



Venice Neighborhood Council  
P.O.Box 550, Venice, CA 90294 / [www.VeniceNC.org](http://www.VeniceNC.org)  
Email: [Info@VeniceNC.org](mailto:Info@VeniceNC.org)



**Board of Officers**  
**Regular Meeting Agenda**  
**Tuesday June 20, 2023**  
**Start Time: 06:30 PM**

**Location:**

**Westminster School**  
1010 Abbot Kinney Blvd. Venice, CA 90291  
( Auditorium Entrance, Enter from parking lot on Westminster Ave.)

**Meeting End Time: 9:45P**  
**Unless Announced Otherwise**

**1 Introduction and Rules**

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 213.473.5391.

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 Board's jurisdiction will be heard during the General Public Comment period. Please note that under the Brown Act, the Board 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 Board meeting. Public comment is limited to 30 seconds per speaker, unless adjusted by the presiding officer of the Board.

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, or 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 by contacting the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment by calling (213) 978-1551 or email: [NCsupport@lacity.org](mailto:NCsupport@lacity.org)

Public Posting of Agendas - Neighborhood Council agendas are posted for public review as follows:

1. Beyond Baroque, 681 Venice Blvd., Venice, CA 90291
2. [www.VeniceNC.org](http://www.VeniceNC.org)
3. You can also receive our agendas via email by subscribing to [L.A. City's Early Notification System \(ENS\)](#).

Notice to Paid Representatives - If you are compensated to monitor, attend, or speak at this meeting, City law may require you to register as a lobbyist and report your activity. See Los Angeles Municipal Code Section 48.01 et seq. More information is available at [ethics.lacity.org/lobbying](http://ethics.lacity.org/lobbying). For assistance, please contact the Ethics Commission at (213) 978-1960 or [ethics.commission@lacity.org](mailto:ethics.commission@lacity.org)

Public Access of Records - In compliance with Government Code section 54957.5, non-exempt writings that are distributed to a majority or all of the board in advance of a meeting may be viewed at at our website: [www.VeniceNC.org](http://www.VeniceNC.org) or at the scheduled meeting. In addition, if you would like a copy of any record related to an item on the agenda, please contact, [Secretary@VeniceNC.org](mailto:Secretary@VeniceNC.org). Reconsideration and Grievance Process - For information on the NC's process for board action reconsideration, stakeholder grievance policy, or any other procedural matters related to this Council, please consult the NC Bylaws. The Bylaws are available at our Board meetings and our website [www.VeniceNC.org](http://www.VeniceNC.org)

All presenters that have items to project are to send them to Secretary@VeniceNC.org and President@VeniceNC.org to have them shared with the meeting. Keep a copy of them on your desktop as a backup.

## 2 Call To Order

### 3 Roll Call:

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> James Murez      | <input type="checkbox"/> Melissa Diner | <input type="checkbox"/> Jay Handal     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bruno Hernandez  | <input type="checkbox"/> Nico Ruderman | <input type="checkbox"/> James Robb     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jason Sugars     | <input type="checkbox"/> Alley Bean    | <input type="checkbox"/> Chie Lunn      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mike Bravo       | <input type="checkbox"/> Soledad Ursua | <input type="checkbox"/> CJ Cole        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Robert Thibodeau | <input type="checkbox"/> Clark Brown   | <input type="checkbox"/> Michael Jensen |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Patrick McKinley |  |   |

Attendance: 0

Quorum: 11

### 4 Declaration of Ex Parte Communications or Conflicts-Of-Interest

All Board members shall declare any ex parte communications or conflicts-of interest relating to items on this meeting's agenda.

### 5 Scheduled Announcements and Presentations

06:16

### 6 Public Safety - LAPD & LAFD Report

06:17

Questions to the presenter(s) will be limited to the time allotted to this item. Furthermore, all questions from the public must be submitted in writing to Secretary@VeniceNC.org no less than 72 hours prior to the meeting. The Chair at His / Her discretion shall present questions or a summary thereof to the presenter. Questions from Members of the Body will be limited by time allotment for this agenda item following public questions.

LAFD  
Lance McCloskey - Lance.McCloskey@lacity.org

LAPD:  
Five Points of Contacts  
<https://www.venicenc.org/assets/photos/5/page636a3e1fdc228.pdf>

Senior Lead Officer Map  
<https://www.venicenc.org/assets/photos/5/page636a3d534f723.pdf>

### 7 Government Reports

06:40

- Congressman Ted Lieu, Representative, Janet.Turner@mail.house.gov
- State Senator Ben Allen, Representative, Liliana.Pond@sen.ca.gov
- State Assemblywoman Tina McKinnor, Staff: Brandon.Stansell@asm.ca.gov
- LA County Supervisor Horvath, Deputy Zac Gaidzik zgaidzik@bos.lacounty.gov

- Mayor Karen Bass, Deputy, TBD
- Councilwoman Traci Park, Ashley.Lozada@lacity.org
- Empower LA, Advocate, Freddy.Cupen-Ames@lacity.org 213-978-1551
- Westside Regional Alliance of Councils (WRAC)-Jim Murez,
- Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Coalition (LANCC), Yolanda Gonzalez
- LA DWP Advocate, Yolanda Gonzalez
- Budget Advocates – vacant
- LAUSD, Nick Melvoin Board Member, Allison.Holdorff@lausd.net

## 8 Election Report

CJ Cole at the request of the President conducted research and produced a final report on the outcome of the 2023 Board of Officers Election. The following documents are the product of her work efforts.

