



Venice Neighborhood Council

LAND USE AND PLANNING COMMITTEE
PO Box 550, Venice, CA 90294 www.VeniceNC.org
Email: Chair-LUPC@VeniceNC.org



Meeting of the Land Use and Planning Committee

DATE: Thursday September 24, 2020 TIME: 7:00pm – 10:00 pm

IN CONFORMITY WITH THE GOVERNORS EXECUTIVE ORDER N-29-20 (MARCH 17, 2020) AND DUE TO CONCERNS OVER COVID – 19, THIS VENICE NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTED ENTIRELY TELEPHONICALLY TO JOIN THE MEETING PLEASE USE THIS LINK

You are invited to a Zoom webinar.

When: Sep 24, 2020 07:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Topic: VNC Land Use and Planning Committee Webinar, Thursday, September 24, 2020, 7:00 p.m.

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://zoom.us/j/99281714057>

Or iPhone one-tap :

US: +16699006833,,99281714057# or +13462487799,,99281714057#

Or Telephone:

Dial(for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):

US: +1 669 900 6833 or +1 346 248 7799 or +1 253 215 8782 or +1 312 626 6799 or +1 929 205 6099 or +1 301 715 8592 or 888 475 4499 (Toll Free) or 833 548 0276 (Toll Free) or 833 548 0282 (Toll Free) or 877 853 5257 (Toll Free)

Webinar ID: 992 8171 4057

International numbers available: <https://zoom.us/u/acX7m0HxeX>

Alternatively you may submit public comment via email in advance to chair-lupc@venicenc.org and LUPC@venicenc.org

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BOARD MEETINGS: The Venice Neighborhood Council holds its regular meetings on the third Tuesday of the month and may also call any additional required special meetings in accordance with its Bylaws and the Brown Act. All are welcome to attend.

TRANSLATION Services: Si requiere servicios de traducción, favor de notificar a la oficina 3 días de trabajo (72 horas) antes del evento. Si necesita asistencia con esta notificación, por favor llame a nuestra oficina 213.978.1551.

PUBLIC ACCESS OF RECORDS: See last page.

PUBLIC COMMENT: See last page.

COMMUNITY IMPACT STATEMENTS: Any action taken by the Board may result in the filing of a related CIS

DISABILITY POLICY: See last page.

ALL AGENDA TIMES ARE APPROXIMATE AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE ON THE NIGHT OF THE MEETING.

AGENDA ITEMS

1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call

Name	Present	Name	Present
Alix Gucovsky, Chair		Matthew Royce	
Barry Cassily		Chris Zonnas	
Tim Bonefeld		Shep Stern	
Daffodil Tyminski		Michael Jensen	
		Carlos Zubieta	

3. Approval of Minutes

see draft minutes for August 24th and September 3 2020 at: <http://venicenc.org/land-use-committee.php>

4. Approval of Agenda

5. LUPC members to declare any conflicts of interest or ex parte communications relating to items on this meeting's agenda

6. Chair's Report

7. General Public Comment on non-agendized items related to Land Use and Planning - 15 minutes

8. CASES FOR REVIEW

(see project files for more detailed info at <http://venicenc.org/land-use-committee.php>)

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A.

Case: DIR-2019-6455-CDP-MEL, AA-2019-6453-PMLA, ENV-2019-6456-EAF
City Hearing: TBD
Address: 709 East Brooks
Applicant: Jared Johnson jared@howardrobinson.net; Lew Futterman lewfutt@aol.com
LUPC Staff: Michael Jenssen
Representative:
City Staff: Ira Brown ira.brown@lacity.org, Jason Douglas Jason.douglas@lacity.org
Juliet Oh Juliet.Oh@lacity.org

Case Description:

- Demolition of a duplex plus detached dwelling and new construction of two 3 story approximate 3400 sq ft sfd on 2 lot small subdivision in single jurisdiction coastal zone.
- Demolition of a duplex plus detached dwelling and new construction of two 3 story approximate 3400 sq ft sfd on 2 lot small subdivision pursuant to LAMC sec 17.50, coastal development permit pursuant to LAMC sec 12.20.2 in single jurisdiction coastal zone and mello review.

Public Comment & Possible Action: Motion

B.

The Venice Community Council also strongly supports, and includes for official input to the Los Angeles Department of City Planning in the Venice Community Plan Update, the following:

- 1) An appropriate assessment of how the COVID-19 pandemic, which is and will remain of unknown duration even with potential future vaccines and/or treatments, will impact current and future Mobility, Housing, Environmental, and Health/Safety needs and concerns; and
- 2) A 6-12 month delay in the Community Plan Update process, until such aforementioned needs and concerns, can be appropriately and accurately addressed in the Community Plan Update.

Public Comment & Possible Action: Motion

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C.

Motion requesting additional community presentation and feedback cycle taking into consideration additional elements pertinent to the Venice Community Plan Update including, but not limited to, mobility; infrastructure; demographics; existing and proposed zoning of the entire Venice Community Plan Area; the Dwelling Unit Capacity calculated for the existing and updated plans including population estimates used; and average tenure of current renters and owners.

