



Venice Neighborhood Council

PO Box 550, Venice, CA 90294 / www.VeniceNC.org
Email: info@VeniceNC.org / Phone or Fax: 310.606.2015



Joint VNC Board & Administrative Committee Virtual Meeting Agenda Tuesday, September 8, 2020, 7pm via Zoom

IN CONFORMITY WITH THE GOVERNOR'S EXECUTIVE ORDER N-29-20 (MARCH 17, 2020) AND DUE TO CONCERNS OVER COVID – 19, THIS VENICE NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTED ENTIRELY TELEPHONICALLY

You are invited to a Zoom webinar.

When: Sep 8, 2020 07:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Topic: VNC Adcom Webinar, Tuesday, September 8, 2020, 7:00 p.m.

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://zoom.us/j/95505428769>

Or iPhone one-tap :

US: +16699006833,,95505428769# or +13462487799,,95505428769#

Or Telephone:

Dial(for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):

US: +1 669 900 6833 or +1 346 248 7799 or +1 253 215 8782 or +1 301 715 8592 or +1 312 626 6799 or +1 929 205 6099 or 888 475 4499 (Toll Free) or 833 548 0276 (Toll Free) or 833 548 0282 (Toll Free) or 877 853 5257 (Toll Free)

Webinar ID: 955 0542 8769

International numbers available: <https://zoom.us/j/95505428769>

PUBLIC INPUT AT NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MEETINGS

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- **Virtual Board Meeting Rules: ● Raise your hand if you have a public comment only WHEN we get to that specific item. ● After you speak, please lower your hand. ● All panelists (board members) and**



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attendees (public) will be muted until administrator Ira, Melissa or George unmute you for comment. • Board members will get one chance to speak for a max of 2 minutes per item. • Public comment will be limited to one comment for 30 seconds per item. • PLEASE DO NOT RAISE YOUR HAND MORE THAN ONCE PER ITEM

- **Raise your hand at the start of the items you want to speak on. We will then close public comment and announce the last person to speak a few minutes after the start of the item.**
 - **No ceding your time to others will be allowed**
 - **The meeting is being video and audio recorded**
 - **The public will be able to listen and speak but their video will be disabled.**
- ALL PRESENTERS THAT HAVE ITEMS TO PROJECT ARE TO SEND THEM TO sec@venicenc.org & president@venicenc.org TO HAVE THEM SHARED WITH THE MEETING. KEEP A COPY OF THEM ON YOUR DESKTOP AS A BACKUP.**

1. Call to Order and Roll Call
2. Approval of the Administrative Committee Agenda
3. Approval of outstanding Administrative Committee minutes
4. Announcements & Public Comment on items not on the Agenda
5. Old Administrative Committee Business
6. New Administrative Committee Business
- 6A. Announce that Charles Rials has resigned from the Board. Opening nominations for replacement Board member and open nominations for Community Officer for Adcom.
- 6B. Consideration and approval of September 15, 2020 Draft Board Agenda
7. Adjourn



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Note (i) The Administrative Committee does not address or consider the merits of proposed agenda items. Its function is to determine whether a proposed agenda item will be placed on the next Board meeting agenda, postponed, referred to a specific committee for review and recommendation, treated as an announcement, or considered and resolved as a non-Board administrative matter. (ii) The Administrative Committee has the discretion to reorder consideration of matters on the agenda to accommodate stakeholders or for other reasons.

BOARD MEETINGS: The Venice Neighborhood Council holds its regular meetings on the third Tuesday of the month and may also call any additional required special meetings in accordance with its Bylaws and the Brown Act. All are welcome to attend.

TRANSLATION Services: Si requiere servicios de traducción, favor de notificar a la oficina 3 días de trabajo (72 horas) antes del evento. Si necesita asistencia con esta notificación, por favor llame a nuestra oficina 213.473.5391.