Election Plan 2023

<https://www.venicenc.org/assets/documents/5/meeting648dc3b9309a6.pdf>

Election Expenses:

<https://www.venicenc.org/assets/documents/5/meeting648c41917fc04.pdf>

Election Follow Up Questionnaire:

<https://www.venicenc.org/assets/documents/5/meeting648dc211dd635.pdf>

Questionnaire Results Tally:

<https://www.venicenc.org/assets/documents/5/meeting648c419180a5b.pdf>

## 9 President Report

The meeting tonight has an end time at 9:45 PM unless otherwise announced.

The Preserving Public Places Committee, proposed a subscribing to use a Walking Tour application that all VNC committees would be able to generate maps with markers and meta information. After six months of going through the process, which included VNC Board approval for funding the the subscription, the City Clerk's Office and DONE have agreed the proposal in not in conflict with City Policies and is okay for the VNC to utilize for Outreach. Special thanks to Robin Murez, Chair of the PPP committee and her efforts to push this through the long and winding approval process.

Thank you for community service for the past two years.

## 10 Approval of prior Board Minutes

### Description:

Discussion and possible action, prior Minutes from meetings dated 4/18/2023 linked below.

**Attachments:** minutes: <https://www.venicenc.org/assets/documents/5/meeting643f63fc87169.pdf>

### MOTION:

Board of Officers approves the Meeting Minutes of 4/18/2023 as presented.

**Maker:**

**Second:**

**Voter Tally ( 0 ): Yea:0 / Nay:0 / Abstain:0 / Recuse:0 / Ineligible:0**

### 11 May Board of Officers Meeting Canceled

Due to lack of quorum

### 12 Amended Minutes - also see March 21, 2023 motion for corrections

**Description:**

Follow up to the following request: The Venice Neighborhood Council directs the Secretary in the next 14 days to amend the below listed minutes with corresponding item numbers, and change these Board member votes to "Ineligible:" October 18, 2022 – Regular Board meeting – Thibodeau: items #15, #16 November 15, 2023 – Regular Board meeting – Best: items #9, #18, #19, #21, #23 (both original and alternate), #24 (alternate only), #26 (both original and alternate), – Thibodeau: item #24 (alternate only) December 20, 2022 – Regular Board meeting – Thibodeau: items #5, #6 January 9, 2023 – Special Board meeting – Best: item #7 – Thibodeau: item #7 The amended minutes will be placed on the next following regular (expected April 18, 2023) Board of Officers agenda for ratification by the Board.

**MOTION:**

The Board of Officers approves the amended minutes as presented.

**Maker:**

**Second:**

**Voter Tally ( 0 ): Yea:0 / Nay:0 / Abstain:0 / Recuse:0 / Ineligible:0**

### 13 Treasurer Report

Budget Amount  
\$42,000.00  
Budget: \$32,000.00  
Adjustments: \$10,000.00

Expense-to-Date  
\$37,364.15  
Funding Requests: \$16,116.00  
Credit Card: \$21,248.15

Total Outstanding  
\$421.58  
Commitments: \$0.00  
Pending Payments: \$421.58

Net Available  
\$4,214.27

Visit: [www.VeniceNC.org/Budget](http://www.VeniceNC.org/Budget) for current information.

### 14 Monthly Expenditure Report(s)

**Description:**

The document linked below is the March Monthly Expenditure Report (MER).

**Attachments:** MER:<https://clkrep.lacity.org/ncfunding/mer/6C678455-0722-4553-B930-088CAD776BDCL.pdf>

**MOTION:**

Board of Officers approves the March Monthly Expenditure Reports.

**Maker:**

**Second:**

**Voter Tally ( 0 ): Yea:0 / Nay:0 / Abstain:0 / Recuse:0 / Ineligible:0**

**15 Monthly Expenditure Report(s)**

**Description:**

The document linked below is the April Monthly Expenditure Report (MER).

**Attachments:** MER:<https://clkrep.lacity.org/ncfunding/mer/4A177E86-910D-BF14-690E-331530C907BBL.pdf>

**MOTION:**

Board of Officers approves the April Monthly Expenditure Reports.

**Maker:**

**Second:**

**Voter Tally ( 0 ): Yea:0 / Nay:0 / Abstain:0 / Recuse:0 / Ineligible:0**

**16 Monthly Expenditure Report(s)**

**Description:**

The document linked below is the May Monthly Expenditure Report (MER).

**Attachments:** MER:<https://www.venicenc.org/assets/documents/5/meeting64878f667b68d.pdf>

**MOTION:**

Board of Officers approves the May Monthly Expenditure Reports.

**Maker:**

**Second:**

**Voter Tally ( 0 ): Yea:0 / Nay:0 / Abstain:0 / Recuse:0 / Ineligible:0**

**17 Motions for budgeting and finance as well as ADCOM meetings.**

**Description:**

**Stakeholder:** jay handal **Dated:** 2023-05-11

Motion to move 2500.00 from CIP to office, and move 844.88 from elections to outreach. Discussion and possible motion regarding policies and procedures governing timing, filing and administration of applications for neighborhood purpose grants and community improvement project applications. Discussion and possible motion to do the 2023/4 administrative packet. (see attached)

**MOTION:**

Motion to move 2500.00 from CIP to office, and move 844.88 from elections to outreach.

