



# Venice Neighborhood Council

PO Box 550, Venice, CA 90294

www.VeniceNC.org



## Ocean Front Walk Committee Meeting Agenda

### Physical Meeting Location

**Rose Room. 6 Rose Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90291**

**Monday 5.6.2024**

**6:30-7:30 PM**

Si requiere servicios de traducción, favor de avisar al Concejo Vecinal 3 días de trabajo (72 horas) antes del evento. Por favor contacte, Secretaria, al por correo electrónico Secretary@VeniceNC.org para avisar al Concejo Vecinal.

### PUBLIC INPUT AT NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MEETINGS

The public may address the Committee on any agenda item before the Committee takes action on an item. Comments from the public on agenda items will be heard only when the respective item is being considered. Comments from the public on other matters not appearing on the agenda within the Committee's jurisdiction will be heard during the General Public Comment period. Please note that under the Brown Act, the Board is prevented from acting on a matter brought to its attention during the General Public Comment period; however, the issue raised by a public member may become the subject of a future Committee meeting. Public comment is limited to 60 seconds per speaker unless adjusted by the Chair.

### CALL TO ORDER AND BOARD ROLL CALL

Deborah Keaton (Co-Chair)	Nico Ruderman (Co-Chair)	Nick Antonicello
Noel Johnston	Mehrnoosh Morallali	Mark Rago
Colleen Saro	Clark Brown (Secretary)	

### APPROVAL of PRIOR MINUTES

**The meeting was not officially called because of a lack of a quorum**

**GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT** - Comments from the public on non-agenda items within the Board's subject matter jurisdiction. Each speaker will be allowed one (1) minute(s) unless adjusted by the presiding officer of the meeting..

### CHAIR REPORTS

Nico and Deborah discuss issues.



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## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### **1. Monument for Washington Square and Venice Pier: Tima Bell**

Request: This is to propose that Bell Design Group, an architecture and design firm in Los Angeles led by Tima Bell (a Venice native and local), be allowed to design and propose a monument for the Venice Pier/Washington Square area of Venice. Bell Design Group (BDG) will propose the conceptual designs for the committee to review at no charge. If approved, estimated presentation of the design will be in two months. The goal is to build the design, however BDG understands that the Committee is under no obligation to approve the concept.

### **2. Ordinance against national chains on Ocean Front Walk: Mark Rago**

#### **MOTION,**

The Ocean Front Walk Committee requests an ordinance be put into place to limit, prohibit or regulate national chain stores or "formula" establishments from North Venice Boulevard to Navy on Ocean Front Walk, and west of Speedway.

Whereas cities all over the country, including San Francisco, have enacted laws and ordinances to protect the uniqueness of certain areas, protect independent stores not being able to compete economically with large corporations, and protect creative communities from becoming homogenized and losing their appeal,

Whereas national chain stores drive up commercial rents that make it unaffordable for new businesses and displace neighborhood-serving businesses,

Whereas Ocean Front Walk is the 2nd biggest tourist attraction in southern California,

Whereas property owners have allowed national chain stores like Ben and Jerry's to open directly next to another store selling the same item for the last 25 years (Charly Temmel) that was eventually forced to close, and now are both closed,

Whereas property owners have allowed empty storefronts for over 7 years (909-913 Ocean Front Walk),



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Whereas Starbucks has had illegal truck deliveries for over a year during the am hours waking up many residents, and it still happens periodically to this day,

Whereas, another national chain store, It's Boba Time, has opened recently on Ocean Front Walk,

## **MOTION,**

The Ocean Front Walk Committee requests an ordinance be put into place to limit, prohibit or regulate national chain stores or "formula" establishments from North Venice Boulevard to Navy on Ocean Front Walk, and west of Speedway.

