



Venice Neighborhood Council

PO Box 550, Venice, CA 90294 / www.VeniceNC.org

Email: info@VeniceNC.org Phone: 310-421-8627

VNC Neighborhood Committee Minutes of July 24, 2019 Meeting Extra Space Storage, 658 Venice Ave, Venice CA 90291

1. Meeting was called to order at 7:33am. Present were George Francisco (GF), Stewart Oscars (SO), Noel Johnston (NJ), Darryl Dufay (DD), Nicolas Hippisley-Coxe (NHC), Reta Moser (RM), Christina Marquez (CM), Isabelle Duvivier (ID), John Weston (JW) arrived 7:48am
2. The agenda was approved as presented (SO, NJ; 7-0-1. NHC, ID, CW, CM DD, //GF)
3. Minutes of the May 29, 2019 Neighborhood Committee meeting were approved as presented. (RM, CM; 7-0-1. DD, NHC, NJ, SO, ID //GF)
4. There was No Public Comment
5. There were no Announcements
6. Chair Report – No Report
7. There was No Consent Calendar
8. **ITEM FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION - MOTION. Planting of Parkways and Planter Boxes (Motion brought by Mark Ryavec et al and referred by Adcom)**

Whereas, urban runoff from gardens and hard surfaces is the #1 source of coastal pollution, and Whereas, in that runoff are pollutants such as: Synthetic fertilizers - increased nutrients leads to algal blooms and red tides, lowering dissolved oxygen levels enough to kill aquatic habitat and fisheries; Pesticides, herbicides and fungicides - poison humans, marine life and soil biology; Automobile engine oil and fluids, exhaust and brake pad dust as well as exhaust from utilities - poison marine life; Bacteria - sicken humans and marine life, and can close beaches; Sediment (soil) - this finer material can be laced with heavy metals, and too much causes turbidity – in which water loses its transparency due to the presence of suspended particulates. Whereas, the first one-inch of rain after a dry spell is called the "first flush," and contains most of the pollutants during a rainstorm, and Whereas, traditional building codes have directed rainwater off property to prevent flooding of a site, but this runoff rushes the above pollutants immediately to the ocean, and Whereas, many property owners, in an effort to lower gardening and water costs, have paved over their parkways, the land between the city' sidewalk easement and the street curb, and Whereas, un-paving and planting parkways, and/or installation of large planter boxes, which act as sponges, can contain a significant percentage of "first flush" rain, and Whereas, it should be the policy of the City of Los Angeles to contain rainwater on-site to avoid this pollution and harm to the Santa Monica Bay, its marine life, and humans who recreate in the Bay;

Now, therefore be it resolved that the Venice Neighborhood Council strongly urges the City's Bureau of Engineering to support and quickly approve all applications for removal of concrete over parkways along city streets, the planting of said parkways, and/or installation of planter boxes on parkways for the purpose of rain infiltration and containment.

Motion to Bifurcate into Two Motions (8A & 8B) Passed. 8-0-1. (ID, NJ: RM, JW, NHC, SO, DD, CM //GF)

8A. Now, therefore be it resolved that the Venice Neighborhood Council strongly urges the City's Bureau of Engineering to support and quickly approve all applications for removal of concrete over parkways along city streets for the planting of said parkways for the purpose of rain infiltration and containment.

8B. Now, therefore be it resolved that the Venice Neighborhood Council strongly urges the City's Bureau of Engineering to support and quickly approve all applications for removal of concrete over parkways along city streets for the installation of planter boxes on parkways for the purpose of rain infiltration and containment.



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Motion to Amend 8A & 8B to include the word “beautification.” Passed. 8-0-1. NJ, ID. (RM, JW: NHC, SO, DD, CM//GF)

8A. Now, therefore be it resolved that the Venice Neighborhood Council strongly urges the City’s Bureau of Engineering to support and quickly approve all applications for removal of concrete over parkways along city streets for the planting of said parkways for the purpose of beautification, rain infiltration and containment.

8B. Now, therefore be it resolved that the Venice Neighborhood Council strongly urges the City’s Bureau of Engineering to support and quickly approve all applications for removal of concrete over parkways along city streets for the installation of planter boxes on parkways for the purpose of beautification, rain infiltration and containment.

Motion to Amend 8A & 8B to change “quickly approve all applications” to “rule on all applications within 60 days.” Passed. 8-0-1. (JW, NJ: RM, NHC, SO, DD, CM, ID//GF)

8A. Now, therefore be it resolved that the Venice Neighborhood Council strongly urges the City’s Bureau of Engineering to support and rule on all applications within 60 days for removal of concrete over parkways along city streets for the planting of said parkways for the purpose of beautification, rain infiltration and containment.

8B. Now, therefore be it resolved that the Venice Neighborhood Council strongly urges the City’s Bureau of Engineering to support and rule on all applications within 60 days for removal of concrete over parkways along city streets for the installation of planter boxes on parkways for the purpose of beautification, rain infiltration and containment.

Motion 8A. Passed. 8-0-1. NJ, RM: SO, DD, NHC, CM, ID, JW//GF)

Motion to Amend 8B to remove “for removal of concrete over parkways along city streets.” Failed. 1-7-1. (SO, NHC: Pro – SO. Con – ID, NJ, NHC, RM, DD, CM, JW. Abstain – GF)

Motion 8B. Passed. 8-0-1. (NJ, JW: ID, SO, DD, NHC, RM, CM//GF)

9. **ITEM FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION - MOTION. Amend State Law to Allow Venice Cityhood Vote. (Motion brought by Mark Ryavec et al and referred by Adcom)**

Motion Postponed for 1 Month. 8-0-1 (RM, NJ: NHC, DD, ID, JW, CM, SO//GF) (Motion brought to floor RM, NHC)

Whereas, Venice was an independent city when residents voted in 1926 to annex itself to the City of Los Angeles; and Whereas, Venice residents deserve the right to consider reversing that decision free from the burden of it being rejected by other residents living in the rest of Los Angeles who have no stake in the welfare of Venice or its residents; and Whereas, Venice residents desire the increased responsiveness of municipal government seen in smaller units of local government, such as our neighbors Santa Monica, Culver City, Malibu and West Hollywood; and Whereas, Venice is not well served by a city government with only 15 council members for a population of almost four million residents;

Now, therefore be it resolved that the Venice Neighborhood Council formally requests the City of Los Angeles to sponsor and support State legislation to amend the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000 to: 1. Remove the City of Los Angeles’ right to cause the termination of a detachment request pending before a local area formation commission submitted by a former city which earlier voted to join the City of Los Angeles, which now borders both another city and the Pacific Ocean, and does not contain within its



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borders a port; and further to; 2. Amend that Act to remove the City of Los Angeles' right to subject to a vote of all voters in the jurisdiction of the City of Los Angeles the detachment of a former city now located within its borders which borders both another city and the Pacific Ocean, and does not contain within its borders a port. It is further resolved that the VNC appoints Nick Antonicello, Mark Ryavec, C.J. Cole and Yolanda Gonzalez to liaise with Mayor Eric Garcetti, the City Council's Rules, Elections and Intergovernmental Affairs Committee, the Chief Legislative Analyst and other city officials to advance the objective of this Resolution.

10. There was No New Business
11. Old Business – Update from CFAC (ID): LA Tree “czar” being hired; Citywide Tree Inventory being funded; hiring increase for tree maintenance.
12. There were No Committee Comments
13. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:15am.