**Maker:**  
**Second:**  
**Voter Tally ( 0 ): Yea:0 / Nay:0 / Abstain:0 / Recuse:0 / Ineligible:0**

## 18 Budget Admin Packet

**Description:**

**Committee:** Budget & Finance Committee **On:** 2023-05-08 **Vote:**

**Attachments:** Budget:<https://www.venicenc.org/assets/documents/5/meeting6459853d6f8e3.pdf>  
AdminPacket:<https://www.venicenc.org/assets/documents/5/meeting6459853d6f014.pdf>  
Proposed:<https://www.venicenc.org/assets/documents/5/meeting648dec1d69e34.pdf>

**MOTION:**

Discussion and possible motion to approve the 2023/4 administrative packet.  
(see attached)

**Maker:**  
**Second:**  
**Voter Tally ( 0 ): Yea:0 / Nay:0 / Abstain:0 / Recuse:0 / Ineligible:0**

## 19 Announcements and Public Comment on items not on the Agenda

Public comment is limited to 1 minute per speaker with a total comment time not to exceed 20 minutes, unless adjusted by the presiding officer of the Board. No comment on Items appearing on the Agenda. No Board member announcements permitted.

NOTE: The public is strongly advised to bring comments up in committees where time restrictions are more flexible and where recommendations from the public can become the bases of action items for Board consideration.

## 20 General Consent Calendar Items 21-27

All agenda items on the Consent Calendar will pass when the Consent Calendar is approved. No discussion or Public Comment is allowed on any item. Items may be removed by any board member or stakeholder. Removed items will go to the end of the agenda and be treated as regular agenda items with discussion and public comment.

## 21 Resolution to Return to Weekly Street Sweeping Services Near the Boardwalk and Commercial Corridors at Venice Beach

**Description:**

**Committee:** Parking and Transportation Committee **On:** 2023-05-02 **Vote:** 5/0/0

Whereas, Venice Beach, its Boardwalk, and commercial corridors, including Rose Avenue, Abbot Kinney Boulevard, and sections of Main Street, Venice Boulevard, and Washington Boulevard, are major tourist destinations, hosting over 10 million visitors annually; and, Whereas, most of these millions of tourists park along commercial streets and in residential neighborhoods adjacent to these commercial corridors; and, Whereas, these visitors routinely deposit massive amounts of food waste, food wrappers and containers, and beverage bottles on city streets and in gutters next to where they park and along streets and gutters which are the common pathways to and from the Beach, Boardwalk, and restaurants and shops; and, Whereas, the City of Los Angeles unilaterally, without consultation with any neighborhood council, and in direct violation of the requirement contained in the Los Angeles City Charter that the city must consult with neighborhood councils in advance of significant budget decisions, reduced

street sweeping in Venice from once a week to once every two weeks; and, Whereas, the city's pandemic emergency order has been officially voided and Venice can expect that warmer weather this spring and summer will bring a return of tens of thousands of visitors to our beach and community;

**MOTION:**

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved, that the Venice Neighborhood Council calls upon the city to return to once-a-week street sweeping within the entirety of Venice, and upon passage this Resolution a letter shall be sent to Mayor Karen Bass (Mayor.Bass@lacity.org) and Councilmember Traci Park (Councilmember.Park@lacity.org).

**Maker:**

**Second:**

**Voter Tally ( 0 ): Yea:0 / Nay:0 / Abstain:0 / Recuse:0 / Ineligible:0**

**22 REQUEST OF AUDIT OF Sidewalk and Transit Amenities Program (STAP)**

**Description:**

**Committee:** Parking and Transportation Committee **On:** 2023-05-02 **Vote:** 5/0/0

Motion regarding STAP Program/Request for Audit

Whereas the VNC, a member of the Westside Regional Alliance of Councils, is concerned about the current status and management of the STAP program under the new contractor, Tranzito-Vector.

**Attachments:** Overview:<https://eng.lacity.org/about-us/divisions/environmental-management/projects/stap>

CF:<https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=20-1536-S4>

Motion:[https://clkrep.lacity.org/online/docs/2020/20-1536-s4\\_misc\\_12-13-22.pdf](https://clkrep.lacity.org/online/docs/2020/20-1536-s4_misc_12-13-22.pdf)

**MOTION:**

The VNC Board of Officers supports the WRAC request for an audit of the program by the City Controller and Chief Administration Officer's (CAO) office of the revenues and expenditures for this new STAP program, and file a CIS requesting the audit (Council File No. 20-1536-S4).

**Maker:**

**Second:**

**Voter Tally ( 0 ): Yea:0 / Nay:0 / Abstain:0 / Recuse:0 / Ineligible:0**

**23 WRONG-WAY TRAFFIC ON DELL AVENUE, THROUGH THE VENICE CANALS**

**Description:**

**Committee:** Parking and Transportation Committee **On:** 2023-05-03 **Vote:** 5/0/0

REQUEST THAT THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES COME UP WITH A SOLUTION TO STOP THE WRONG-WAY TRAFFIC ON DELL AVENUE, THROUGH THE VENICE CANALS, BETWEEN 28TH AVE AND SOUTH VENICE BLVD.

**MOTION:**

WHEREAS, wrong-way (south-bound) traffic on Dell Avenue through the Venice Canals, results in confusion and collisions; and WHEREAS, recently there have been at least two serious accidents on the bridge over Carroll Canal. Be it resolved, The Venice Neighborhood Council requests the City of Los Angeles address this safety issue with a solution to stop wrong-way traffic on Dell Avenue, through the Venice Canals, between 28th Avenue and South Venice Blvd.