## **3. RESOLUTION FOR ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE BETTER ENFORCEMENT AGAINST HOMELESSNESS USES IN VENICE**

### **WHEREAS:**

1. There are homeless encampments, tents and oversized vehicles used by homeless persons throughout Venice, including but not limited to: the Flower-Lincoln corner, Rose Avenue at Whole Foods, Frederick and Lake, Main Street, Washington and Venice Blvds and PenMar Park.

2. Los Angeles Housing and Services Authority and Rand Corporation recently reported there is a 45% increase in homelessness in West Los Angeles and there are 523 homeless in Venice.

3. This exists even though for several years the City has had an anti camping ordinance, LAMC sec. 41.18. It has not been effective because it sets so many conditions for its enforcement that it can only be enforced in narrow circumstances that prevent its effective enforcement.

4. Homelessness is more widespread in Venice than in any other part of the City except Skid Row and Hollywood. Therefor it is appropriate for the City to adopt a homelessness ordinance for Venice only as it did in 2010 with Ordinance 181413, which provides special procedures applicable to Venice only for Oversized Vehicle signs.

5. The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals recently acknowledged in a case brought by the City and County of San Francisco that those who refuse specific offers of shelter are considered voluntarily homeless and as such a 2022



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injunction, which restricted city workers from moving or clearing homeless encampments, does not apply, and San Francisco has thus returned to clearing encampments after offers of shelter have been made (<https://sfstandard.com/2023/09/25/san-francisco-to-resume-enforcing-laws-against-homeless-people-who-refuse-shelter-mayor/>); and,

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved, the Venice Neighborhood Council calls upon the Los Angeles City Council to pass and the Mayor to sign a Venice-specific ordinance, which provides:

1. In instances when specific shelter has been offered to a person dwelling on public property in the Venice district of the city of Los Angeles, police officers may issue citations pursuant to LAMC Sec.11.00 against any person camping on public property even if within a vehicle

2. Regardless of shelter availability, officers may enforce violations in the following locations:

(a) Within 1000 feet of K-12 schools, child care centers, and adult day care centers.

(b) Within 1000 feet of a facility offering temporary shelter or affordable housing for individuals who had previously been homeless.

(c) In City parks and the Venice Beach Recreation Area, where a substantial public health and safety risk is determined, including within 1000 feet of a location or area that the Los Angeles Police Department has determined to have had a heightened level of crimes involving murder, assault, sex trafficking, bike or auto theft, or drug sales.

(d) When there is an immediate threat to public safety or a threat of fire or the person is wanted in connection to another crime.

Upon passage, this Resolution shall be delivered to Mayor Karen Bass and City Councilmember Traci Park



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## **ADJOURNMENT** (*Minutes need to include ending time*)

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, or 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 by contacting the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment by calling (213) 978-1551 or email: [NCsupport@lacity.org](mailto:NCsupport@lacity.org)

### **Public Posting of Agendas -**

The Venice Neighborhood Council agendas are posted for public review as follows:

- Beyond Baroque, 681 Venice Blvd., Venice, CA 90291
- [www.VeniceNC.org](http://www.VeniceNC.org)
- Receive agendas by email, subscribe to L.A. City's [Early Notification System \(ENS\)](#)

### **Notice to Paid Representatives -**

If you are compensated to monitor, attend, or speak at this meeting, City law may require you to register as a lobbyist and report your activity. See Los Angeles Municipal Code Section 48.01 et seq. More information is available at [ethics.lacity.org/lobbying](http://ethics.lacity.org/lobbying). For assistance, please contact the Ethics Commission at (213) 978-1960 or [ethics.commission@lacity.org](mailto:ethics.commission@lacity.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](http://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 the VNC Secretary, email at: [Secretary@VeniceNC.org](mailto:Secretary@VeniceNC.org).

### **Reconsideration and Grievance Process -**

For information on the NC's process for board action reconsideration, stakeholder grievance policy, or any other procedural matters related to this Council, please consult the NC Bylaws. The Bylaws are available at our website [www.VeniceNC.org](http://www.VeniceNC.org)