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DISABILITIES ACT - As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of disability and, upon request, will provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to its programs, services and activities. Sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices and other auxiliary aids and/or services, may be provided upon request. To ensure availability of services, please make your request at least 3 business days (72 hours) prior to the meeting you wish to attend by contacting Melissa Diner, Secretary, at (310) 421-8627 or email secretary@venicenc.org.

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Draft Board of Officers Regular Virtual Meeting Agenda

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When: Sep 15, 2020 07:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Topic: Venice Neighborhood Council Board Webinar, Tuesday, September 15, 2020, 7:00 p.m.

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California State law (54953) allows zoom type meetings with the following requirements, majority of board members must be within the NC boundaries, the stakeholders are advised how to attend and that any vote be by roll call.

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call (7:00 PM)**
2. **Pledge Of Allegiance (7:01PM -- 1 minute)**
3. **Approval of the Agenda (PM – 1 minute)**
4. **Approval of Board Minutes**
5. **Declaration of Ex Parte Communications or Conflicts-Of-Interest (PM -- 1 minute)**
All Board members shall declare any ex parte communications or conflicts-of interest relating to items on this meeting's agenda.
6. **Scheduled Announcements and Presentations**
- 6A **Previous Months Minutes have been emailed (7:15PM -1 minute)**
Ensure the prior months minutes have been sent to ALL emails outlined by each motion writer from the previous month's motions.
- 6B **Previous Months Letters (7:16PM -1 minute)**
Ensure all letters have been sent for each item from the previous month and if NOT announce what letters are still outstanding and what information is needed in order to have them sent out.
- 6C **Live Stream of Meetings (PM -- 3 minutes)**
All VNC Board meetings are streamed live online. Please log onto facebook and share the live stream on the VNC homepage to promote community participation. Click here to share!
<https://www.facebook.com/VeniceNC/>
- 6D **Spanish Translation Available** (Esteban Pulido, pulido.esteban@gmail.com)
Spanish Interpretation services and agendas are available with advance notice.
- 6E **Public Safety - LAPD & LAFD Report (10 minutes):** Public Safety - LAPD & LAFD Report (10 minutes): Senior Lead Officers Monique Contreras (38228@lapd.online), SLO Adrian Acosta - (39174@lapd.online) SLO Javier Ramirez (39174@lapd.online), SLO Karwon Villery (38717@lapd.online) Venice Beach Task Force - SGT Theresa Skinner (31142@lapd.online). *Includes a monthly Venice crime report and updates on law enforcement issues in Venice.*



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- 6F Government Reports (15 minutes)** (Representatives have standing place on the agenda, but are not always available to attend)
- City Councilmember Mike Bonin
Field Deputy, Nisa Kove nisa.kove@lacity.org
Bridge Housing Deputy Dexter O'Connor dexter.oconnor@lacity.org
Congressman Ted Lieu, Representative Janet Turner, 310-496-9896
(janet.turner@mail.house.gov)
 - State Senator Ben Allen, Representative Liliana Pond (liliana.pond@sen.ca.gov)
 - State Assemblyperson Autumn Burke, West Los Angeles Field Representative, Brandon Stansell, (310) 412-6400, (brandon.stansell@asm.ca.gov)
 - LA County Supervisor Sheila Kuehl Westside Field Deputy Zac Gaidzik (310)231-1170, zgaidzik@bos.lacounty.gov
 - Mayor Eric Garcetti, Westside Deputy Kevin Taylor kevin.taylor@lacity.org
 - Empower LA Neighborhood Council Advocate, Freddy Cupen-Ames, 213-978-1551 (freddy.cupen-ames@lacity.org)
- 6G VNC Announcements and Reports (5 minutes)**
- President -Ira Koslow (President@VeniceNC.org)
Charles Rials has resigned from the Board.
Nominations open for Community Officer replacement.2
Selection of Community Officer replacement 1
Community Officers select replacement Adcom replacement.
 - Westside Regional Alliance of Councils- Ira Koslow, VNC Representative (Chair@westsidecouncils.org),
 - Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Coalition (LANCC) Ivan Spiegel (Parliamentarian@VeniceNC.org)
 - VNC Representative to DWP/Gas Company: Yolanda Gonzales
 - Budget Advocates - Hugh Harrison, Treasurer
 - Outreach Announcements - Sima Kostovetsky
- 6H Board Member Announcements on subject matters within the VNC jurisdiction- One (1) minute per Board member (5 minutes)**
- 7. Treasurer's Report (10 minutes)** (Hugh Harrison on behalf of Budget & Finance Committee) (Treasurer@VeniceNC.org)
*See attached addendums at <http://www.venicenc.org/minutes-and-agendas.php>
[Discussion and possible action]*
- 7A Approve Monthly Expenditure Reports**
MOTION: The Venice NC approves the Monthly Expenditure (MER) and Expenditure to Date reports for July 2020.
Uploaded Documents: [Download 01599010615.pdf](#) [Download 11599010615.pdf](#)
Recommended by Budget & Finance Committee 5-0-0 on 9/1/2020



