to conduct direct outreach and inform residents about a series of planned focus group meetings. We encourage you to participate. This is an opportunity to share your opinion on the types of health care and wellness services you would like to see prioritized. Keep an eye out for the WEA team!



### Input Needed!

The City is updating both its Sustainability Plan and Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) and greatly values input from those that live and work in Vernon. Two different surveys will be made available on the City's website and distributed to Vernon residents and businesses in the coming weeks.

Feedback received will help the City incorporate in the Sustainability Plan the green goals most meaningful to you, while your input with the IRP will help the utility determine how much renewable energy to invest in its portfolio. Knowing community priorities, we can conserve resources and promote a healthy environment for our current residents and workforce, and for future generations. Learn more at [cityofvernon.org](http://cityofvernon.org).

### City Zoning Modifications

In the nearby Downtown Los Angeles Arts District, it is common to see obsolete warehouse and industrial buildings converted into retail and residential properties. Recently, Vernon has seen interest from developers that envision repurposing vacant warehouse space into contemporary, comfortable complexes for residents. The City is not zoned for residential development at this time, however, changes to the City's zoning will soon be proposed. As part of this process, the City has prepared a Housing Element document which details its plans for housing through 2029. The public may comment on the draft for a period of seven days.

New retail and residential developments will bring additional amenities and conveniences to local residents. Furthermore, such projects will modernize, update, and improve existing City structures and aesthetics. We are excited about all of the possibilities!

Vernon's 2021-2029 Draft Housing Element is now available for a seven-day public review at [cityofvernon.org/housingelement](http://cityofvernon.org/housingelement). The City invites comments through email submission to [dwall@cityofvernon.org](mailto:dwall@cityofvernon.org). Following the public review period, the draft will be submitted to the State and, thereafter, to the Vernon City Council for consideration.



Rendering of proposed Santa Fe residential project

### Up-to-the-Minute News

Follow us on social media!  
Scan here!





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## City Events

Vernon ended 2022 with exciting events for the community. At its Holiday Tree Lighting, guests enjoyed a winter wonderland on the City Hall Lawn, with sweet treats and toy giveaways. In mid-December, as part of an annual tradition, all Vernon Elementary students were gifted soccer balls by Vernon PD. And, Operation Santa saw hundreds of toys and goods provided to residents during an evening drive-thru Light Show. We hope all had a happy holiday season!

### Tree Lighting

December 8



### Soccer Ball Delivery

December 14



Chief Sousa happily leads the annual Vernon Elementary Soccer Ball Giveaway



Kids enjoy the snowy City Hall Lawn during the City's Tree Lighting event



### Operation Santa

December 14



Santa and all of his City helpers gather for a photo during Operation Santa





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## Calendar



### Bulky Item Pick-up

**March 6, 2023 @ 9:00 am (Curbside)**

Place your items curbside the night before and the pick-up crew will do the rest! No items are off limits.

### Regular Vernon Housing Commission Meeting

**March 8, 2023 @ 6:00 pm (In-person and online)**

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

### Spring Egg-Stravaganza

**March 23, 2023 @ 5:00 pm (In-person)**

Come out to the City Hall Lawn for a spring celebration with fun family activities, free food from the Habit, and raffle prizes!

### Vernon Job Fair

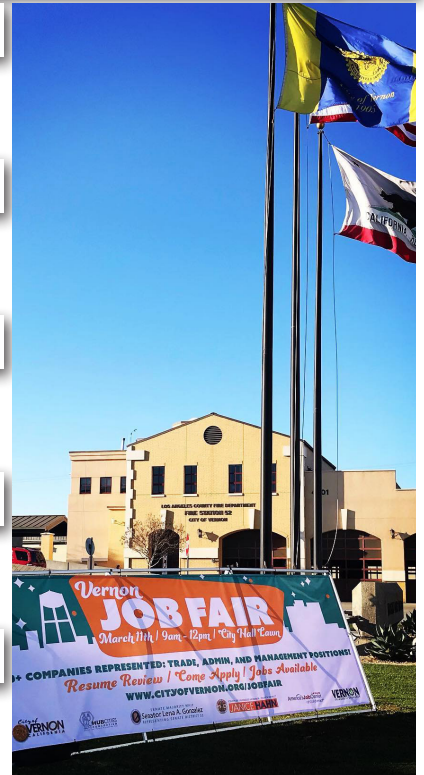
**April 6, 2023 @ 9:00 am (In-person)**

Searching for a new career opportunity? Join us on the City Hall Lawn where we will host local businesses with position openings.

### City Council Meetings

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

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 [cityofvernon.org/payonline](http://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).