



# Venice Neighborhood Council

PO Box 550, Venice, CA 90294

www.VeniceNC.org



## Board of Officers Regular Meeting Agenda

**6:30-9:30 PM December 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023**  
**Westminster Elementary School**  
**1010 Abbot Kinney Blvd Venice, CA 90291**  
(enter from parking lot on Westminster Ave)

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.

### 1. CALL TO ORDER AND BOARD ROLL CALL

Brian Averill	Alley Bean	Yolanda Gonzalez	Bruno Hernandez
Jim Robb	Lisa Redmond	Deborah Keaton	Jason Sugars
Helen Fallon	Robert Thibodeau	Eric Donaldson	Christopher Lee
Tima Bell	Erica Moore	Amara Hordt	
Michael Jensen	Clark Brown	CJ Cole	
Nico Ruderman	Steve Bradbury	Soledad Ursua	

### 2. APPROVAL OF PRIOR MINUTES.

<https://www.venicenc.org/assets/documents/5/meeting655d6882d5843.pdf>

### 3. DECLARATION OF EX PARTE COMMUNICATIONS, CONFLICTS OF INTEREST OR RECUSALS

### 4. PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS

### 5. GOVERNMENT REPORTS

### 6. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

### 7. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT – LIMIT TO 20MIN/1MIN PER SPEAKER

Comments from the public on non-agenda items within the Board's subject matter jurisdiction. Each speaker will be allowed one (1) minute unless adjusted by the presiding officer of the meeting.

### 8. TREASURER'S REPORT



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## 9. GENERAL CONSENT CALENDAR

**A. MOTION:** The VNC Board of Officers approves the November 2023 Monthly Expenditure Report (MER). See supporting documents.

**B. MOTION:** The VNC Board of Officers supports Empower's budget proposal to provide LA City-provided public e-mail addresses for all NC Board Members and authorizes the filing of a CIS when the Council file is available.

## 10. LUPC CONSENT CALENDAR

Pursuant to Rule 3 of the VNC Standing Rules, "Projects which comply with the development standards of the VCZSP or which LUPC determines to be de minimis shall be placed on the board consent calendar without requiring a LUPC hearing or preparation of a LUPC report."

These cases (in LUPC supporting docs) comply with the VCZSP and are therefore recommended as de minimus.

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 be treated as regular agenda items with discussion and public comment.

## OLD BUSINESS

### 11. (A) CIS COUNCIL FILE 21-1469-S2 (ALTERNATIVE SIDEWALK CORRECTIVE MEASURES / SIDEWALK REPAIRS)

Parking and Transportation (4-0-0)

The City's Sidewalk Repair Program is the primary means by which the City plans and conducts repairs to the City's sidewalk system. Over the past decade, much of the City's Sidewalk Repair Program has been dictated by the terms of the Willits Settlement which sets annual funding minimums for sidewalk repair work and by responding to resident complaints or trip-and-fall incidents.

The Los Angeles City Council has ordered a series of reports instructing bureaus and departments to report with recommendations to better implement the Willits Settlement, improve how the City prioritizes sidewalk repair projects, enhance sidewalk maintenance coordination with developers, property owners, and other public agencies, and ensure that accessibility improvements are incorporated into other City projects in the public right-of-way (C.F. 21-1469).

While the City is reviewing and updating sidewalk repair and maintenance policies, it is important that the City take action to expedite necessary repairs not imminently in the queue under the Sidewalk Repair Program. The City should deploy all available tools to improve the conditions of our sidewalks in the short- and long-term and should ensure it is making use of

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newer sidewalk repair methodologies which may have advantages over traditional asphalt spot repairs.

**Motion:** The City’s sidewalks are notoriously broken, creating hazards for people in wheelchairs, on foot, and on bicycles. Despite the Willits Settlement, the City of Los Angeles is still painfully slow at repairing its sidewalks. Therefore, the Venice Neighborhood Council supports Council File 21-1469-S2 and the exploration and use of alternative sidewalk corrective measures, including diamond and precision concrete cutting, to more quickly address sidewalk repairs.

## **(B) TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES REPORT, VENICE COASTAL ZONE**

Parking and Transportation (4-0-0)

In November 2021, Fehr and Peers was hired by the City of Los Angeles, to analyze and make recommendations regarding the management of parking resources in the Venice Coastal Zone. See attached report in supporting documents section of the PTC page on the VNC site.