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- 7B Approve Approve NPG for SPARC**
MOTION: The Venice NC approves \$2,500 for a Neighborhood Purposes Grant (NPG) for SPARC.
Full NPG
Recommended by Budget & Finance Committee 5-0-0 on 9/1/2020
- 7C Approve NPG for Pacific Resident Theatre**
MOTION: The Venice NC approves \$1,000 for a Neighborhood Purposes Grant (NPG) for the Pacific Resident Theatre..
FULL NPG
[Download 01599011095.pdf](#)
Recommended by Budget & Finance Committee 5-0-0 on 9/1/2020
- 7D Approve NPG for Venice Arts**
MOTION: The Venice NC approves \$1,000 for a Neighborhood Purposes Grant (NPG) for Venice Arts.
Uploaded Documents: [Download 01599010973.pdf](#)
Recommended by Budget & Finance Committee 5-0-0 on 9/1/2020
- 7E Approve Revised Budget**
MOTION: The Venice NC approves the attached budget including the roll-over and approved encumbered funds.
Uploaded Documents: [Download 01599010864.pdf](#)
Recommended by Budget & Finance Committee 5-0-0 on 9/1/2020
- 7F Approve Contract with Web Corner**
MOTION: The Venice NC approves the proposal from The WebCorner to provide up-dates for the Venice NC web site in the amount of \$2,500 and for the monthly maintenance of that site at the rate of \$150 per month.
Uploaded Documents: [Download 01599010737.pdf](#)
Recommended by Budget & Finance Committee 5-0-0 on 9/1/2020
- 8. Announcements and Public Comment on items not on the Agenda (PM - 10 minutes)**
[No more than 1 minute per person – no Board member announcements permitted]
- 9. General Consent Calendar (PM -- 5 minutes)**
[All agenda items on the Consent Calendar will pass when the Consent Calendar is approved. No discussion or Public Comment is allowed on any item. Items may be removed by any board member or stakeholder. Removed items will go to the end of the agenda and be treated as regular agenda items with discussion and public comment.]



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10. LUPC (PM – minutes) (Alix Gucovsky on behalf of LUPC, Chair-lupc@VeniceNC.org)
(see project files for more detailed info at <http://www.venicenc.org/land-use-committee.php>)

10A BEVMO 4214 South Lincoln Boulevard

Case: ZA-2013-1399-CUB-CDO

Applicant: MOBEV LLC Jam resources IIC Finally NN LLC

LUPC Staff: Daffodil Tyisnki

Representative: Eric Shabsis eric@ericshabsis.com> Greg Endom endomg@bevmo.com

City Planner: kevin.fulton@lacity.org, Jason.p.douglas@lacity.org mike.bonin@lacity.org

Case Description:

- Renewal of an existing CUB that was granted in 2014 for 7 years and expires in 2021.
- Proposed hours of operation 9am to 10pm
- BEVMO has been in compliance with its initial CUB issued in 2014

