# City of VERN / ERN / ERN / A

# RESIDENT NEWSLETTER

August 2023

#### **City Approves Mixed-Use Zoning**

The City Council recently adopted zoning changes for four districts in select along Santa Fe areas Ave. and Pacific Blvd. to encourage residential, live/ work, standalone retail, and restaurant/entertainment uses, and to position the City to quintuple its population in the next few years. Multiple developers have expressed interest already. And, the City's first Starbucks is set to open within the next few months.

We are excited to see what's in store for Vernon as the City continues to evolve. Learn what's new at cityofvernon.org.



Rendering of a potential Santa Fe residential project.





Donations are distributed by Helping Hands volunteers who make a difference in the community!

#### **Helping Hands Society**

Helping Hands Society of Los Angeles is a non-profit in Vernon that provides food items, personal hygiene kits, clothing, medicine, vitamins, household essentials, furniture, and much more! Through its Vernon CommUNITY Fund, the City has supported Helping Hands in its mission to offer needed resources and help the less fortunate.

Join Helping Hands in celebrating its 3rd anniversary on September 23rd at 10:00 am at 2360 E. 51st. Learn more at helpinghandsofla.org.

#### New Electric Vehicle Charging Station on Soto in Vernon





The location has been flagged as one of the best performing stations, as there is a great need in Southeast area communities.

Public Electric Vehicle (EV) fast charging is now available at 3805 S. Soto. A total of 18 fast chargers are at the site ready to use 24/7. The chargers support 95% of the various electric cars on the market and will charge up to 80% of a vehicle's battery in 15-20 minutes.

Vernon is thrilled to serve the vast number of EVs in the Southeast Los Angeles region. Two more EV projects are in the works. The City will continue to strive to deliver valuable services to Vernon residents and workers, and to its neighbors.

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# Community News

#### Calling All 4-Year-Olds!

Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) is currently seeking 4-yearolds for its Universal Transitional Kindergarten (TK) program, a highquality early learning experience that offers free full-day on-campus classes. Enrollment for the program is ongoing and new families are welcome to register with their local elementary school.

For any questions, contact your local school office (Maywood Elementary 323-890-2440, or Vernon Elementary 323-582-3727). You may also call 1-800-EARLYED for general information.

Vernon is proud to maintain a collaborative partnership with LAUSD and hopes to assist the district in its efforts to improve engagement with students and families in the Southeast Los Angeles Area.



LAUSD announced education compacts with local cities. Mayor Pro-Tem Merlo and Chief Sousa were in attendance.

#### Le Vigne Wine Tasting in Vernon

Did you know that there is a wine tasting room in Vernon?! Le Vigne Winery opened its tasting room in May of 2023, serving wine from its award-winning winery in Paso Robles. The Vernon location is home to a small Italian market which offers cheese platters (with Vernon's Peacock Cheese) and other tasty wine pairings for guests. Le Vigne's location in Vernon provides an opportunity to appreciate great wine without the long journey to Paso Robles. Visit levignewinery.com to make a reservation.







Le Vigne's tasting room (or patio) offers a welcoming space where guests can enjoy wine and accompaniments.



#### **Up-to-the-Minute News**

Follow us on social media! Scan here!

# RESIDENT NEWSLETTER

# City Events

To celebrate the season, the City organized its first ever Summer Swim on July 9th exclusively for Vernon residents. Along with pool access, free food from The Habit was offered in the YMCA courtyard outfitted with shaded tables and lawn games. On August 7th, Vernon partnered with Maywood to host Stargazing Night. Telescopes were available to view the night sky, and engaging crafts and refreshments were provided. The night culminated with a fantastic view of a Space X rocket launch from Vandenberg Air Force Base. We hope you'll join us next time!

### **Summer Swim**July 9







**Stargazing Night** August 7





Kids enjoy the numerous educational crafts available during Stargazing Night!



Shaded tables and chairs awaited guests ready to relax and enjoy their meals.



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# Calendar

Regular Vernon Housing Commission Meeting

**September 13, 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.

Career Day

October 18, 2023 @ 5:30 pm (In-person)

City staff will offer insight into educational paths and careers in government - interested students are welcome to attend.

Halloween Spooktacular

October 26, 2023 @ 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!

Fall Harvest

November 14, 2023 (Details to follow)

A turkey meal distribution for all Vernon residents will be offered in time for the Thanksgiving holiday.

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Join us for City Council Meetings Monthly 1st and 3rd Tuesdays @ 9:00 am (In-person and online)

Public meetings at City Hall where 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 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).