**Maker:**

**Second:**

**Voter Tally ( 0 ): Yea:0 / Nay:0 / Abstain:0 / Recuse:0 / Ineligible:0**

**24 VENICE LIFEGUARD STATION HISTORIC CULTURAL MONUMENT MOTION**

**Description:**

**Committee:** Preserving Public Places **On:** 2023-05-08 **Vote:** 4/0/0

Whereas the iconic, architecturally, culturally and historically significant Venice Lifeguard Headquarters Tower located at 2300 Ocean Front Walk is a 3 story building, built in 1968, is owned by the City of Los Angeles, within Council District 11 and leased to the County of Los Angeles Department of Beaches and Harbors for use by the Los Angeles Lifeguards through a Joint Powers Agreement; Whereas the building is identified as historic by the Office of Historic Resources, Los Angeles Office of Planning with QQQ designation, indicating that comparable lifeguard sites must be identified to complete the full Historic Cultural Monument designation; Whereas, the office of District 11 of the Los Angeles City Council and the Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks, in agreement with the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, have notified the Los Angeles County Department of Beaches and Harbors that no demolition is to be conducted to any portion of the historic Lifeguard Station including its tower; Whereas, the Los Angeles Conservancy has requested that the California Coastal Commission rescind the de minimis waiver it issued to the County in July 2022, to demolish the tower, only, erroneously stating County ownership and authority to demolish; Whereas overwhelming community support, including signatures of over 1,480 neighbors and the unanimous motion of the Venice Neighborhood Council for saving and, if not needed for lifeguard services, repurposing the tower portion as a community asset. Repurposing the Lifeguard Tower as a community asset would create an exceptional cultural enrichment, environmental and educational venue for the entire community, including residents and visitors of all ages and cultural heritages. The Tower provides an outstanding, and unmatched, expansive view of Santa Monica Bay;

**Attachments:** :<https://www.venicenc.org/assets/documents/5/committee648cabfb70098.pdf>  
:<https://www.venicenc.org/assets/documents/5/committee6451a378b0116.pdf>  
:<https://www.venicenc.org/ppp>

**MOTION:**

The Venice Neighborhood Council, Board of Officers requests that the City of Los Angeles designate the Venice Lifeguard Station as an Historic Cultural Monument under Section 22.171.10 of the Administrative Code. Application for nomination is being prepared to be submitted by the Venice Neighborhood Council with the Los Angeles Conservancy.

**Maker:**

**Second:**

**Voter Tally ( 0 ): Yea:0 / Nay:0 / Abstain:0 / Recuse:0 / Ineligible:0**

**25 Public Trees Restoration**



**Description:**

**Committee:** Preserving Public Places **On:** 2023-05-08 **Vote:** 4/0/0

Whereas trees reduce Carbon Dioxide in the environment, eliminate dust in the atmosphere, reduce traffic noise, retain and filter water in the soil, provide shade which cools the city, provide homes to the myriad birds and creatures essential to biodiversity and beautify our urban environment; and Whereas the owner and or developer/contractor/construction company of the House of Pies construction site has removed and destroyed 4 mature trees from City of Los Angeles property at the southwest corner of Venice and Lincoln Boulevard, which constitutes a prominent entry into the Venice Neighborhood, without obtaining a permit and in contradiction to representations made to the VNC; Whereas these trees were 30 years old, of substantial size and installed and watered by the Venice community members in conjunction with the City, State and non profits organizations including Tree People with our tax dollars and grant funding;

**MOTION:**

The Venice Neighborhood Council requests that the City of Los Angeles cause the proper enforcement agencies, including but not limited to the Department of Public Works, the Department of Building and Safety, the Coastal Commission, the Los Angeles Police Department and the County Sheriff, any other relevant agency, to levy fines against this developer that are sufficient to replace the trees 2 to 1 with 48" box Sycamores or the largest possible, which ever is greater, including removal of stumps, enlargement of the tree wells, widening of the sidewalk and maintenance of the trees to maturity (10 years). We further ask that this owner and developer's certificate of occupancy and building permits be withheld until the completion of the planting of the new trees is accomplished.

**Maker:**

**Second:**

**Voter Tally ( 0 ): Yea:0 / Nay:0 / Abstain:0 / Recuse:0 / Ineligible:0**

**26 "Tow Away No Stopping Any Time" signage removal on Hurricane St, Venice**

**Description:**

**Committee:** Parking and Transportation Committee **On:** 2023-06-06 **Vote:** 4/0/0

There has always been limited parking on hurricane St between Pacific Ave. and the Grand Canal due to the presence of the Venice Pumping Plant (VPP). Based upon a request made by a MDR resident who DOES NOT live on Hurricane St (and therefore is not directly impacted), the City undertook a study and made determination to remove parking from the south side of Hurricane St between Pacific Ave and the alley east of Pacific Ave. There was no community notification or input. Further, there have not been any recent incidents that would merit this decision. Coincidentally (or not), the city has incorporated plans for a public parking lot on the 128 Hurricane St lot as part of the upcoming VAPP project ownership of which they are trying to obtain through eminent domain. There is NO community support for this parking lot. We are concerned that the removal of the street parking will further justify the existence of this parking lot. We seek the VNC's support with Traci Park and the DOT.

**MOTION:**

VNC send a letter to council offices, Traci Park, Jeff Khan, Shawn Silva, LADOT, and BOE, as outlined above.