MOTION: The Venice Neighborhood Council recommends approval of the project as presented.
Recommend by LUPC 8-1-0 on 8/24/20

10B 512 East Rose Avenue, UNIT E/F

Case: ZA-2019-7377 CUB ENV-2019-7378-CE

City Hearing: September 2, 2020

Applicant:

LUPC Staff: Michael Jenssen

Representative: Darlene Chacon dchacon@ssjlaw.com

City Staff: Alex Truang Alex.Truang@lacity.org Jason Douglas Jason.douglas@lacity.org
len Nguyen len.nguyen@lacity.org; Mike Bonin Mike.Bonin@lacity.org Vince Bertoni
Vince.Bertoni@lacity.org

Case Description: The project is a conditional use to permit the continued sale and dispensing of a full line alcoholic beverages for on site consumption at an existing 2450 sq ft restaurant with 78 indoor seats and a 300 sq ft patio with 58 outdoor seats. Daily hours of operation 8am to 12am indoors, 8am to 10pm outdoors.

- The zoning administrator shall consider an exemption from CEQA pursuant to CEQA guidelines section 15303 and that there is no substantial evidence demonstrating that an exemption to a categorical exemption pursuant to CEQA guidelines section 15.3002 applies.
- Pursuant to LAMC 12.24 w-1 a conditional use permit to allow the continued sale and dispensing of a full line of alcoholic beverages for on site consumption at an existing 2450 sq ft restaurant with 78 indoor seats and a 300 sq ft patio with 58 outdoor seats. Proposed operation 8am to 12am daily. Located in the C4-1 and RD 1.5-1 zone..

MOTION: The Venice Neighborhood Council recommends approval of the project as presented.
Recommended by LUPC 9-0-0 on 8/24/20



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10C 717 East California Avenue, 670 East Santa Clara

Case: DIR-2019-499-CDP-MEL, ZAA-2019-501-ZAA-F, ENV-2019-502-CE, ADM-2019-505-VSO

City Hearing July 20, 2020

Applicant: Rachel Geicke

LUPC Staff: Michael Jenssen

Representative: Kim Gordon at Kim Gordon Designs

City Planner: [Esther Amaya esther.amaya@lacity.org](mailto:Esther.Amaya@lacity.org)

Jason.p.douglas@lacity.org mike.bonin@lacity.org

Case Description:

Approve a coastal development permit authorizing the demolition of an existing 773 Single family dwelling and the construction of a new 6528 sq ft two story single family dwelling with basement level having habitable area an attached 3 car garage roof deck and swimming pool within the single permit jurisdiction of the coastal zone.

- A ZA to allow an oversize fence of 6 feet
- A ZA to allow a 9ft front yard along California and a 7 foot along santa clara in lieu of 15 foot yards otherwise required.

MOTION: The Venice Neighborhood Council recommends to deny the project as presented, because:

1. Applicant failed to return to LUPC in March, 2019 as requested .
2. Applicant misrepresented to hearing ZA and the City Planner that the project had both the support of the community and the Venice Neighborhood Council.
3. Applicant failed to submit a complete application including shade study, neighborhood outreach, Mello determination, etc.

Recommended by LUPC (6,0,0)

11. Old Business (PM - 0 minutes)

[Discussion and possible action]

12. New Business (PM – minutes)

[Discussion and possible action]

12A Bus Routes and Shuttle Considerations (James Murez on behalf of Parking & Transportation)

james.murez@venicenc.org

MOTION: The VNC shall send letters to Metro, LADOT, CD11, CCC and the Mayor asking the proposed modifications as shown and described in VNC PTC Bus Route Proposal be considered within the decision making process of the Venice Community Plan, Venice Coastal Zone Land Use Plan, 2035 WLA Mobility Plan update and Metro NexGen plan. These recommendations are part of a multifaceted regional transportation plan to improve the quality of life for the Venice Community and need to be implemented in conjunction with other aspects of Venice plans such as public parking and traffic management.



