

# City of **VERNON** CALIFORNIA



## RESIDENT NEWSLETTER

November 2024

### Vernon Reads! Virtual Library Program

The City is excited to introduce the Vernon Reads! Virtual Library Program which is intended to encourage literacy and make books available to the community. The Program provides e-readers (photo bottom right) with unlimited subscriptions to Transitional Kindergartners–12th grade students and e-book subscriptions to adults living in Vernon. To participate in the Program, Vernon residents may visit [www.cityofvernon.org/vernonreads](http://www.cityofvernon.org/vernonreads) to enroll.



To further support the City's goal of literacy and learning, future initiatives will focus on increasing access to physical books, personal book ownership, and creating a "Community Book Nook" at City Hall. Reading is a lifelong skill that improves memory, builds a robust vocabulary, offers a solid foundation of knowledge, and provides significant physical and mental health benefits for all ages.



### Vernon CommUNITY Fund Anniversary

This year marks the 10-year anniversary of the Vernon CommUNITY Fund! Since 2014, the Vernon CommUNITY Fund (VCF) has awarded grants to countless nonprofit organizations in the Vernon Area - it's been a decade of giving. In 2019, the VCF established the VCF Scholarship Program to assist high school seniors in the Vernon Area that are in pursuit of higher education (photo bottom left).

Overall, the VCF has awarded more than \$5 million in grants and scholarships. VCF grants contribute to the health, well-being, and quality of life in local communities and support regional programs and services that address workforce development, education, youth advocacy, sports, the arts, violence prevention, homelessness, mental health, and more. VCF grantmaking activities truly embody the goodwill of the City.



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

Follow us on social media!  
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# RESIDENT NEWSLETTER

## Community News

### Safety Messaging with Charm

Community safety is a top priority for the City. Recently, our Public Works staff and Vernon Police teamed up to promote roadway safety through student and parent outreach events at Vernon City Elementary (photo top right), raising awareness about traffic rules, rights, and responsibilities for drivers, pedestrians, and bicyclists. Additionally, traffic signal cabinets along major streets throughout the City have been wrapped with vibrant, attractive, cleverly designed safety messaging (photos bottom right). Have you seen them?!

A big thank you to the California Office of Traffic Safety for the \$40,000 grant that made this initiative possible and for supporting our efforts to keep Vernon roads safe for all.

### Prime Data Center Grand Opening



The first data center in the City, Prime Los Angeles (LAX01-01) held their Grand Opening on November 14th. The facility on Santa Fe Avenue is a three-story, 242,495 square-foot hyperscale data center designed with infrastructure to maintain Prime's commitment to sustainability. The data center is one hundred percent leased by two artificial intelligence companies and will deliver 33 megawatts of critical Information Technology power, bringing a much needed connectivity hub to the Los Angeles region. The Vernon site is expected to be fully operational by early 2025.



### Vernon City Elementary is Honored!

Vernon City Elementary has been recognized as a 2024 Honor Roll School! The City and the Vernon Police Department are proud partners of Vernon Elementary and are committed to supporting the school's students, staff, and families, offering a multitude of resources to create a strong foundation for academic and personal success. "The collaboration between our school and the City of Vernon exemplifies how a united community can truly make a difference in the lives of our students," stated Principal Leonora Carrillo.

Honor Roll schools excel in the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress in English Language Arts and Math Assessments across all student populations, including historically underserved groups. Let's celebrate this well-deserved honor. Congratulations, Vernon Elementary!

Learn how to enroll your student at [www.vernoncityes.lausd.org](http://www.vernoncityes.lausd.org).

### 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!



# RESIDENT NEWSLETTER

## City Events

Fall is here and we've been busy! October began with the City's annual Career Day where staff shared information about government careers with local students. Our ever-popular Halloween Spooktacular rounded out the month. In November, to celebrate Thanksgiving, the City hosted its Fall Harvest, providing 250 turkeys to our nonprofit partners, 350 turkeys and grocery gift cards to the community, and grocery gift cards to Vernon residents. Happy Holidays!

### Career Day October 2



Students heard personal stories about career journeys from City staff.



### Halloween Spooktacular October 29



Vernon PD's carnival-themed maze was a scary good time for guests!



### Fall Harvest November 18 & 19



Our partner nonprofits were appreciative of the City's turkey donations.





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## Calendar



### Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony

December 5, 2024 @ 5:00 pm (City Hall Lawn)  
Come out to enjoy a "winter wonderland" with real snow, toy giveaways, sweet treats, and a holiday tree-lighting countdown!



### Operation Santa

December 11, 2024 @ 5:30 pm (City Hall Drive-Thru)  
Drive-thru the City's holiday toy giveaway to collect special gifts for the little ones in your Vernon household.



### City Council Meetings

1st and 3rd Tuesdays Each Month @ 9:00 am  
(Council Chamber and Online)  
Public meetings at City Hall where Council deliberates on City matters and policy. 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).