**Maker:**

**Second:**

**Voter Tally ( 0 ): Yea:0 / Nay:0 / Abstain:0 / Recuse:0 / Ineligible:0**

**Parking Space Replacement Policy / Department of Transportation Parking Facilities / 25 Spaces or Greater / Transfer / Housing Department / Affordable or Supportive Housing / Los Angeles Administrativ**

**Description:**

**Committee:** Parking and Transportation Committee **On:** 2023-06-06 **Vote:**

This motion states that when an LADOT parking lot is used to create housing, that the new project isn't mandated to replace the parking that was taken away during the redevelopment. The motion was heard by the full Council and passed on May 23,2023. The motion was amended by Councilmember Blumenfield, who brought up parking lots in Reseda that are slated to be redeveloped into housing. The amendment states that promises were made to the community that those parking spaces be replaced. This motion is of importance to Venice because of the number of LADOT parking lots in our neighborhoods.

Whereas, the city recently passed CF 23-0360, which allows development of all city owned parking lots without replacing the existing public parking they provided. Whereas, the developer of the Venice Dell project promised to the Venice community to replace the existing parking as part of their development plans.

**Attachments:** file:<https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=23-0360>

**MOTION:**

Board of Officers submits a CIS to oppose CF-23-0360 and the parking spaces in LADOT Lot 731 be retained as promised.

**Maker:**

**Second:**

**Voter Tally ( 0 ): Yea:0 / Nay:0 / Abstain:0 / Recuse:0 / Ineligible:0**

**28 Old Business**

**29 1338 Electric Ave.**

**Description:**

**Committee:** Land Use & Planning Committee **On:** 2023-02-02 **Vote:** Yes 8-0-0-0

PARTIAL DEMO AND ADDITION OF 2 STORY. CHANGE OF USE TO ADD ADU  
\*According to Applicant, ADU is no longer being sought. LUPC motion expressly excludes from recommendation. See Staff Report for additional information and case materials.

**Attachments:** plans:<https://www.venicenc.org/assets/documents/5/meeting63deee41d8517.pdf>

**MOTION:**

The VNC Board of Officers recommends approval of the project without an ADU and with the following findings: (a) that while site characteristics or existing improvements make strict adherence to the zoning regulations impractical or infeasible, the project nonetheless conforms with the intent of those regulations; (b) that in light of the project as a whole, including any mitigation measures imposed, the project's location, size, height, operations and other significant features will be compatible with and will not adversely affect or further degrade adjacent properties, the surrounding neighborhood, or the public health, welfare, and safety; and (c) that the project is in substantial conformance with the purpose, intent and provisions of the General Plan, the applicable community plan and any applicable specific plan.

**Maker:**

Second:

**Voter Tally ( 0 ): Yea:0 / Nay:0 / Abstain:0 / Recuse:0 / Ineligible:0**

### 30 723 Ocean Front Walk

**Description:**

**Committee:** Land Use & Planning Committee **On:** 2023-04-06 **Vote:** 6-0-1-0-0  
(abstentio)

CPC-2022-5893-CU-DB-CDP-SPP-MEL-HCA CONSTRUCTION, USE AND MAINTENANCE OF A 3-STORY, MIXED-USE BLDG WITH 16 FOR-RENT RESIDENTIAL UNIT ABOVE 16 STACKED PARKING SPACES AND 1,574 SF OF GROUND FLOOR COMMERCIAL SPACE

**Attachments:** Plans: <https://planning.lacity.org/pdiscaseinfo/document/MzkwNjl0/532fbe86-06a9-44b1-8001-06cd07316c90/esubmit>

Renderings: <https://planning.lacity.org/pdiscaseinfo/document/MzkwNjA0/532fbe86-06a9-44b1-8001-06cd07316c90/esubmit>

**MOTION:**

The VNC Board of Officers recommends approval of the project as presented.

Maker:

Second:

**Voter Tally ( 0 ): Yea:0 / Nay:0 / Abstain:0 / Recuse:0 / Ineligible:0**

### 31 2308 Pisani Place

**Description:**

**Committee:** Land Use & Planning Committee **On:** 2023-03-02 **Vote:** 7-0-0-0

DEMOLISH (3) DUPLEX STRUCTURES AND CONSTRUCT 8 RESIDENTIAL CONDOMINIUM UNITS UTILIZING ON AND OFF MENU DENSITY BONUS

**Attachments:** Plans: <https://www.venicenc.org/assets/documents/5/meeting63fd483b3935a.pdf>

Findings: <https://www.venicenc.org/assets/documents/5/meeting63fd4800c5d44.pdf>

Renderings: <https://www.venicenc.org/assets/documents/5/meeting63fd4800c617a.pdf>

Report: <https://www.venicenc.org/assets/documents/5/meeting63fd4800c8692.pdf>

**MOTION:**

The VNC Board of Officers recommends approval of the project as presented.

Maker:

Second:

**Voter Tally ( 0 ): Yea:0 / Nay:0 / Abstain:0 / Recuse:0 / Ineligible:0**

### 32 4819 Ocean Front Walk

**Description:**

**Committee:** Land Use & Planning Committee **On:** 2023-01-26 **Vote:** 6-0-0-0-0

DIR-2022-7644-CDP-SPP REMODEL AND ADDITION TO A TWO-STORY HOUSE, RESULTING IN A THREE-STORY DWELLING WITH A ROOFTOP DECK AND ROOF ACCESS STRUCTURE

**Attachments:** Planning: <https://planning.lacity.org/pdiscaseinfo/caseid/MjYxOTM30>

**MOTION:**

The VNC Board of Officers recommends approval of the project as presented.