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Attachments: Introduction Video: <https://youtu.be/vLbn7ercHOc> Proposed Plan: https://www.venicenc.org/routes/bus_routes.php Metro Ridership: https://www.venicenc.org/productphotos/MTA33-733_Oct2019.pdf BBB Ridership: https://www.venicenc.org/productphotos/BBB_AUGUST2019.pdf CCG Ridership: https://www.venicenc.org/productphotos/CCG_127Lines_2019.pdf
Recommended by Parking & Transportation Committee 6-0-0 on 2020-09-01

- 12B Lincoln Blvd Safety Improvements** (James Murez on behalf of Parking & Transportation) (james.murez@venicenc.org)
The VNC Board allows a 20 minute presentation from LADOT about Lincoln Blvd Improvement Project. Furthermore, the VNC Outreach committee shall promote Stakeholder participation in the online survey. JD, RT 6,0,0 (link to plan follow that should be included for this item... waiting for the presenter to send me the document to post on PTC page.)
- 12C Venice Community Plan Update** (James Murez on behalf of Parking & Transportation) (james.murez@venicenc.org)
MOTION: Whereas other Community Plan Updates have included a mobility element, including the San Pedro Community Plan (https://planning.lacity.org/odocument/ee5aaccb-fce7-4dc2-9f91-2df177a48417/San_Pedro_Community_Plan.pdf), West Adams-Baldwin Hills-Leimert Community Plan (https://planning.lacity.org/odocument/78984e0b-a63d-4533-ba57-4f84b8fd7696/West_Adams-Baldwin_Hills-Leimert_Community_Plan.pdf), and South Los Angeles Community Plan (https://planning.lacity.org/odocument/b909e749-754e-4caa-af7f-14c82adaa2b7/South_Los_Angeles_Community_Plan.pdf),
Therefore, the Venice Neighborhood Council requests that the Department of City Planning include a complete and comprehensive Mobility Element chapter in the Venice Community Plan Update.
Recommended by Parking & Transportation Committee 6-0-0 on 2020-09-01
- 12D Prohibition on Repairs and Sales of Bicycles and Bicycle Parts on Public Property** (Helen Fallon, helenandbertfallon@gmail.com)
MOTION: The Venice Neighborhood Council recommends that the LA City Council pass an ordinance prohibiting Bicycle Chop Shops similar to the Long Beach City Ordinance. **Uploaded Documents: [Download 01599006174.docx](#)**<http://www.longbeach.gov/globalassets/city-clerk/media-library/documents/public-notices/ordinances/ord-18-0027>
- 12E Demand to perform -- All voter info must be provided to NCs prior to vote by mail election.** (sec@venicenc.org)
MOTION: The Venice Neighborhood Council demands that the state, county and city provide all information and ballots for NC elections to all registered voters, landowners and business owners. If the government cannot facilitate this then they must provide all contact information (name, address, phone and email) to local election administrator for NC.
- 13. Adjourn (approx. PM)**



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List of Venice Neighborhood Council Committees & Chairs – Volunteers Welcome

<u>Standing Committees</u>	<u>Ad Hoc Committees</u>
Administrative - Ira Koslow Neighborhood - George Francisco Outreach - Sima Kostovetsky Land Use and Planning - Alix Gucovsky Budget & Finance - Hugh Harrison Rules & Selections - John Reed Arts - Bruno Hernandez Ocean Front Walk - Jim Robb	Parking & Transportation - James Murez Resiliency - Keith Harrison Discussion Forum - Joe Murphy Venice Dog Park - Jamie Paige, James Murez Verdant Venice - Isabell Duvivier, Noel Johnson Homeless - Frank Murphy

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RECONSIDERATION AND GRIEVANCE PROCESS: For information on the VNC's process for board action reconsideration, stakeholder grievance policy, or any other procedural matters related to this Council, please consult the VNC Bylaws. The Bylaws are available at our Board meetings and our website www.venicenc.org.

