



# Venice Neighborhood Council

PO Box 550, Venice, CA 90294 / [www.VeniceNC.org](http://www.VeniceNC.org)  
Email: [info@VeniceNC.org](mailto:info@VeniceNC.org)



## Discussion Forum Committee Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, November 13, 2012 from 7:00 to 9:00 PM

### Location

Canal Club (310-823-3878)  
2025 Pacific Avenue (near North Venice Boulevard)  
Venice, California 90291  
*No Host Refreshments Available*

### Agenda

- 7:00 Call to Order - Motion to Board to Renew [VNC Ad Hoc Discussion Forum Committee](#)
- 7:10 Session to plan report on [Walkability VNC Vision Goal](#) using the below [DFC Discussion Generator](#)
- In 2009, the VNC identified six vision goals (Participation, Walkability, Diversity, Creativity, Collaboration and Brainstorming) to guide the current Board's mission. At our last few meetings, Sarah Dennison conducted brainstorming/grouping sessions on the [Walkability VNC Vision Goal](#). This month's meeting is intended to build on the ideas generated during prior sessions to prepare a report to the board using the third question below as this month's [DFC Discussion Generator](#):
    1. **How can we encourage the residents and visitors of Venice to get out of their cars and spend more time enjoying our community as pedestrians?**
    2. **How would we group the ideas from our last meeting into categories that illustrate the primary positive qualities that embody our vision of walkability in Venice?**
    3. **We have spent several sessions discussing [Walkability](#) and it is time to plan how we will complete work on this topic and report back to the VNC. Questions for this meeting are:**
      - **Product:** **What will report cover and how will it be organized?**
      - **Process:** **What work needs to be completed and who will take responsibility for each piece?**
      - **Schedule:** **What are main tasks we need to complete going forward and when will each one be due?**
  - **Ideas for future meetings.**

### 9:00 Adjourn

Brodie Seagrave [bseagrave05@yahoo.com](mailto:bseagrave05@yahoo.com)  
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### Members

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### VNC Vision Goals

#### VNC Standing Rule 20 adopted 090421

To stimulate the vitality of the VNC, the Board and VNC Committees are encouraged to consider the below [VNC Vision Goals](#) in their deliberations. Although the VNC is a political body, and inevitably it may become embroiled in issues that divide the community, these goals are designed to promote a more proactive, collaborative vision for VNC Committees to include in their deliberations as they formulate recommendations for Board consideration. The intent is to create a working framework of integrated strategies capable of achieving, over time, broader consensus and increased:

#### Participation

Consider strategies that encourage & facilitate broader involvement of stakeholders, major organizations, community groups, and government institutions, etc.

#### Walkability

Consider strategies that reduce the use of cars and that promote alternatives such as walking, skateboarding, biking & bike racks, circulation systems (trolleys), park & ride rather than additional parking, street-narrowing/sidewalk widening, walk/bike/skateboard lanes separated from traffic, easier neighborhood pedestrian access to commercial stores, etc.

#### Diversity

Consider strategies that encourage & facilitate realistic recommendations designed to increase economic diversity, including affordable housing, etc.

#### Creativity

Consider strategies that promote the arts, encourage & facilitate creativity. This can apply to architecture, public art, social events (neighborhood gatherings/street movies/theatre/dance/pottery/...), etc.

#### Collaboration

Consider strategies that encourage & facilitate 'level playing fields' for collaborative negotiation; opt for procedures & policies that 'promote flexibility & dialogue' over 'reacting defensively to rigid criteria', facilitation/mediation training, etc.

#### Brainstorming

Consider strategies that encourage & facilitate exploring of non-traditional options for achieving shared objectives, etc.



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## DFC Discussion Generator

Prepared each month by the DFC facilitators – Joe Murphy (310-305-1444), Ira Koslow (310-392-0868), Daffodil Tyminski (609-876-8418) – to initiate discussion as directed by the DFC at its prior meeting. Please contact a facilitator with questions.

To prepare for the November 13, 2012 DFC Meeting, please be prepared with your thoughts on the following questions:

- **Product:** What will report cover and how will it be organized?
- **Process:** What work needs to be completed and who will take responsibility for each piece?
- **Schedule:** What are main tasks we need to complete going forward and when will each one be due?

Ideas generated in Walkability discussions in response to the following questions:

1. 9/11: How can we encourage the residents and visitors of Venice to get out of their cars and spend more time enjoying our community as pedestrians?
2. 10/2: How would we group the ideas from our last meeting into categories that illustrate the primary positive qualities that embody our vision of walkability in Venice?

The following 9/11 Meeting Notes prepared by Sarah Dennison were discussed without classifying them into clear non-overlapping positive qualities. The facilitators discussed the possibility of classifying them in varying levels of 'doability'. No decision was made; but IMHO, 'doability' seemed 'doable' and I suggest we use that for starters at our November 13, 2012 meeting. JDM

### Crosswalks

- How to make them safe?

### Bike Paths

### Street Activities

- Homeless impact on walkability
- What we want is "People Watching"

### Urban Landscape / Trees

### Sidewalks

- Cleanliness / Beauty in walking
- Wider sidewalks
- Outdoor eatery incentives
- Lighting
- Artwork to increase walkability

### Parking

- Building up and underground for parking
- Café Gratitude underground parking vs Google – none

### Shuttle Buses / Public Transportation

- Creative transportation / Bike Sharing
- Small tricycles / Electric car chargers in parking lots

### Street Furniture

- More public bathrooms 4 walkability / Self-cleaning
- Bike Racks
- More trash cans

### Walk Streets

### Pedestrian Malls

### Safety / Traffic Control

- Traffic Control to improve walkability and safety in neighborhoods
- Pedestrian Zones in retail areas
- Destination Points
- Strategic Parking sites
- Information Kiosks
- Cops on the beat
- Lighting
- Uneven sidewalks (fix them)

### Streets / How to improve them?

- How do we remove more cars from streets?
- Lack of logical connectivity of roads
- Streets back to canals
- Legalizing jaywalking
- Buffer zones along curbs, what could we put there? Use red zones to beautify streets / grow edibles?
- Parisian feeling / safe street environments
- Safe for kids, skateboards, roller skates
- Streetscape that lends itself to romance / human interaction
- Town Squares / Pedestrian zones / Possible locations? Washington between Ocean Front Walk and Pacific, Main St. between Abbot Kinney and Circle, Ocean Front Walk / Grand Ave. the Circle, Fox swap-meet area, Metro bus storage site
- Permanent open air farmers market
- Best Venice walkability per Walkscore website is Ocean Front Walk
- Make alleys pedestrian-friendly / green alleyways, parking

### Public Open Space

- Develop more green spaces, community BBQ areas

### Density

- Density / Future construction / Mixed-use