The motion

Whereas the public feedback period for the Westside Community Plan update is scheduled to close October 15, 2020,

And

Whereas LA City Planning is committed to “Charting [a] Course for More Fair, Just, and Equitable Los Angeles” (<https://planning.lacity.org/resources/message-city-planning>);

And

Whereas other Community Plan Updates have included mobility elements, demographic trends, and the Dwelling Unit Capacity calculated for the existing and updated plans including population estimates used, such as the San Pedro Community Plan (https://planning.lacity.org/odocument/ee5aacb-fce7-4dc2-9f91-2df177a48417/San_Pedro_Community_Plan.pdf), West Adams-Baldwin Hills-Leimert Community Plan (https://planning.lacity.org/odocument/78984e0b-a63d-4533-ba57-4f84b8fd7696/West_Adams-Baldwin_Hills-Leimert_Community_Plan.pdf), and South Los Angeles Community Plan (https://planning.lacity.org/odocument/b909e749-754e-4caa-af7f14c82adaa2b7/South_Los_Angeles_Community_Plan.pdf),

And

Whereas Venice stakeholders have voiced concerns at the draft concepts presented by the LA City Department of City Planning’s proposed Planning the Westside Community Plan update,

Therefore, be it resolved that the Venice Community Council requests Los Angeles City Planning commit to a second public presentation of draft plans and period of public feedback for the Westside Community Plan update,

And

Therefore, be it further resolved that this second presentation of draft plans include, but not be limited to, elements pertaining to mobility; infrastructure; demographics; existing and proposed zoning of the entire Venice Community Plan Area **in an accessible format for comparison**; the Dwelling Unit Capacity calculated for the existing and updated

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plans including population estimates used; and average tenure of current renters and owners,

And

Therefore, be it further resolved that this second period of presentation and public feedback will take place no later than January 2021.

Public Comment & Possible Action: Motion

D.

The Venice Community Council strongly supports, and includes as official input to the Los Angeles Department of City Planning in the Venice Community Plan Update:

- 1) Inclusion of whether the City has sufficient electrical power supply to its Westside grid, and if all westside electric substations have reached their maximal capacity.
- 2) Inclusion of whether the reduction of Exposition Light Rail trains, and coordinating bus and Microtransit services (such as LANow and DASH) affect the Transit Oriented and Affordable Housing Capacity in the Venice region.
- 3) Inclusion of whether the water supply and sewer system currently available to the Venice region is sufficient, including for the additional ADUs and Jr. ADUs already built, and if future densification will be sufficiently matched by increased water supply, water supply carrying and sewer system infrastructure.
- 4) If the natural gas supply is currently sufficient and how new developments will be affect the natural gas infrastructure.

For Bullet Points 5-8 below, it is emphasized that:

- a) the UCLA/ITS study sponsored by SCAG, the Southern California Association of Governments, noted that automobile use has steadily increased in Los Angeles County over the past 10-15 years, and
- b) the same study concluded that the single most important factor in transit use is NOT proximity to transit

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but access to an automobile).

5) Inclusion of whether Mobility will be significantly and negatively impacted, in that the overwhelming majority of new residential housing will be Car-Oriented, and not Transit-Oriented, and will be Market-Priced, and not Affordable Housing which the community has stressed the need for:

a) To date, the City of Los Angeles has allowed significant construction of developments that have NOT proven to be Transit-Oriented, sufficiently Pedestrian Friendly, and encouraged creation of Affordable Housing. For over a decade, new developments have not led to increased transit use, and have not led to more pedestrian/bicycle mobility, and have not led to more Affordable Housing.

b) There is currently no proper outcomes-based metric to best ensure that Transit-Oriented Development is anything more than "transit-adjacent", and there is no outcomes-based metric that will ensure that such transit adjacent development will not worsen congestion, and reduce easy access to walkable streets and bus/rail transit.

c) Inclusion of existing, and implementing new, planned bicycle enhanced networks and neighborhood enhanced networks and what affect that has on mobility.

d) how the implementation of Liveable Blvd. Streetscape Plans will affect traffic and how adding a bus rapid transit line will affect congestion and mobility in the Plan Area.

6) Inclusion of whether the increased congestion caused by both densification and road diets will create significant levels of pollution, with respect to air quality, light pollution, water pollution, and greenhouse gas emissions.

a) To date, the City of Los Angeles has allowed higher levels of pollution than normally accepted by state and federal agencies, and under the reasoning of "appropriate mitigation" that regularly has NOT held up when challenged in court. A consistent and appropriate level measurement of water, air, and soil contamination must be applied so that health of residents and neighbors is not subverted or ignored under the reasoning of "overriding considerations".

7) Inclusion of whether all City Council Districts and Community Plan Updates are equally-coordinated amongst all Westside communities with respect to increased development and densification, including the outlying regions of Los Angeles that have more space and opportunities for increased residential housing, as well as commercial and industrial space.

a) There is no proper mention of an objective, accurate, and relevant Cumulative Effect for each Plan area, so that any "spot zoning" allowed for "overriding

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considerations" will be properly considered with all other developments and transportation/infrastructure to best determine the safest and most scientifically/environmentally-viable capacity for the next 25 years in any Plan Update.