DISABILITY POLICY: THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT - As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of disability and, upon request, will provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to its programs, services and activities. Sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices and other auxiliary aids and/or services, may be provided upon request. To ensure availability of services, please make your request at least 3 business days (72 hours) prior to the meeting you wish to attend by contacting Melissa Diner, Secretary, at (310) 421-8627 or email secretary@venicenc.org.

PUBLIC ACCESS OF RECORDS: In compliance with Government Code section 54957.5, non-exempt writings that are distributed to a majority or all of the Board in advance of a meeting may be viewed at our website: www.venicenc.org or at the scheduled meeting. In addition, if you would like a copy of any record related to an item on the agenda, please contact Melissa Diner, Secretary, at(310) 421-8627 or email secretary@venicenc.org.

COMMUNITY IMPACT STATEMENTS (CIS): Any Board action with a City Council File # may result in the issuance of a CIS.

ALL AGENDA TIMES ARE APPROXIMATE AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE ON THE NIGHT OF THE MEETING.



Venice Neighborhood Council

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Items referred to Committee

Sent to Rules and Selections

MOTION TO: PLACE THE STAKEHOLDER RIGHTS OF RECALL of BOARD MEMBERS BACK INTO THE VNC BYLAWS Submitted by: Eva Greene Whereas the Venice Neighborhood Council updated its bylaws in June of 2020, and Whereas the 2018 VNC Bylaws allowed the Stakeholder right of recall of board members in Article V: Governing Board, Section 9, C, stating: "Recall is the procedure by which stakeholders may initiate the removal of an elected Officer. Any stakeholder may put forth a Recall petition by presenting a petition to the Secretary with no less than two hundred (200) signatures of LWO (live, work, own) stakeholders supporting the motion," and Whereas it was the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners that passed uniform policies for censure and removal, thereby removing Stakeholder's Right of Recall of Board Members, claiming that they have the right to remove it from the bylaws because they have the power to supersede what is written in any NC's Bylaws, and Whereas Article II of the California Constitution, approved by California voters in 1911, allows stakeholders the right to recall and remove elected officials from office, and Whereas The Secretary of State wrote in the Preface to the Procedures for Recalling State and Local Officials – Revised this year (2020), writing that: "Recall is the power of the voters to remove elected officials before their terms expire. It has been a fundamental part of our governmental system since 1911 and has been used by voters to express their dissatisfaction with their elected representatives," and Whereas all Neighborhood Council members are Elected Officials, now Therefore, be it resolved, that the Venice Neighborhood Council calls upon the Board of Neighborhood Commissioner's to reverse their unconstitutional uniform policy decision and place the Stakeholders Right of Recall back into the Bylaws of all Neighborhood Councils because it is a fundamental right and a California constitutional guarantee given to Stakeholders to remove any elected official, and all Neighborhood Council Members are elected officials. Upon passage, this Resolution shall be forwarded to Freddy Cupen-Ames, Julien Antelin, the entire Board of Commissioners: Eli Lipman, Len Regalado, Ray Schaffer, Joy Atkinson, Maggie Darrett-Quiroz, Quyen Vo-Ramirez, Debbie Wehbe, and City Attorneys: Ruth Kwon, Steve Houchin, Elise Ruden, Mike Feuer Submitted by Eva Greene Emails upon passage: mike.n.feuer@lacity.org, ruth.kwon@lacity.org, steve.houchin@lacity.org, elise.ruden@lacity.org, freddy.cupen-ames@lacity.org, julien.antelin@lacity.org, commissionerlipmen@gmail.com, commissionerlenshaffer@gmail.com, Quyen.vo-ramirez@lacity.org, Joyatkinson.bonc@gmail.com, debra.wehbe@lacity.org, maggie.darettquiroz@lacity.org, commission@empowerla.org, Rreg55@hotmail.com,

