

Hi.

This [DFC Discussion Generator Supplement](#) provides additional materials relevant to the topic of finding a strategy capable of achieving, over time, the intent of the [VNC Vision Goals](#). Our task at our upcoming 160209 DFC meeting is to flesh out *The Paradoxical Impact of Zoning on the Venice Vision Goals*.

JDM Thoughts about LA Housing Crisis and Loss of Diversity

Are we morally obligated to increase the supply of less expensive housing in our LA communities?

[LA Times 151124 Editorial Regarding the Cause of the LA Housing Crisis](#) *

<http://www.latimes.com/opinion/editorials/la-ed-1124-development-moratorium-20151120-story.html>

[150724 LA Times Gregory Morrow OpEd – LA Affordable Housing Analysis](#) *

<http://www.venicenc.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/01/150724LATimesGregoryMorrowOpEd-LAAffordableHousingAnalysis.pdf>

[150723 LA Daily News Bonin Article-Homeless Needs](#) *

<http://www.venicenc.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/01/150723LADailyNewsBoninArticle-HomelessNeeds.pdf>

[Aug 20, 2015 Jacobin Interview of Eric Foner – Ideas Trump Details](#) *

<https://www.jacobinmag.com/2015/08/eric-foner-reconstruction-abolitionism-republican-party-lincoln-emancipation/>

[150809 Atlantic Alana Semuels Article – The Resurrection Of Americas Slums](#) *

<http://www.venicenc.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/150809AtlanticAlanaSemuelsArticle-TheResurrectionOfAmericasSlums.pdf>

[September 5, 2015 NY Times Editorial - The Architecture of Segregation](#) *

http://www.nytimes.com/2015/09/06/opinion/sunday/the-architecture-of-segregation.html?_r=1

[151027 DFC Agenda – JDM Research – Housing/Diversity Relationship](#) *

<http://www.venicenc.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/151027VNCDiscussionForumMeetingAgenda.pdf>

* These are links which will take you directly to the web pages where cited text appears.

Go to [DFC Discussion Generator](#) to see cited texts relevant to the above links.

The below [DFC Discussion Generator Supplement](#) links include cited texts.

[160201 LA Times - Zahneiser Article Re: Homeboy Opposition to LA Neighborhood Integrity Initiative](#) *

<http://www.latimes.com/local/lanow/la-me-ln-father-greg-boyle-real-estate-mega-projects-20160201-story.html>

The head of the nonprofit group Homeboy Industries retracted his support Monday for a proposed ballot measure targeting overdevelopment, saying it won't help Los Angeles create housing for the working poor.

Father Greg Boyle, Homeboy's founder and an influential figure in the city's fight against poverty, was named last week as one of the newest community leaders to favor the proposed Neighborhood Integrity Initiative. Four days later, he announced he had studied the measure further — and concluded he should remain neutral.

The ballot proposal, backed by the AIDS Healthcare Foundation and the Coalition to Preserve L.A., is designed to rein in the city's practice of changing planning, zoning and parking rules for individual development projects.

Backers have argued that so-called mega projects are destroying the character of neighborhoods while pushing out renters. Opponents, in turn, say the coalition's ballot measure would deprive the city of much-needed housing.

"I want more access to housing for the homeless and the working poor," Boyle said in a letter sent to The Times. "I am now convinced that this initiative will not provide that."

Robin Hughes, president of nonprofit affordable housing developer Abode Communities, said Boyle's change of heart shows that as Angelenos learn more about the proposed measure, they will conclude that it's a threat to low-income housing.

"When people think about this measure, they think about luxury buildings going up in downtown or Hollywood or the Westside," said Hughes, who is part of the coalition fighting the proposal. "They're not thinking about the 75-unit affordable apartment building that could be built in South L.A. or Boyle Heights or the San Fernando Valley."

[160126 LA Times Editorial – Accounting for L.A.'s Homeless](#) *

<http://www.latimes.com/opinion/editorials/la-ed-0126-homeless-count-20160125-story.html>

There's an unusually acute sense of urgency surrounding homelessness right now. The increase in the 2015 figures and the highly visible presence of homeless people in every neighborhood have pushed city and county and state officials to scramble for more money, more plans, more promises. It's not that they haven't vowed to tackle this issue before in the past decade. They have, but they have not come near solving it. The information from this year's count will offer them another tool to do so.