- 8) Inclusion of whether sufficient local commercial- and industrial-zoned land will exist to create middle-class jobs, encourage domestic/local manufacturing self sufficiency, and minimized commuting distance.
- 9) Inclusion of whether electrical, wifi, cell towers and affordable location/computer infrastructure will exist to support and encourage current and future telecommuting.
- 10) Inclusion of whether sufficient open space exists at this time for individuals, families, and children for both health purposes and quality of life and provides for open space, including that which was to be created and provided in the last Community Plan over 15 years ago
 - a) Inclusion of the open space and bikeways/walkways adjacent to local Los Angeles rivers and flood control channels to create new and safe avenues for both recreational purposes and multimodal transportation options, including designs for closure, privacy for adjacent land owners and to prevent the space from being used for other uses.
 - c) Inclusion of unused rail rights-of-ways to create new bikeways/walkways to create new and safe avenues for both recreational purposes and multimodal transportation options.
- 11) Inclusion of whether SCAG data and projections, measured with and/or against City data and projections, supports the densification that threatens middle and working class neighborhood transformation into under provisioned residential zones, and encourages developments that are of too great a height to promote environmental safety and quality of life.

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E.

Motion Regarding the Proposed Updated to the Venice Land Use Plan and Disproportionate Impact on Oakwood Neighborhood

WHEREAS over the past eighty years, updates to the City of Los Angeles (City) land use and zoning plan have decreased the zoning density of almost all areas of Venice. For example, while in 1960 the Venice Community Plan Area (VCPA) provided for a planned dwelling unit capacity of 44,315 while there were 17,365 existing units, in 2010, the VCPA had a planned dwelling unit capacity of only 21,775 while there were 21,568 existing units, resulting in a 52% decrease in planned dwelling unit capacity over 50 years.

WHEREAS the Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) of the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) requires the addition of 456,000 units of housing in the City of Los Angeles by 2029, and because, as of 2010, the City had only 1,413,814 dwelling units, the RHNA assessment tasks the City with producing a 33% increase in dwelling units by 2029.

WHEREAS the production of new housing units across the City and the Venice community should be knowingly and responsibly shared equitably, such that no one community or neighborhood within any community shoulders a disproportionate burden of housing production.

WHEREAS the Los Angeles Department of City Planning (City Planning) released a draft update for the Venice Land Use Plan wherein it identifies only the Oakwood neighborhood in its Overview of Potential Change Areas, as a neighborhood where additional dwelling units should be produced, thereby placing the entirety of the burden of production of the required additional dwelling units in Venice solely on the Oakwood neighborhood.

WHEREAS the City's land use and zoning plans over the last 70 years, as well as City Planning's latest draft update for the Venice Land Use Plan, imposes a plan on the Oakwood community that is inconsistent with the historical urban character and fabric of the community.

NOW THEREFORE, the Land Use and Planning Committee of the Venice Neighborhood Council moves to have the City Planning develop standards for land use and zoning in Venice that will be consistent with RHNA requirements and that will distribute the production of additional housing in Venice fairly and equitably across the entire community while respecting the historical, cultural and urban character of the Oakwood community.

Public Comment & Possible Action: Motion

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9. Adjournment

PUBLIC INPUT AT NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MEETINGS: The public is requested to fill out a “Speaker Card” to address the Land Use & Planning Committee on any agenda item before the Land Use & Planning 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 that are within the Land Use & Planning Committee jurisdiction will be heard during the General Public Comment period. Please note that under the Brown Act, the Land Use & Planning Committee is prevented from acting on a matter that you bring to its attention during the General Public Comment period; however, the issue raised by a member of the public may become the subject of a future Land Use & Planning Committee meeting. Public comment is limited to 1 minute per speaker, unless adjusted by the presiding officer.

POSTING: *In compliance with Government Code section 54957.5, non-exempt writings that are distributed to a majority or all of the board members in advance of a meeting may be viewed at Beyond Baroque, 681 Venice Blvd; Venice Public Library, 501 S. Venice Blvd; and at our website by clicking on the following link: www.venicenc.org, or at the scheduled meeting. You can also receive our agendas via email by subscribing to L.A. City’s Early Notification System at www.lacity.org/your-government/government-information/subscribe-meetings-agendas-and-documents/neighborhood. In addition, if you would like a copy of any record related to an item on the agenda, please contact chair-lupc@venicenc.org*

RECONSIDERATION AND GRIEVANCE PROCESS: For information on the VNC’s process for board action reconsideration, stakeholder grievance policy, or any other procedural matters related to this Council, please consult the VNC Bylaws. The Bylaws are available at our Board meetings and our website www.venicenc.org.

DISABILITY POLICY: THE AMERICAN WITH DISABILITIES ACT - 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 and 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 you wish to attend by contacting George Francisco, VP, at [\(310\) 421-8627](tel:3104218627) or email vp@venicenc.org.

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