

VENICE LIFEGUARD STATION
HISTORIC CULTURAL MONUMENT MOTION

Whereas the iconic, architecturally, culturally and historically significant Venice Lifeguard Headquarters Tower located at 2300 Ocean Front Walk is a 3 story building, built in 1968, is owned by the City of Los Angeles, within Council District 11 and leased to the County of Los Angeles Department of Beaches and Harbors for use by the Los Angeles Lifeguards through a Joint Powers Agreement;

Whereas the building is identified as historic by the Office of Historic Resources, Los Angeles Office of Planning with QQQ designation, indicating that comparable lifeguard sites must be identified to complete the full Historic Cultural Monument designation;

Whereas, the office of District 11 of the Los Angeles City Council and the Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks, in agreement with the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, have notified the Los Angeles County Department of Beaches and Harbors that no demolition is to be conducted to any portion of the historic Lifeguard Station including its tower;

Whereas, the Los Angeles Conservancy has requested that the California Coastal Commission rescind the de minimis waiver it issued to the County in July 2022, to demolish the tower, only, erroneously stating County ownership and authority to demolish;

Whereas overwhelming community support, including signatures of over 1,480 neighbors and the unanimous motion of the Venice Neighborhood Council for saving and, if not needed for lifeguard services, repurposing the tower portion as a community asset. Repurposing the Lifeguard Tower as a community asset would create an exceptional cultural enrichment, environmental and educational venue for the entire community, including residents and visitors of all ages and cultural heritages. The Tower provides an outstanding, and unmatched, expansive view of Santa Monica Bay;

NOW THEREFORE, The Venice Neighborhood Council, Board of Officers requests that the City of Los Angeles designate the Venice Lifeguard Station as an Historic Cultural Monument under Section 22.171.10 of the Administrative Code. Application for nomination is being prepared to be submitted by the Venice Neighborhood Council with the Los Angeles Conservancy.

ACTION: The motion was approved by a vote of:

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

DRAFT Historic Cultural Monument Motion: <https://www.venicenc.org/assets/documents/5/committee64346c4a55fe0.pdf>

DRAFT HCM APPLICATION: <https://www.venicenc.org/assets/documents/5/committee6451a0b2b4af8.pdf>

DRAFT Statement of Significance: <https://www.venicenc.org/assets/documents/5/committee6451a0b2b5b74.pdf>

Copy to:

Los Angeles City Council Member Traci.Park@lacity.org
California Coastal Commission Kate.Huckelbridge@coastal.ca.gov,
Steve.Hudson@coastal.ca.gov, Shannon.Vaughn@coastal.ca.gov,
chloe.seifert@coastal.ca.gov,
Los Angeles County Supervisor Lindsey Horvath thirddistrict@bos.lacounty.gov,
Los Angeles County Department of Beaches & Harbors gjones@bh.lacounty.gov,
wontiveros@bh.lacounty.gov, cbaker@bh.lacounty.gov, ilopez@bh.county.gov,
MTashjian@bh.lacounty.gov,
Los Angeles Department of Recreation & Parks RAPCommissioners@lacity.org,
Jimmy.Kim@lacity.org, Darryl.Ford@lacity.org,
Mayor of the City of Los Angeles Karen.Bass@LACity.org,
Los Angeles Office of Historic Preservation lambert.giessinger@lacity.org,
Los Angeles County Department of Public Works ssioufi@dpw.lacounty.gov,
mail@vviniegra.com,
Los Angeles City Department of Planning ira.brown@lacity.org,
Los Angeles Conservancy Adrian Scott Fine afine@laconservancy.org, Lindsay Mulcahy
LMulcahy@laconservancy.org