**Maker:**

**Second:**

**Voter Tally ( 0 ): Yea:0 / Nay:0 / Abstain:0 / Recuse:0 / Ineligible:0**

**33 LUPC Consent Calendar, Items 34-35 (Items pulled will be returned to committee.)**

**34 Den Minimus Consent Calendar from June 1, 2023 LUPC Meeting**

**Description:**

**Committee:** Land Use & Planning Committee **On:** 2023-06-01 **Vote:** Yea

516 E. Boccaccio; DIR-2022-4435-CDP-MEL-HCA; New accessory dwelling unit;

815 Angelus Pl.; ADM-2023-369-VSO; First and second story addition with roof deck;

241 E Horizon Ave; DIR-2023-685-CDP-MEL-HCA; Converting the lower level 450 SF. Storage area of an existing duplex into an ADU. New windows to comply with egress.;

19 E Driftwood St; DIR-2023-717-CDP-MEL-HCA; The conversion of an existing basement storage space into an ADU within an existing duplex in the r3-1 zone;

540 E Sunset Ave; DIR-2023-799-CDP-MEL; Demolition an existing detached rear dwelling unit; detached shed and detached shade canopy and construct a new two-story SFD unit in the rear portion of the lot.;

2339 Abbot Kinney; DIR-2022-8511-CDP-MEL-HCA; Conversion of a three car garage to an accessory dwelling unit

736 Brooks Ave.; DIR-2023-2075-CDP-MEL-HCA A 584 SQ FT addition to an existing one-story SFD and new detached 725 SQ FT 3-car garage with a second story 707 SQ FT ADU in the Venice Coastal Zone zoned RD1.5-1

961 Marco PI DIR-2023-1774-SPP 338 SF remodel of an existing 374 SF SFD, to include 58 SF of demolition and 36 SF of addition located in the Venice Coastal Zone zoned C2-1

674 Olive St DIR-2023-2770-CDP-MEL-HCA Convert existing garage into ADU

20 Washington Blvd ADM-2023-2862-RBPA Administrative clearance under the restaurant beverage program (RBP) to allow the sale and dispensing of alcoholic beverages for on-site consumption in conjunction with a restaurant

838 Marco PI DIR-2023-2977-SPP Conversion of an existing 116 SF outdoor space to living area and the addition of a 336 SF outdoor deck with a trellis

733 Flower Ave DIR-2023-3021-CDP-MEL-HCA Conversion of an existing garage into an ADU with a 72 SF addition;

221 Dimmick Ave; DIR-2023-3040-CDP; The major remodel of an existing single-family dwelling and construction, use, and maintenance of a second story addition.

4716 Lincoln Blvd ADM-2023-3431-RBPA Administrative clearance under the restaurant beverage program (RBP) to allow the sale and dispensing of alcoholic beverages for on-site consumption in conjunction with a restaurant

644 Westminster DIR-2023-3293-CDP-MEL-HCA New detached one story ADU with a rooftop deck

**MOTION:**

The VNC Board of Officers approves issuing de minimus letters for the above list of LUPC cases.

**Maker:**

**Second:**

**Voter Tally ( 0 ): Yea:0 / Nay:0 / Abstain:0 / Recuse:0 / Ineligible:0**

**35 De Minimus Case Consent Calendar from 4/6/2023 Meeting**

**Description:**

**Committee:** Land Use & Planning Committee **On:** 2023-04-06 **Vote:** Consent (unanimous)

LUPC Recommends VNC issue de minimus letter for below cases, which were discussed at 4/6/2023 meeting and approved on consent.

338 E. Indiana Ave DIR-2021-10627-CDP-MEL-HCA; ADM-2021-10629-VSO  
CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW TWO-STORY DUPLEX WITH 5 PARKING SPACES

**MOTION:**

The VNC Board of Officers approves issuing de minimus letters for the above list of LUPC cases.

**Maker:**

**Second:**

**Voter Tally ( 0 ): Yea:0 / Nay:0 / Abstain:0 / Recuse:0 / Ineligible:0**

**36 LUPC New Business**

**37 WRAC Motion re: Community Plan update requests**

**Description:**

**Committee:** Land Use & Planning Committee **On:** 2023-06-01 **Vote:** 5/0/1

Background Information:

**Attachments:** file:<https://westsidecouncils.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/Background-Report-CP-Updates.pdf>

**MOTION:**

The Venice Neighborhood Council requests, on behalf of the stakeholders it represents, that prior to the completion of Community Plan updates, the City inform communities of the methodology by which it determines the allocation of RHNA numbers and the calculations that derive density housing goals in order to meet the aims of the Housing Element. These include, for each Community Plan and Community or Neighborhood Council area:

A) Current zoning capacity (including existing density bonuses & commercial zones that allow residential uses) and reasonably expected population change.

B) The methodology which will be used to allocate RHNA growth numbers.

C) RHNA allocation of units in each community. We also urge the Planning Department to thoughtfully consider the input (submitted by previous written comment or imparted in real time) of Neighborhood and Community Councils as

well as stakeholders that come together for the purpose of contributing to the Community Plan update process with informed and productive input, insight and/or suggestions. This essential input must be implemented by Planning staff, and the contributions reflected by being substantively included in the outcome/drafting of revised Community Plans. We urge that a report back mechanism be implemented by Planning staff, in order to inform communities of where and how their input has been received and incorporated into the final drafting process. We would like to understand the role of the Westside Community Plan Advisory Group (WCPAG) and be assured that the WCPAG's voice will not outweigh that of local stakeholders.