**Motion:** Whereas parking is a valuable resource in the Coastal Zone, proper management is essential. The PTC recommends that the Venice neighborhood Council supports the parking and transportation management strategies outlined in the November 2021 report by Fehr and Peers, prepared for the City of Los Angeles, Department of City Planning, titled 'Parking Utilization and Transportation Management Strategies Report, Venice Coastal Zone'. Furthermore, the Venice Neighborhood Council recommends that the City of Los Angeles, Department of City Planning, adopt the recommendations as part of the community plan and implementation plan update. The Venice Neighborhood Council also requests the City of Los Angeles, Department of City Planning, work closely with the Venice community during the implementation of the outlined strategies. Letters of support from the VNC to: CD11, the Mayor’s Office, Department of City Planning (Laura McPherson), LADOT

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **12. OFW COMMITTEE**

#### **A. MOTION TO REDUCE TRASH ON VENICE BEACH (4-0-0)**

The Venice volunteer group "Clean Up the Beach," founded by Makayla Cox, has adopted Venice Beach and has committed to monthly beach clean-ups since September 2022. Ms. Cox has discovered two conditions at Venice Beach that contribute to an increase in the amount of litter.

WHEREAS,

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1. There are wooden posts, partially hollow at the top, adjoining the parking lot at Venice Blvd. which are frequently used as trash receptacles and thus require frequent clearing of trash and;
2. The current trash cans used on Venice Beach do not have attached sturdy lids, which leads to animals and people going through them, occasionally dropping trash on the ground.

THEREFORE the VNC asks that the City Council provide financial support to the Recreation and Parks Department to either replace or cover the hollow wooden posts located on the perimeter of the Boardwalk and the North Venice parking lot in order to decrease their use as trash receptacles and that the City Council replace the current trash cans on the Venice Boardwalk with trash receptacles that have attached sturdy lids, in order to avoid trash being rummaged through and falling to the ground with letters sent to CD11 and LARP.

## **B. MOTION TO RESTRICT MOTORIZED SCOOTERS, BIKES, MINI BIKES, AND MOTORCYCLES FROM THE BOARDWALK AND BIKE PATH (4-0-0)**

WHEREAS, the Venice Boardwalk, also known as Ocean Front Walk (OFW), is solely for pedestrian use, and the Bike Path is solely for bicycles, and motorized scooters, bikes, mini bikes and motorcycles are a danger to people on OFW that are walking and a danger to the people on the Bike Path that are riding human powered bikes;

WHEREAS, motorized and electric items available at stores on OFW should be geo-fenced/ programmed to stay off the Boardwalk and the Bike Path, giving these store owners a year is sufficient time for them to adjust their inventory and abide by the current ordinance (CVC 21207.5, that motorized bicycles may not be used on trails, bike path, or lanes);

WHEREAS, if these store owners do not abide to geo-fencing within a year, there should be tickets given to the businesses, or they are to shut down their rental of said items.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Venice Neighborhood Council send letters to CD11, LAPD, LARP, LADOT & the Venice BID asking that this issue be resolved by Spring of 2024, and that the city shall enforce the current ordinance which bars motorized vehicles on OFW and bike path and evaluate if new ordinances are necessary to stop this and further, that the city require these rental companies to notify customers where they may ride, and inform them that they will be ticketed if they ride on the bike path or on OFW.

## **13. HOMELESSNESS COMMITTEE**

### **A. CIS COUNCIL FILE 23-0914**

Motion: The Venice Neighborhood Council supports CF 23-0914 which calls for recommendations for a citywide program to designate streets where RVs/oversize vehicles can safely park with access to services, including housing navigation, portable restrooms, automotive repair and septic tank disposal. The program would also restrict RV parking in residential and other sensitive areas. Venice and other neighborhoods throughout the City have

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been impacted by increased RV parking with lack of support services, which can in some cases result in illegal discharge of hazardous substances into storm drains and public rights-of-way, loss of parking for non-vehicle dwellers, reduced line-of-sight at intersections and driveways and other impacts. Therefore, the VNC supports CF 23-0914.

## **B. CIS COUNCIL FILE 23-0730**

Motion: The Venice Neighborhood Council supports CF 23-0730 to create a RV Rehousing Pilot in the 11th Council District. The most recent Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) Point-in-Time Count shows a 40% increase since 2018 in the numbers of people experiencing homelessness in RVs. Due to the environmental, health, and safety risks to both those living in RVs and to nearby residents, the VNC supports this motion in order to provide solutions such as RV safe parking, RV storage, and both interim and permanent supportive housing for those living in RVs. The VNC also specifically requests that the RV Rehousing Pilot be implemented in areas in Venice, if possible, where people are experiencing RV homelessness.

## **14. RULES AND SELECTION COMMITTEE**

(All passed 4-0-0)

**A. MOTION:** The Venice Neighborhood Council Board of Officers approves the submitted changes amending ARTICLE 5: GOVERNING BOARD, Section 7 of the previously adopted (7/1/22) VNC Bylaws. (see supporting documents for proposed changes)

**B. MOTION:** The Board of Officer hereby adds the following to its Standing Rules: All Chair and/or Board appointed representatives to outside organizations, committees, alliances, coalitions, etc., will have their names and related representation listed on the VNC website so Stakeholders may know who to contact regarding associated issues. All appointed representatives will provide the Board with a brief written monthly report that will be included in the supporting documents of each month's Board agenda. The presiding officer will determine which written reports, if any, will be presented during the monthly Board meeting.

