

MOTION: At its meeting on October 23, 2021, the Venice Neighborhood Council, by a vote of _____, agrees to submit a Community Impact Statement in favor of **City Council File 20-0668**, and requests that the LA City Council keep the boundaries of CD 11 unchanged and that Venice remain within those boundaries.

We are also submitting the following letter of support:

The Venice Neighborhood Council supports both the inclusion of all of Venice in Council District 11 (“CD11”) and that the current boundaries of the entire CD11 remain unchanged. Neighborhoods throughout CD11 abut one another, with the exception of unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County. Given that one of the guiding principles of the Los Angeles Redistricting Commission is to ensure that districts remain geographically close and compact, we believe that CD11’s current boundaries of the Santa Monica Mountains bound by Mulholland Drive (to the North), the 405 Freeway (to the East), Imperial Highway (to the South), and the Pacific Ocean (to the West) provide a reasonable and logical district boundary consisting of both natural and major thoroughfare landmarks which fully satisfies that goal.

Another guiding principle of the Los Angeles Redistricting Commission is for communities of likeness to remain intact. Bounded by the Santa Monica Mountains to the North and the Pacific Ocean to the West, the neighborhood makeup of CD11 includes environmentally sensitive habitats that span the coastal communities of Pacific Palisades, Venice, Playa Del Rey, and Westchester. Keeping these neighborhoods together allows them to coordinate resources to protect the environment and wildlife along the coastline (much of which includes endangered species), and allows a single elected representative to coordinate efforts, monies, and policy with the Los Angeles County Department of Beaches and Harbors, and the California Coastal Commission. Breaking up this coastal community would create delayed coordination with multiple agencies having to respond to coastal issues, coastal emergencies, the protection of wildlife, coastal access, and the creation of affordable housing within our coastal zone. The proximity to natural wildlife habitats and the coastline ostensibly makes Venice and other neighborhoods along the shoreline a community of likeness.

Our proximity to the Pacific Ocean makes Venice a largely unique community in CD11. We are the number one most-visited tourist destination in Los Angeles County, delivering large influxes of people during peak tourist season. This temporary increase in population poses unique challenges in public safety, coastal cleanliness and maintenance. Venice, and other CD11 communities, benefit from a coordinated effort between the Los Angeles Police Department and the fact that we are all under the jurisdiction of a single Council District office. Other agencies (Parks and Recreation, Beaches and Harbors, LA Department of Sanitation) also can cut through red tape by only having to work through a one District office (CD11).

Venice is a relatively diverse community, according to recent census data. Venice has a racial diversity index of ~ 61 (0 is least diverse, 100 is extremely diverse). Venice-adjacent CD11 neighborhoods share similar diversity indexes (Mar Vista: 76, Del Rey: 83.50, Westchester /

Playa 71, WestLA/Sawtelle: 77). The diversity of CD11 as a whole is 69. We can see the result in public datasets available for restaurants and food markets that line major transportation corridors running through these CD11 neighborhoods: Venice Blvd (Venice, Mar Vista, Palms), Lincoln Blvd (Venice, Playa Del Rey, Westchester), Santa Monica Blvd (West LA), and Sawtelle Blvd (West LA). Given the density of these restaurants, their proximity to major transportation corridors, proximity to housing, and proximity to LA Metro lines, it's clear that the current CD11 neighborhood makeup creates a sizable amount of food industry jobs. The Venice Neighborhood Council believes that unique challenges for housing affordability and reliable transportation are best coordinated and solved through a single Council District Office overseeing the physical intersections of these racially and culturally diverse neighborhoods.

Finally, after looking at the dataset for housing, we see that the largest concentration of affordable housing developments in CD11 is located within Venice. This means that the rest of the Venice-adjacent neighborhoods within CD11 are benefiting -- and stand to continually benefit -- from affordable housing policy and development through a single Council District office. These affordable housing developments within Venice benefit Venice, as Venice has only added approximately 1,300 net new housing units from 2010 to 2021, despite a population growth of approximately 11,000 people. The Venice-adjacent neighborhoods also stand to benefit from the affordable housing recently built and currently under construction.

In summary, Venice remaining part of CD11 satisfies the need and desire for Council Districts to adhere to closeness and compactness. Venice's unique culture, its proximity to the coastline, and a similar racial diversity index as neighboring communities makes a strong case for these coastal neighborhoods currently in the CD11 boundaries to remain intact. The acceleration of affordable housing being built in Venice also provides opportunities for low income people in Venice, and in Venice-adjacent communities to remain on the Westside in CD11. The Venice Neighborhood Council asks that the Redistricting Commission define CD11 as: East of the Pacific Ocean, South of Mulholland Drive, West of the 405 Freeway, and North of Imperial Highway. We are strongly advocating and endorsing that Venice remains part of CD11.