Sent to Homeless Committee

Resolution Calling for Bi-Monthly Cleaning of All Encampments in Venice Revised 8/24/20 Submitted by Eva Greene Whereas, the recently released homeless count for Venice revealed a 49% increase in that population to a total of 1,685 at the time of the count in January, and Whereas, residents have seen a rise in human feces, trash piles food waste and needles on sidewalks and in their front yards and alleys, and Whereas, many people that live near the homeless encampments in Venice have seen a surge in rats and mice scurrying in their trashcans and finding ways into their homes and apartments,



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and Whereas, there have been no encampment cleanups since late March, 2020, and Whereas, the City Council voted 10-4 on Wednesday, July 29, 2020 to bring back “comprehensive” cleanups in designated zones around the Bridge Housing sites and the backers of the Motion said it was needed in order to maintain cleanliness and keep the promises that city leaders made to residents, and Whereas, there are many homeless encampments in Venice that are not near the Bridge Housing site but which are also sites of accumulation of human sewage, food waste, and which act as magnets for rodents; and Whereas, in October, 2019, L.A. County officials declared an outbreak of typhus linked to overcrowding around Skid Row, and Whereas a major outbreak of Hepatitis A in San Diego linked to homelessness killed 20 people two years ago, and Whereas, the growing homeless populations create unsanitary conditions that contribute to the spread of disease – typhoid, typhus, bubonic plague, salmonella, according to infectious disease specialist Dr. Jeffrey Klausner of UCLA, who has stated that there is no time to waste in addressing these looming public health threats, and Whereas now with MRSA and Covid-19 within the homeless community these conditions more than ever must be kept as sanitary as is possible with those living in the encampments, and Whereas, Los Angeles City Councilman Joe Buscaino, who represents Watts and the Harbor Area, stated recently that growing rat infestations across the city “are emblematic of how we lost control of the homeless, trash and encampment issue. And if we can’t protect the greatest symbol of our own democracy, our own City Hall, if we can’t protect our own staff from medieval diseases, then we should all pack up and go home,” and Whereas, CatsUSA Pest Control, brought in to assess the areas outside City Hall and nearby buildings, warned that homeless people create “harborage for rodents,” according to their report issued Dec. 28, 2019, and that the company found “poor sanitary conditions” — including leftover food, human waste and hypodermic needles and recommended that the city clear away the homeless population living in the Civic Center,” and Whereas, studies have shown that the only way to prevent these medieval diseases and prevent a possible plague outbreak is through sanitation, and Whereas, the LA County Public Health Department has stated: “Garbage and rubbish is an excellent food source for rodents and garbage should be stored in rodent-proof containers. Receptacles should be rust resistant, water tight, and have tight fitting lids. Stored items should be elevated a minimum of 18” above cleared ground and stored 12” from walls and fences.” And the CDC recommends: “Keep food in thick plastic or metal containers with tight lids. Prevent contact with rodents by cleaning up your home, workplace, or campsite,” and Whereas, it is frequently not possible for those in encampments to abide by these rules, and Whereas, there is a serious concern over the diseases that can develop in encampments citywide, including in Venice, and that these diseases will also infect housed residents through the proliferation of rodents, now Therefore, be it resolved, the Venice Neighborhood Council calls upon the City of Los Angeles and its Sanitation Department to clean all homeless encampments in Venice two times a month, including the temporary shifting of all possessions, tents, furniture, etc., to allow thorough cleaning of sidewalks, parkways, and any other public areas, including power-washing, CDC guidelines notwithstanding, and that the city provide and service rat-proof trash cans at all encampments of ten or more people. Upon passage, this Resolution shall be forwarded to Mayor Eric Garcetti, Councilman Mike Bonin, President of the Board of Public Works Kevin James, and Department of Sanitation General Manager Enrique C. Zaldivar, and the entire city council. Submitted by Eva Greene E-Mail Addresses: mike.n.feuer@lacity.org, michel.moore@lapd.online, mayor.garcetti@lacity.org, mike.bonin@lacity.org, greg.good@laty.org, entique.zaldivar@lacity.org, mayor.garcetti@lacity.org



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