**C. MOTION:** The Board of Officers hereby adds the following to its Standing Rules: Motions from both Standing and Ad Hoc VNC Committees will be pulled from the Board agenda if said committee's minutes reflecting said motion are not posted at least 72 hours prior to the Board meeting.

## **15. PARKING AND TRANSPORTATION**

### **A. CIS COUNCIL FILE 23-1168**

AB 645 requires cities to adopt a comprehensive Speedy Safety System Use Policy, approve a Speed Safety System Impact Report, and administer a public information campaign prior to the implementation and installation of speed safety systems, including the use of automated speed enforcement (ASE) devices. In 2022, 312 people were killed in car crashes in the City. These deaths predominantly impact people walking, people biking, people of color, and people from low-income communities. This alarming statistic marked the highest rate of such incidents in

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over two decades, with car crashes now the leading cause of death for people under thirty in Los Angeles County. Unsafe speed is the primary factor that determines the severity of a crash, and just 5 miles per hour can be the difference between injury and death.

MOTION: Therefore, The Venice Neighborhood Council supports Council File 23-1168, and encourages the City of Los Angeles to move expeditiously in the installation of speed cameras throughout the City. Within the Venice community location, we request the city specific research the implementation of speed cameras in the following areas:

Abbot Kinney Blvd, between Washington Blvd and Venice Blvd Venice Blvd, between Walgrove Ave and Abbot Kinney Blvd Rose Ave, between Walgrove Ave and Lincoln Blvd Pacific Ave, between Rose Ave and Venice Blvd Lincoln Blvd, between Venice Blvd and Rose Ave

## **B. CIS COUNCIL FILE 23-1051**

Traffic safety in Los Angeles is a serious problem. In 2022, 312 Angelenos lost their lives to traffic violence, the most in more than 20 years; as of September 2, 2023, there have been 206 deaths. Most traffic deaths and serious injuries result from identifiable and preventable causes, including excessive speed, and drunk and distracted driving. Despite this fact, traffic crashes are commonly referred to as “accidents,” which implies that they are unanticipated and unpreventable, when all too often this is not the case.

Motion: Whereas words matter, and the word “accident” when talking about a car crash, a car versus pedestrian crash, or a car versus cyclist crash, implies that it was simply a mistake that could not have been avoided.

Therefore, the Venice Neighborhood Council supports Council File 23-1051 and suggests city officially adopt the terms “crash,” “collision,” and “incident,” in lieu of the term “accident” when discussing traffic crashes in any document or communication, except for instances where the City Attorney deems it necessary to use “accident” in litigation and related matters.

## **16. ROSE AVENUE PIER CONCEPT (STAKEHOLDER PETITION SUBMITTED BY MEHRNOOSH MOJALLALI)**

Motion: WHEREAS, Policy III.A. 1.b. of the Venice Land Use Plan (LUP) states:

New recreational opportunities should be provided, and existing recreational areas shall be protected, maintained and enhanced for a variety of recreational opportunities for both residents and visitors, including passive recreational and educational activities, as well as active recreational uses.

- a. Recreation and visitor-serving facilities shall be encouraged, provided they retain the existing character and housing opportunities of the area, and provided there is sufficient infrastructure capacity to service such facilities.
  - b. Acquisition, expansion and improvement of parks and facilities throughout the Venice Coastal Zone shall be encouraged and accelerated, subject to the availability of funds.
  - c. Where feasible and compatible with the surrounding neighborhood, recreational uses shall be located in conjunction with other new public facilities, such as public parking lots.
  - d. Recreation facilities shall be refurbished and constructed to maximize recreational opportunities.
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e. Beach Hours: Public access and recreational opportunities on the sandy beach shall be protected and encouraged. Any limitations to public access, including changes to the hours of operation, shall be subject to a coastal development permit.

WHEREAS, the Rose Ave pier concept presents an opportunity to create new visitor-serving facilities for Venice.

THEREFORE, the VNC supports further study of a pier concept on Rose Ave and requests that the Council District 11 office utilize its resources to determine feasibility of concept, including environmental impact, costs of project, required entitlements/approvals, and other details to refine concept into a proposed project.

## **17. BOARD MEMBER COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

## **18. ADJOURNMENT**

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 -**

The Venice Neighborhood Council agendas are posted for public review as follows:

- Beyond Baroque, 681 Venice Blvd., Venice, CA 90291
- [www.VeniceNC.org](http://www.VeniceNC.org)
- Receive agendas by email, subscribe 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 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 the VNC Secretary, email at: [Secretary@VeniceNC.org](mailto:Secretary@VeniceNC.org).

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## **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 website [www.VeniceNC.org](http://www.VeniceNC.org)

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