**Maker:**

**Second:**

**Voter Tally ( 0 ): Yea:0 / Nay:0 / Abstain:0 / Recuse:0 / Ineligible:0**

### 38 WRAC LUPC-recommended motion

**Description:**

The Westside Regional Alliance of Councils (WRAC) has long supported addressing the affordable housing crisis in California, and while we recognize the need for positive solutions to the state's affordable housing crisis, specifically as it relates to workforce and low-to-moderate income housing, we believe solutions should involve legislation that:

- 1) focuses on increasing the production and supply of truly affordable housing;
- 2) does not compromise public safety or the environment; and
- 3) respects principles of democracy, local land use control and self-determination of local governments to expand housing opportunities unique to their jurisdictions\* The WRAC LUPC has therefore passed the motion as shown below.

**Attachments:** CF:<https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=23-0002-S30>

Resolution:[https://clkrep.lacity.org/online/docs/2023/23-0002-S30\\_misc\\_2-15-23.pdf](https://clkrep.lacity.org/online/docs/2023/23-0002-S30_misc_2-15-23.pdf)

CLA\_Report:[https://clkrep.lacity.org/online/docs/2023/23-0002-S30\\_misc\\_3-6-23.pdf](https://clkrep.lacity.org/online/docs/2023/23-0002-S30_misc_3-6-23.pdf)

**MOTION:**

The Venice NC Board of Officers supports a letter to Traci Park and Katy Yaroslavsky and copied to the entire Council, urging them to bring a resolution in City Council and to amend CF 23-0002-S30 regarding their support of SB4. The amendment should incorporate the following:

1. Zoning for any lot would be the same as the least restrictive zoning of an adjacent lot.
2. Any lot on which a Religious Institution and/or Higher Education Institution seeks to build, must be owned by the Institution on or before the date SB4 is adopted into law.
3. Compliance with the Coastal Act.
4. Religious Institutions or Non-Profits who own property located in the Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone (VHFHSZ) shall not be permitted to develop their property under SB4's provisions.

A CSI will be submitted to CF 23-0002-S30

**Maker:**

**Second:**

**Voter Tally ( 0 ): Yea:0 / Nay:0 / Abstain:0 / Recuse:0 / Ineligible:0**

## 39 New Business

### 40 Motion requesting City Attorney seek advisory opinion regarding conflict of interest

#### Description:

**Stakeholder:** Michael Jensen **Dated:** 2023-05-30

#### Summary

This motion requests that the City Attorney obtain an advisory opinion from the Fair Political Practices Commission ("FPPC") relating to conflict of interests of "decisionmakers" under Title 2 of the California Code of Regulations ("CCR"), section 18700(a) and 18700(c). A city attorney request for an advisory opinion from the FPPC is routine practice (opinions are available here: <https://www.fppc.ca.gov/advice/opinion-search.html>), but the Los Angeles City Attorney has never before made this request to the FPPC.

Instead, the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment ("DONE") has ruled without a coherent explanation that NCs are subject to section 18700(a), and therefore subject to conflict of interest regulations imposed on "decisionmakers." Over the years, DONE's position has not always been consistent. Regardless of whether DONE is correct or not, the City Attorney can request the FPPC issue an advisory opinion, which is what this motion requests.

#### Background

The following is my legal analysis of the relevant CCRs, which DONE has not yet substantively addressed since this question was posed to DONE in March 2023. The rules references below are separately available in supporting documents and are appended to this document. The use of the "Basic Rule" with a general prohibition in 18700(a) instead of the specific rule that includes exception in Section 18700(c)(2)(A) is somewhat confusing and does not square with at least two rules of statutory construction:

- the specific over the general should prevail; and
- every word and every provision is to be given effect (i.e., no interpretation that results in surplusage).

First, the prohibition to "make, participate in making, or in any way use or attempt to use the official's position to influence a governmental decision" in 18700(a) is, in its own words, the "Basic Rule." "Public official" is the term used in that section. Elsewhere, in subsection (c) specifically targeted at "conflict of interest prohibitions," the term "member" is defined with several exclusions set forth in 18700(c)(2)(A).

Mysteriously, the term "member" is not used at all in 18702.2 (nor seemingly anywhere else, except the definition of "public official"). 18702.2 uses the entirely undefined term "official" and "government official." Based on a plain reading of the respective definitions of "member" and "public official," it would appear the former is a category of the latter. In any event, 18702.2 only creates more confusion by using "official," "government official," and "public official" throughout the lengthy rule.

Second, if 18700(a) is applied so broadly, there would be no use for 18700(c)(2)(A). Indeed, what is a plausible example of someone in 18700(c)(2)(A)(iii) if not a member of an advisory NC? Section 907 of the Charter grants NCs authority to "participate" in decision-making, vis-a-vis their authority to provide recommendations to various city agencies, including City Council. This exactly what is contemplated by §18700(c)(2)(A)(iii).

Following that logic, an NC is a decisionmaker only if it "makes substantive recommendations and, over an extended period of time, those recommendations have been regularly approved without significant amendment or modification by another public official or governmental agency?" In fact, quite the opposite is

true. The better example here would be a planning commission that directly advises a city council, and whose recommendations are consistently followed.

In sum, the application of section 18700(a) to NCs is likely incorrect. If DONE and the City Attorney's office disagrees, the City Attorney could simply make the official inquiry that could end this debate. For those reasons, this motion is being offered to request this process be initiated.

