



# Venice Neighborhood Council



LAND USE AND PLANNING COMMITTEE  
PO Box 550, Venice, CA 90294 [www.VeniceNC.org](http://www.VeniceNC.org)  
Email: [Chair-LUPC@VeniceNC.org](mailto:Chair-LUPC@VeniceNC.org)

## 2021-2023 LUPC APPLICATION

### Instructions:

Stakeholders interested in joining the Land Use and Planning Committee of the Venice Neighborhood Council (VNC) are requested to complete the following application and:

Return it to the chairs of the Land Use and Planning Committee ([chair-LUPC@venicenc.org](mailto:chair-LUPC@venicenc.org)), Rules & Selections Committee ([rules@venicenc.org](mailto:rules@venicenc.org)), and the Secretary ([sec@venicenc.org](mailto:sec@venicenc.org)) **prior to 10:00 am on Monday, August 9, 2021**, the day of the AdCom meeting for the August 17, 2021, VNC Board meeting, in order for the application to be posted online.

To learn about the work of the Land Use and Planning Committee and the process of becoming a member of the committee, please contact [chair-LUPC@venicenc.org](mailto:chair-LUPC@venicenc.org).

**Applications may be returned by email or by mail to: Venice Neighborhood Council, PO Box 550, Venice, CA 90294. The same timing considerations apply to applications submitted these ways.**

Your application will be forwarded to the VNC Board for review.

According to VNC bylaws, the VNC Board will select eight (8) members of the Committee at its meeting on August 17, 2021. The meeting will be held virtually on Zoom with details posted on the VNC website, starting at 7 p.m. Applicants are encouraged to attend to introduce themselves and speak before the board (representatives may not speak for you).

*Applicant's name and answers to these questions will be made public, but not contact information such as address, phone number and email address.*

### Mission Statement:

To advise the Venice Neighborhood Council and stakeholders about land use projects in or around Venice that will impact the quality of life of Venice residents, business owners and stakeholders.

To advise the Venice Neighborhood Council on planning issues and projects affecting the Venice community.

To make recommendations to the Venice Neighborhood Council's Board of Officers regarding any exceptions, modifications and variances to the Venice Coastal Zone Specific Plan for the planning and construction of projects in Venice to forward to the Los Angeles City government entities which shall include but not be limited to Council District 11, City Planning Department, City Building & Safety and City Public Works as deemed necessary.

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## Contact Information:

Name: Christopher Hatch McLean

*Nombre el letra de Molde*

Qualifying Stakeholder Address: [REDACTED]

*Dirección*

Street address (if different): \_\_\_\_\_

*Dirección, si diferente*

City: Venice

*Ciudad*

State: CA

*Estado*

Zip Code: 90291

*Código Postal*

Email (mandatory) [REDACTED]

*Corero electronico (obligatorio)*

Phone (mandatory): [REDACTED]

*Telefono (obligatorio)*

I hereby certify, that I wish to serve on the Land Use and Planning Committee of the Venice Neighborhood Council and I am a Stakeholder within the boundaries of the VNC area.

Stakeholder Signature 

*Firma*

Date 7/5/2022

Proof of stakeholder status via a valid credential must be presented at the August 17th Board meeting. A valid credential includes, but is not limited to one of the following: a CA Driver's License or CA Residency Card (for an address within the VNC area); a school ID Card (for a school with in the VNC boundaries); a business card (in combination with any of the following with a matching Venice address: Business license, business check, or pay stub); a recent utility bill (for an address within the VNC area); an imprinted check (including an address within the VNC area); a Pay stub (from a business within the VNC area); a Passport (only in combination with any other credential item); a school report card (from a school with in the VNC boundaries); a property tax bill (with an address within the VNC area)

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**Answer all these questions; please limit your answers to 200 words or less each** and return to the chairs of the Land Use and Planning Committee ([chair-LUPC@venicenc.org](mailto:chair-LUPC@venicenc.org)), Rules & Selections Committee ([rules@venicenc.org](mailto:rules@venicenc.org)), and the Secretary ([sec@venicenc.org](mailto:sec@venicenc.org))

## Questions:

- 1) Please explain why you wish to serve on the LUPC.
  - a) Have you served before on the LUPC or other planning and land use related committee? If so, what committee and when?
  - b) Please state your professional qualifications or related experience relevant to this position.
  - c) Please indicate your understanding of the time involved in terms of meetings and case work.
- 2) Please list your previous and/or current neighborhood or community involvement.
- 3) Please list the three most critical planning and land use issues you feel are facing the Venice Community.
- 4) Please review the Venice Coastal Zone Specific Plan and the Venice Land Use Plan (which was certified by the California Coastal Commission) and comment on your opinion of each of them.
- 5) How do you view your role in private interactions with Applicants who have projects proposed before the Land Use and Planning Committee?
- 6) What is your understanding of and opinion on the VNC Ethics/Conflict of Interest requirements?

