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For Immediate Release

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Contact: City Clerk's Office, 805-658-4787

Lysa Urban 805-677-3914

Applications now being accepted for the City of Ventura's Newly-Formed Charter Review Committee

The Ventura City Council invites interested residents to apply for a voluntary position on the newly-formed Charter Review Committee. Applicants must be a city of Ventura resident and have expertise or experience working in a group, receiving information and arriving at consensus decisions. Applications are being accepted now through Monday, September 15, 2014, and are available online at www.cityofventura.net/involved/advisory.

The Charter Review Committee will convene to address a number of areas within the City Charter that may require amending, clarification, or modification. The Committee is tasked with completing its work and returning with its recommendations within one year of their first meeting. The Committee will be made up of an 11-member team tasked with researching the following considerations:

Directly elected Mayor

Term limits for Mayor and Councilmembers (includes term cycle for Mayor and Deputy Mayor selection if even year election cycle is approved by voters in the upcoming November 2014 election)

Councilmember compensation

District Elections

Removing the Board of Education from the City's Charter

Additionally, the City Council approved the following process in which the Committee members will be appointed:

Each Councilmember will appoint 1 member to serve on the Committee

Each Councilmember will recommend the names of 2 additional members to be placed into a pool from which the City Clerk will draw the names of 4 additional members

The appointment process is tentatively scheduled to occur at the September 29, 2014, City Council Meeting.

Ventura's first City Charter was approved by the voters, then certified by the City Council and approved by the State Legislature on January 22, 1932. A Charter Review Committee last reviewed the Charter in 1986, which was approved and became effective December 4, 1986. The City Charter is available online at www.cityofventura.net/citycharter.

For more information, contact the City Clerk's Office at 805-658-4787.

This release is available on the City of Ventura website, www.cityofventura.net. --###--