**Attachments:** CCR:<https://www.venicenc.org/assets/documents/5/meeting648e14b1f2321.pdf>  
CCR:<https://www.venicenc.org/assets/documents/5/meeting648e14b1f0064.pdf>  
CCR:<https://www.venicenc.org/assets/documents/5/meeting648e14b1f208a.pdf>  
CCR:<https://www.venicenc.org/assets/documents/5/meeting648e14b1f2d08.pdf>  
CCR:<https://www.venicenc.org/assets/documents/5/meeting648e14b1f1ddc.pdf>  
CCR:<https://www.venicenc.org/assets/documents/5/meeting648e14b1f298c.pdf>  
CCR:<https://www.venicenc.org/assets/documents/5/meeting648e14b1f261d.pdf>  
CCR:<https://www.venicenc.org/assets/documents/5/meeting648e14b1f19ac.pdf>  
Summary & <https://www.venicenc.org/assets/documents/5/meeting648e15fb9de70.pdf>  
Background:

**MOTION:**

**WHEREAS**, the Venice Neighborhood Council ("VNC") was created among 99 community and neighborhood councils, pursuant to the City of Los Angeles Charter Amendment in 1999.

**WHEREAS**, since 1999, the VNC has made hundreds of recommendations to City Council, Department of City Planning, and Council District 11 offices ("City Agencies").

**WHEREAS**, City Agencies do not rely on recommendations from the VNC and have disregarded VNC recommendations or conditions entirely on major projects. Recent examples of this include: 720 Rose Ave. CPC-2018-2140-CU-DB-CDP-SPP-MEL 2467 Lincoln Blvd. CPC-2018-7344-GPAJ-VZCJ-HD-SP-SPP-CDP-MEL-SPR-PHP 2102 Pacific Ave CPC-2019-6069-CU-DB-CDP-CDO-SPP-MEL-WDI-PHP

**WHEREAS**, the Fair Political Practices Commission ("FPCC") promulgates state regulations regarding conflicts of interest under Title 2 of the California Code of Regulations ("CCR"), section 18700, et seq., including local governmental decision making bodies.

**WHEREAS**, CCR section 18700(c)(2) states: (A) A committee, board, commission, group, or other body possesses decisionmaking authority whenever: (i) It may make a final governmental decision; (ii) It may compel or prevent a governmental decision either by reason of an exclusive power to initiate the decision or by reason of a veto that may not be overridden; or (iii) It makes substantive recommendations and, over an extended period of time, those recommendations have been regularly approved without significant amendment or modification by another public official or governmental agency. (B) A committee, board, commission, group, or other body does not possess decisionmaking authority if it is formed or engaged for the sole purpose of researching a topic and preparing a report or recommendation for submission to another public official or governmental agency that has final decisionmaking authority, and does not meet any of the criteria set forth in subsection (2)(A)(i-iii).

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment ("DONE") contends: Under the City Charter Section 907, the role of the NCs is to make recommendations to various City decision-makers including City boards, commissions, City Council committees and the City Council. This role falls within the "make, participate in making, or in any way use or attempt to use the official's position to influence a governmental decision" provision of the Political Reform Act (2 CCR §18700(a)). Essentially, since the Neighborhood Councils have been delegated the authority to make "government decisions," even the board members' votes on "non-governmental" or purely advisory recommendations will be subject to the conflict-of-interest provisions. For example, a purely advisory recommendation to a City Council Committee regarding an approval or



conditional use permit for a project located within the boundaries of the Neighborhood Council would require the NC board members to comply with disqualification requirements.

**WHEREAS**, the City Attorney may request an advisory opinion from the FPCC interpreting whether neighborhood and community councils have decisionmaking authority under the CCR.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, VNC requests that the City Attorney send a request for an advisory opinion to the Fair Political Practices Commission addressing whether neighborhood and community councils are considered to have decisionmaking authority under CCR section 18700(c).

**Maker:**

**Second:**

**Voter Tally ( 0 ): Yea:0 / Nay:0 / Abstain:0 / Recuse:0 / Ineligible:0**

#### **41 Committee Chair Reports**

06:44

##### **Standing Committees:**

- Budget & Finance
- Land Use & Planning
- Neighborhood
- Ocean Front Walk
- Outreach & Event Planning
- Rules & Selections
- Arts

##### **Ad Hoc Committees:**

- Community Resiliency Committee
- Homelessness Committee
- Parking and Transportation Committee
- Venice Arbor Committee
- Discussion Forum Committee  
Rev. John Palka, information about new Children's Park located at the Lutheran Church site which was recently opened to public use.
- Preserving Public Places

**Election Report:** Michael Lynn, Elections@VeniceNC.org

#### **42 Board of Officer Comments, Items not on the Agenda**

#### **43 Adjournment**

**Approximate Ending: 10:33**

**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 213.473.5391.

**PUBLIC ACCESS OF RECORDS:** In compliance with Government Code section 54957.5 the agenda and non-exempt writings that are distributed to a majority or all of the board members in advance of regular and special meetings may be viewed at Beyond Baroque (681 Venice Blvd), and the VNC website (<http://www.venicenc.org>), or at the scheduled meeting. For a copy of any record related to an item on the agenda, please contact [Communications@VeniceNC.org](mailto:Communications@VeniceNC.org). You can also receive our agendas via email by subscribing to L.A. City's Early Notification System at: <https://lacity.gov/government/subscribe-agendas/neighborhood-councils>

**PUBLIC INPUT AT NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MEETINGS:** The public is requested to fill out a "Speaker Card" to address the Neighborhood Committee on any agenda item before the Neighborhood 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 Neighborhood Committee jurisdiction will be heard during the General Public Comment period. Please note that under the Brown Act, the Neighborhood 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 Neighborhood Committee meeting. Public comment is limited to 30 seconds 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; and at our website by clicking on the following link: [www.venicenc.org](http://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](http://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 [Secretary@VeniceNC.org](mailto:Secretary@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](http://www.venicenc.org).