JDM Rationale

Paradoxes (to be formulated at the February 9, 2016 Discussion Forum Committee Meeting)

Fear My fear is that, if nothing realistic is done to deal with this housing problem in LA – if nothing but talk and promises and half-measures are proposed which cannot be realistically implemented – then we will create a regional dynamic that promises long-term segregation between ‘them’ and ‘us’. The city mayor and council declared an emergency which they couldn’t do and reneged on that in favor of a broader alternative which is equally questionable.

Proposals are made which we adopt without evaluating their likelihood of proving successful.

Perhaps we should seriously consider enacting laws based on a moral obligation to provide, in our communities, a proportionate share of the less expensive housing necessary to offset anticipated population growth and immigration as it occurs so that our human settlements can minimize the risk of inadvertently creating the architectural/urban-design equivalent of ghettos (whether for the rich or for the poor, or thru nimbysm or by enacting Jim Crow Tactic laws).

The impact goes beyond the “rich/poor” segregation into bigotry.

I do believe that we in Venice and our Neighborhood Council peers have an opportunity to lead LA toward changes which, over time, can erode this negative dynamic in which all of us seem to be, at present, trapped.

JDM Advice to 2016 VNC Candidates

Getting elected has been, in large measure, a contest between factions claiming to be more aligned with their imagined visions of the Venice Community. As a result, Board meetings have reflected these competitions between these factions on contentious issues. There is therefore little opportunity to seek common ground on such issues at time-limited board meetings.

My perception is that on only one occasion did these factions agree unanimously on a contentious issue – an agreement that lasted only briefly before quarreling resumed – despite the board’s prior unanimous adoption of the [VNC Vision Goals](#) including one calling for collaboration and dialogue.

Since then, the same factional dynamic has continued to undermine the intent of the [VNC Vision Goals](#) on all contentious issues.

At present, the laws – as interpreted by these factions and the unhealthy dynamic between them – continues to result in the quarreling which not only undermines the VNC Vision Goals but also prevents these factions from talking with one another to see if they can identify common ground.

The orientation of the VNC to seek long-term solutions to the issues confronting it requires that it shift its energies from quarreling about short-term “minutiae” to identifying and supporting long-term changes to laws which could implement rather than undermine the [VNC Vision Goals](#).

This is, in my opinion, **the** central issue the VNC – and you as candidates (if you are elected) – will be facing after the June 9, 2016 VNC election.

Sincerely,

Joe Murphy
[310-305-1444](tel:310-305-1444)
joedmur@gmail.com

Your comments & insights in response to this email would, as usual, be much appreciated.

Please note that your response, unless you specifically request anonymity, will be compiled into an email which identifies you by name and provides your contact information as the responding individual. At my discretion, I may comment on whatever response you send me. I intend to exercise this discretion for the primary purpose of clarifying what I perceive as misunderstandings. If you disagree with my comments, you will have the ‘last word’ by responding to my comment. The final version will consist of a compilation of your responses, my comments if any, and your ‘last word’ responses without further ‘counter-comments’ from me. The final version will also be sent to my email list. You are welcome to send this to others.

* [VNC Diversity Vision Goal and Census Statistics](#)

Consider strategies that encourage & facilitate realistic recommendations designed to increase economic diversity, including affordable [less expensive *] housing, etc. [* Clarification inserted November 24, 2014 by Joe Murphy]

[US Census data documenting loss of diversity in Venice](#)

90291 (Walgrove to beach, Washington to Dewey) LAMSA

50 year period	1960	2010	% Change
Total Population	35,409	28,207	-20
Total Population	6,746,356	12,840,726	+90
Dwelling Units	16,320	16,190	-1
Dwelling Units	2,501,432	4,498,576	+80
MHI (inflation adjusted)	+/-41,646	+/-70,859	+70
10 year period	2000	2010	% Change
Total Population	31,097	28,207	-9
Dwelling Units	16,311	16,190	-1
MHI (inflation adjusted)	+/-60,228	+/-70,859	+18
0 – 55 Years of Age	26,761	22,746	-15
55 – 100 Years of Age	4,257	5,595	+31
Black-African American	2,087	1,491	-27
Hispanic or Latino	7,834	5,668	-28
Housing for Seasonal, Recreational, or Occasional	79	342	+333
18 year period	1996	2014	% Change
SFR avg price/sq. ft.	198	1,037	+523
Condo avg price/sq. ft.	171	750	+438