

# RESIDENT NEWSLETTER

February 2024

## Vernon Randolph-to-River Greenway Project



Vernon is eager to convert a 1½ mile stretch of underutilized Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) property (pictured top right) to greenspace that would include a commuter path connection for people throughout the Southeast Los Angeles (SELA), linking the Metro rail (at Randolph) and the LA River to the trail (pictured top left). The greenbelt would provide a safe, automobile-free connection to and from jobs in Vernon and nearby cities, with separated pedestrian and bicycle paths for the extent of the right-of-way, and passive and active recreational opportunities throughout. This ambitious regional project would transform the unkept, obsolete lot of land into a beautiful, useful, beneficial greenway (similar to the image of park space pictured at bottom).



Let's take this vision from concept to reality! Visit [www.cityofvernon.org/vernongreenway](http://www.cityofvernon.org/vernongreenway) to voice your support for the Vernon Randolph-to-River Greenway Project.

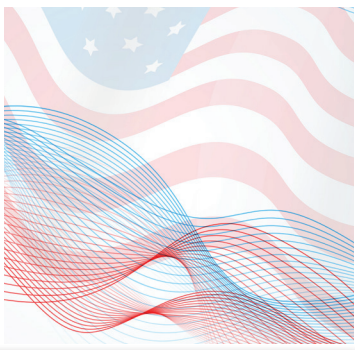


**Up-to-the-Minute News**  
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## Vernon General Municipal Election

The Vernon General Municipal Election is coming soon! Election materials and ballots should be received by mid-March. Here are some key notes for the April 9, 2024 election:

- On the ballot is (1) a 10% transient occupancy tax to be paid by hotel guests staying within Vernon and used to fund general services; and (2) the selection of a single Council Member to serve a five-year term
- Last day to register to vote is March 25th



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## Community News

### Growing the Vernon Tree Canopy



Vernon is committed to growing its tree canopy! The City planted 125 new trees in 2022, and added 250 in 2023. This year, the goal is to plant 500 more! Trees are beneficial for many reasons - reducing heat island effect and greenhouse gas emissions, saving energy, cleaning water and air, and improving public health. The effort is aligned with Vernon's ongoing beautification efforts, promoting a more appealing streetscape throughout the City (Soto and City Hall pictured at left). Vernon takes pride in promoting a greener, more resilient future.

### Vernon Recycling Programs

Vernon is all about recycling. In our last newsletter, we provided information on Vernon's composting collection program. Did you know that the City will also collect and recycle your used motor oil, oil filters, and cooking oil? Just bring these items to City Hall and we'll do the rest! Be sure to place used motor oil and used cooking oil in separate containers. Used motor oil when discarded on the ground, into storm drains, or in trash cans, can contaminate and pollute soil and groundwater. Used cooking oil is not hazardous like motor oil waste, but it can cling to pipes and cause sewer line blockages and spills. To avoid potential issues and protect the environment, we recommend recycling your used oil. See our flyer insert for more details, and remember to contact [Health@cityofvernon.org](mailto:Health@cityofvernon.org) with questions.



### Citizen Spotlight



The City congratulates Vernon resident, Tyrone Riley IV, on his outstanding academic achievement and successful high school basketball career! Tyrone led his undefeated team to the 2023 CIF-Southern Section Division 3AA championship, received multiple player of the year awards, and eclipsed a 2,000 point milestone during his time as a guard for the St. Pius Warriors.

Tyrone (pictured at left) and his family have lived in Vernon since 2015. After considering offers from multiple Division I colleges, the basketball star will attend and play for the University of San Francisco. Best wishes, Tyrone!

### Tell Us Your News!

Do you have a special announcement or accomplishment that you would like to share? Let us know and we can help get the word out in Vernon's quarterly newsletter. Please email [CityAdmin@cityofvernon.org](mailto:CityAdmin@cityofvernon.org) with specifics about your good news. You are the heart of the Vernon community, and the newsletter is all for you!



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## City Events

The holiday season is always a special time of year and is filled with fun, festive events here in the City. In December of 2023, Vernon hosted its annual snow-filled Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony on December 7th. The City also participated in the Huntington Park Holiday Parade on December 9th. Vernon's Soccer Ball Giveaway and Operation Santa events on December 13th rounded out the year. We look forward to seeing you at our events in 2024!

### Tree Lighting December 7



### Holiday Parade December 9



Festive participants joined Huntington Park for the annual Holiday Parade.



Tree Lighting guests enjoyed coffee, desserts, sledding, and a toy giveaway!



### Soccer Ball Delivery December 13



Vernon Elementary students collected their new soccer balls from Vernon PD.



Santa and the Grinch surprised guests at the City's drive-thru gift giveaway event!

### Operation Santa December 13





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## Calendar



### Regular Vernon Housing Commission Meeting

March 13, 2024 @ 6:00pm (In-person and online)

Meets quarterly to discuss all matters related to City-owned housing stock and public is welcome to participate. The meeting agenda is available at [www.cityofvernon.org/publicmeetings](http://www.cityofvernon.org/publicmeetings).

### Spring Egg-Stravaganza

March 21, 2024 @ 5:00 pm

Come out to the City Hall Lawn to enjoy an Easter Egg Hunt, food from The Habit (while supplies last), activities, and raffle giveaways!



### Vernon CommUNITY Fund Scholarship Deadline

March 28, 2024 @ 5:00 pm

High school seniors that live in Vernon are eligible to apply for Vernon's scholarship! Visit [www.cityofvernon.org/communityfund](http://www.cityofvernon.org/communityfund) for more info.

### 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. Meeting agendas are available at [www.cityofvernon.org/publicmeetings](http://www.cityofvernon.org/publicmeetings).

## 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  
[cityhousing@cityofvernon.org](mailto:cityhousing@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 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).