



RESIDENT NEWSLETTER

August 2024

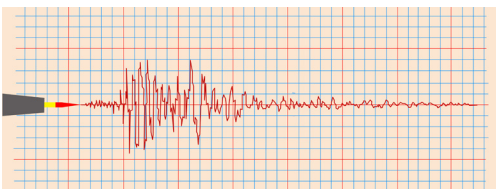
New Vernon Developments

Presently, about a year after Vernon adopted mixed-use zoning, there are approximately 18 active development projects in the City that focus on balanced land use and increased housing.

Among the projects are three data centers - operations that offer network infrastructure to support enterprise Information Technology like machine learning, Artificial Intelligence (AI), business communications and applications, and data storage. Other projects under review include a green hydrogen production facility and two Electric Vehicle (EV) charging stations. The diverse mix of clean businesses making Vernon their home is a testament to shifting priorities in the business world, and the changing commercial composition of the City.



Plans for an 18-unit apartment complex on Santa Fe Avenue (pictured top right) have been submitted. Mixed-use rezoning has paved the way for exciting new residential projects that repurpose obsolete industrial spaces in Vernon and make it possible for modern, practical uses! Visit www.cityofvernon.org/HousingNotifications to sign up to receive housing announcements.



Quake Preparedness

Living in California, it's essential to be ready for an earthquake at any time! Just this month, we felt a sizable quake centered in the Highland Park area (about 10 miles from Vernon). Remember to follow preparedness guidelines to help keep you and your family safe in the aftermath of a major earthquake. Please see the newsletter insert for additional information.

Vernon Rebranding

A significant and interesting project for the City of Vernon is underway – the development of a new visual identity for Vernon which includes a new City logo and tagline. This new logo and branding will serve as a vibrant representation of our community's unique character, heritage, and aspirations for the future.

In order to initiate the creative design process, a steering committee has been formed to provide insights that help shape a brand that truly reflects the essence of our City, ensuring the logotype reflects the diverse perspectives and the values of our community. Logo design sketches are in the works and will soon be presented at an upcoming Council meeting.

Up-to-the-Minute News

Follow us on social media!
Scan here!



RESIDENT NEWSLETTER

Community News

Exide Update

The former Exide facility in Vernon operated as a lead acid battery recycling plant until its oversight agency, the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), ordered its closure after learning that Exide's management of hazardous waste was unsafe, resulting in contamination of nearby soil and water. Extensive cleanup of Exide contaminants in the Southeast Los Angeles (SELA) region started in 2018 and remains ongoing. Vernon is committed to safeguarding the health of the local community and has advocated for a National Superfund Priority Listing (NSPL) of the former Exide property and surrounding impacted areas. An NSPL listing would make funding available to prioritize and expedite remediation.

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) conducted a preliminary assessment of the former Exide site in November 2022, and an inspection was initiated in January 2023 to determine eligibility for the NSPL. In June of 2024, the USEPA published a report that calls to consider the former Exide plant an NSPL site due to its toxic pollution. The USEPA's recommendation is rooted in groundwater contamination caused by a carcinogen called trichloroethylene (TCE) linked to the plant. According to the USEPA's report, soil lead levels do not meet specific Superfund criteria. To track the latest Exide news, visit the City's website at www.cityofvernon.org/Exide.

2024 Law Enforcement Torch Run

The Vernon Police Department participated in the annual Law Enforcement Torch Run on June 4th, traversing a 2.5-mile stretch through Vernon streets (pictured right). As a fundraiser for the Special Olympics, the Torch Run collects donations used to enrich the lives of athletes with intellectual disabilities through sports and education. Every dollar raised provides equipment, uniforms, and training for these athletes which, in turn, promotes empowerment, joy, and improved health. Team Vernon was one of the top donation teams in the Southeast area, raising funds and awareness for this worthy cause. Go Vernon!



Citizen Spotlight



Welcome back to school, Vernon! It's that time of year again for our students to focus on the next leg of their educational journey. We wish you the very best and encourage you to dedicate as much of yourself as possible to your studies. In the long run, the hard work and effort will be worthwhile as you evaluate options for careers in the real world. The City is rooting for you!

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 with specifics about your good news. You are the heart of the Vernon community, and the newsletter is all for you!

RESIDENT NEWSLETTER

City Events

It's been a stellar summer! On June 22nd, Vernon, Maywood, the Southeast Rio-Vista YMCA, and about 150 Dodgers Dreamteam players and families celebrated Opening Day at the Maywood Dreamfield which included the unveiling of a plaque from Vernon to commemorate the field. On August 6th, we enjoyed National Night Out, an evening of family, friends, and community with our Vernon Police on the City Hall Lawn. Be sure to join us for our next event!

Dreamfield Opening Day June 22



Players were treated to a free Dodgers Academy Clinic to hone their skills.



The City distributed sets of books for kids to add to their personal libraries.



National Night Out August 6



Guests enjoyed free food and giveaways, and a display of emergency vehicles.



RESIDENT NEWSLETTER

Calendar



Regular Vernon Housing Commission Meeting

September 11, 2024 @ 6:00 pm (Council Chamber and Online)
Meets quarterly to discuss City-owned housing matters. Meeting Agendas are available at www.cityofvernon.org/publicmeetings.

Career Day

October 2, 2024 @ 5:30 pm (City Hall)
City staff will offer insight into educational paths and careers in government - interested students are welcome to attend.

Halloween Spooktacular

October 29, 2024 @ 5:00 pm (City Hall Lawn)
Come join us for a Halloween Maze, fun family activities, free food, raffle prizes, and festive giveaways!

Fall Harvest

November 19, 2024 @ TBD (City Hall Drive-Thru)
A turkey and grocery gift card distribution for all Vernon and southeast area residents will be offered in time for the Thanksgiving holiday. Stay tuned for additional announcements!

Join us for City Council Meetings 1st and 3rd Tuesdays Each Month @ 9:00am (Council Chamber and Online). Please note that the September 3rd meeting has been cancelled.

Public meetings at City Hall where Council deliberates on City matters and policy. Meeting agendas are available at 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

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 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).