



Venice Neighborhood Council

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

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

Verdant Venice Committee Meeting Agenda

Meeting Date: Friday, February 07, 2020

Meeting Time: 9:00 AM

Meeting Location: The Rose, 220 Rose Ave., Venice 90291

Contact: noel.johnston@venicenc.org, isabelle.duvivier@venicenc.org (Chair email)

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Noel Johnston (Co-Chair)	ID		
Isabelle Duvivier (Co-Chair)	NJ		
Melissa Diner	MD		
		Ira Koslow (ex-officio)	

2. Approve Agenda as presented or amended

3. Approve Minutes from last meeting as approved or amended

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS

5. Chair Report . ID to report on last CFAC meeting et al.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT – 1 minute on non-agendized items related to Verdant Venice Committee only

7. Items for Discussion and Possible Action:

- a. **MOTION:** Whereas, the Sidewalk Repair Environmental Impact Report (EIR) proposes to allow tree canopy to decrease over 1.5% during 30 years, only reaching 2017 levels again in 2047, and Whereas, the EIR proposes to mitigate tree loss at different ratios during different years of the project in a cynical ploy to only plant the minimum number of trees necessary to return to 2017 levels in 2047 to claim the project will have no impacts, and Whereas, tree canopy is an essential first line of defense against extreme heat days, which will become more frequent during the next 30 years and localized tree loss will result in a dangerous increase in local temperatures, especially on extreme heat days, Therefore, the VVC requests that the Venice Neighborhood Council write a letter before February 24, 2020 to _____ and _____ insisting that 1) all trees removed for the sidewalk repair program be mitigated at a ratio of 4:1 with species of equal size at maturity and located in the same neighborhood as those removed, 2) the EIR be amended to consider tree removal a significant adverse impact with binding mitigation measures, and 3) only those trees absolutely necessary to be removed for sidewalk repair be removed, with no pre-emptive removal of trees



Venice Neighborhood Council

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

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

not causing problems, and every reasonable effort made to redesign sidewalks around trees.

- b. Background fact:** *The Bureau of Street Services and the Urban Forestry Division have recently opposed the removal of removal of 6 healthy and mature Indian Laurel Ficus trees in the nearby community of Westchester by a group calling itself the Westchester Streetscape Improvement Association.*

<https://cityclerk.lacity.org/councilagenda/CoverSheet.aspx?ItemID=102453&MeetingID=5510> **MOTION:** Whereas the VNC supports all efforts by the City to retain mature trees wherever possible as a component of intelligent and forward thinking city planning, the VVC requests that the VNC write a letter to Mayor Eric Garcetti at _____, Councilperson Mike Bonin at _____, and Commissioner Kevin James at _____ emphatically supporting and commending the actions of Adel H. Hagekhalil, General Manager and Director of the Bureau of Street Services and Timothy Tyson, Chief Forestry Officer, Urban Forestry Division on their efforts to protect and preserve our urban forest and therefore the City ecosystem itself.

8. Old Business.

- a. Review of all prior motions put before the VNC by the VVC and their current status.

9. New Business

- a. Review the information sheet on RAP trees planted from 2014 to date and discuss why these numbers have dropped so substantially in 2019.
<https://www.laparks.org/trees-planted>.
- b. Discuss the possibility of going to other Neighborhood Councils (Westchester/Playa del Rey/Playa Vista, Del Rey, Mar Vista, West LA/Sawtelle, f.i.) to draw attention to the ramifications of the existing EIR.
- c. Work on getting a Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance meeting on the westside in the near future.
- d. Schedule new "Walk with the VVC" walks based on the success of the Silver Triangle walk.

10. COMMITTEE COMMENTS – Comments by Committee Members on subject matters within the jurisdiction of the Verdant Venice Committee but not on the Agenda

11. ADJOURN

PUBLIC INPUT AT NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MEETINGS: The public is requested to fill out a "Speaker Card" to address the [committee] on any agenda item before the [committee] takes an 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 [committee's] jurisdiction will be heard during the General Public Comment period. Please note that under the Brown Act, the [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 [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



Venice Neighborhood Council

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

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

<http://www.lacity.org/government/Subscriptions/NeighborhoodCouncils/index.htm>. In addition, if you would like a copy of any record related to an item on the agenda, please contact board.member@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 Venice Neighborhood Council complies with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act and does not discriminate on the basis of any disability. Upon request, the Venice Neighborhood Council will provide reasonable accommodations 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.