## Access VCZSP at

<http://cityplanning.lacity.org/complan/specplan/pdf/VenCoastal.pdf>.

## Access Venice Land Use Plan at

<http://cityplanning.lacity.org/complan/othrplan/OPAREA/VENLUP.HTM>

**Christopher H. McLean**  
**LUPC Application Q&A**  
**July 10, 2022**

**1) Please explain why you wish to serve on the LUPC.**

I desire to join LUPC because I have lived in Venice since 2013 and call it home. I have a great love and a deep respect for the unique community that has continued to nourish its history which is rooted in creativity, inclusion, diversity, sustainable consciousness, progression and social endearment. Maintaining this spirit of Venice has become more challenging as it has gone through recent changes and the stakeholders continue to evolve. As a local architect, I would like to join the committee to contribute my skills to help navigate complex issues by merging my professional background with my love for the rich culture that makes up Venice with the goal of keeping its future true to its past.

**a) Have you served before on the LUPC or other planning and land use related committee? If so, what committee and when?**

No, I would like this to be the first.

**b) Please state your professional qualifications or related experience relevant to this position.**

I hold a Bachelor of Architecture professional degree from the University of Oregon where I obtained extensive knowledge of urban planning and sustainable design. Upon graduating I moved to Los Angeles where I have worked in the field of architecture for 11 years and I have been a licensed architect in California for 5 years. I currently own an architecture firm in Venice called HATCH Architecture. HATCH works on projects in Venice, the Coastal Zone and throughout LA focused on designing sustainably conscious residential and commercial projects. During this experience I had extensive exposure to LUPC and the VNC, working on processing several CDPs with community engagement.

**c) Please indicate your understanding of the time involved in terms of meetings and case work.**

It is my understanding that this position requires two meetings per month as well as time required to review case work filings. Additional time may be required for engaging applicants for feedback and/or community outreach meetings as well as various other committee related support.

**2) Please list your previous and/or current neighborhood or community involvement.**

I have sat in on numerous LUPC and VNC meetings. Separately, I have been involved with several beach trash cleanups in Venice. I am also currently providing consultation to The People Concern, one of Los Angeles County's social service agencies focused on creating homeless transitional housing and other related supporting services.

**3) Please list the three most critical planning and land use issues you feel are facing the Venice Community.**

Housing Stock and Rental Costs

The continuing price increase of rental units and low inventory of housing is a pressing issue that is shifting the social landscape of the community.

Venice Land Use and Specific Plan

As the Land Use and Specific plans are restructured, their changes will play a vital role in the future of Venice.

Homelessness

Homelessness in Venice is an ever increasing issue facilitating a rise in crime rates as well as hindering tourism, much worse than other neighborhoods in Los Angeles. The proposals for temporary and permanent housing require significant attention due to their extreme costs and locations within the community.

**4) Please review the Venice Coastal Zone Specific Plan and the Venice Land Use Plan (which was certified by the California Coastal Commission) and comment on your opinion of each of them.**

These two documents combined are designed to support the goals of the California Coastal Act and to protect the mass, scale and character of the current community; tailored to the eight unique neighborhoods of Venice. I believe they were well written with the community and future in mind. With that being said they were finalized nearly two decades ago and should be updated to respond to the changing landscape of Venice.

**5) How do you view your role in private interactions with Applicants who have projects proposed before the Land Use and Planning Committee?**

It is the committee's role to reach out to applicants to guide them through the process and answer any questions they may have. Helping to facilitate and recommend neighborhood outreach as needed. I believe the goal should be to gain community support to avoid appeals and streamline CDP approvals.

**6) What is your understanding of and opinion on the VNC Ethics/Conflict of Interest requirements?**

All communications must be disclosed and documented. LUPC members cannot vote on projects which they have financial interest in; therefore LUPC members must recuse themselves from any projects within 500ft of where they own a property, live or work.