



# Venice Neighborhood Council

PO Box 550, Venice, CA 90294

www.VeniceNC.org



**Board of Officers Regular Meeting Agenda  
6:30-9:30 PM Tuesday, July 16, 2024  
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 6:45 start**

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

**Nico Ruderman, Christopher Lee and Michel Jensen are absent at start of meeting. Jim Robb left before agenda item 12, Soledad Ursua left before item 19**

**2. MOMENTS OF SILENCE FOR EILEEN ARCHIBALD AND SHARON KLEINMAN**

**3. APPROVAL OF PRIOR MINUTES - [meeting668c28f2a2dd1.pdf \(venicenc.org\)](#)**

**Motion to postpone minutes until full vote count for open board seat and Helen's corrections are completed – Lisa, Helen - Motion fails (9-9-0-3)**

**Jim, Jason – Motion Carries (16-2-0-3)**

**4. DECLARATION OF EX PARTE COMMUNICATIONS, CONFLICTS OF INTEREST OR RECUSALS**

**5. PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS**

**6. GOVERNMENT REPORTS**

**7. TREASURER'S REPORT**



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## 8. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

## 9. CHAIR APPOINTMENTS (6-2-0)

- A. DEBORAH KEATON AS OFW CHAIR
- B. SOLEDAD URSUA AS RULES & SELECTIONS CHAIR

Postpone Chair appointments moved to next month due to ADcom minutes not being posted in time

## 10. 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.

## 11. GENERAL CONSENT CALENDAR **CJ, Jason - Consent Carries**

GENERAL CONSENT CALENDAR Items deemed to be routine, non controversial. Any Board member or stakeholder can ask a clarifying question instead of, or before, moving items to the end of the general agenda.

### A. ADDRESS THE ONGOING SEWAGE SPILLS INTO SANTA MONICA BAY (Brian Averill)

Whereas accidental raw sewage spills into Santa Monica Bay are now a semi-regular occurrence and whereas LA County Department of Public Health ocean water warnings have been issued at 14 different beaches and piers this month alone;

Therefore, the Venice Neighborhood Council requests that the LA City Council, the Mayor's Office, the LA Department of Sanitation, and the LA Department of Public Works coordinate and formulate a plan that will make actual, measurable progress and begin taking the policy and infrastructure steps needed to remediate this ongoing, very serious issue.

### B. LAUNCH OF VENICE WALKING TOUR APP (PRESERVING PUBLIC PLACES 4-0-0)

The Board of Officers of the Venice Neighborhood Council approves the content and supports public outreach of the Venice Walking Tour App. This is to include QR code site markers and announcements via email and social media (see supporting docs)

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## C. CIRCLE PHONE NUMBER (HOMELESSNESS 5-0-0)

In order to respond quicker for the benefit of Venice Stakeholders, both housed and unhoused, the Venice Neighborhood Council requests CD11 to work with the necessary agencies to create and publicly circulate a dedicated telephone number for the CIRCLE Team in Venice for all incidents not involving a weapon.

MOTION: The VNC requests a dedicated direct phone number for the CIRCLE Team in Venice.

## D. ADVERSE WEATHER SHELTER (HOMELESSNESS 5-0-0)

Create an on-the-ready adverse weather shelter for Venice

MOTION: The Venice Neighborhood Council requests the Emergency Management Department, with assistance from CD11 and LAHSA, and in consultation with the Mayor's Office, to create an Adverse Weather Shelter program for Oakwood Recreation Center, as well as to determine other possible settings in CD11 i.e. Penmar Recreation Center, Westminster Senior Center, Vera Davis Center, to better manage weather-related emergencies, including, but not limited to extreme rain, and cold and hot temperatures.

This would include: • A clear delineation of responsibilities for major weather emergency preparation and response, including which City departments are involved in the decision-making process for an Oakwood Shelter activation; • Identification of communication channels for critical safety information between City departments and non-City entities, including how and when an Oakwood activation is communicated, including unhoused clients; • An emergency plan for augmenting outreach or other staffing capacity during periods of an Oakwood activations during weekends and holidays; and • Other lessons learned pertaining to the activation of the Oakwood program during the February 2024 rains.

## 12. OLD BUSINESS

**ARBOR COMMITTEE Erica, Steve (13-1-3-4) Motion Carries**

## COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FOR ALL PROPOSED ELEMENTS IN CENTENNIAL PARK (4-0-0)

DESCRIPTION: Whereas the VNC Board has supported several different elements to be added to Centennial Park; Whereas the Venice Arbor Committee wishes to tie together all the proposed plans into one cohesive plan, add necessary and desirable shade trees and native plantings, and has produced the

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attached drawing to express the placement of all the various elements; The VNC board of officers supports the planting of large trees and native understory, a previously supported pollinator garden, a shaded playground space, a native food and food forest as well as a previously supported Flying Carousel as expressed in the attached landscape plan. (see supporting docs)

**MOTION:** The Board of Officers of the Venice Neighborhood Council supports the planting of large trees and native understory in Centennial Park together with proposals previously supported by the VNC: the Butterfly & Pollinator Garden, Playground, Food Forest, Carousel, and access to Abbot Kinney Boulevard, as expressed in the attached site plan. Following passage, this Motion shall be forwarded to Mayor Karen Bass, Councilwoman Traci Park and the Department of Recreation and Parks.

## 13. NEW BUSINESS

## 14. BUDGET AND FINANCE

### **Monthly Expenditure Report (MER) Helen, Tima (14-0-3-4) Motion Carries**

**MOTION:** The Venice Neighborhood Council Board of Officers approves the Monthly Expenditure Report (MER) for June 2024 (see supporting documents)

## 15. LUPC **Amended Motion Tima Eric (11-2-4-4) Motion Carries**

### **1648 S. ABBOT KINNEY BLVD - APCW-2024-275-SPE-SPP-CDP-WDI (5-1-1) (3 minute presentation)**

Construction of a new commercial building in single jurisdiction coastal zone (see supporting docs)

#### **MOTION:**

The Venice Neighborhood Council recommends approval of a City CDP and a Specific Plan Project Permit for the project at 1648 Abbot Kinney for the construction a new 1- story with mezzanine, 22 foot high (flat roof), 2,651 square foot ground floor retail use commercial building on a 30 x 90 vacant lot (currently contains a temporary non-fixed structure) totaling 2,700.2 square feet, with no auto parking spaces, providing 2 short- term and two long-term bicycle parking spaces, including a waiver of the one-foot dedication and a specific plan exception for no auto parking on site.

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Note: Motion Amended to read: The Venice Neighborhood Council recommends approval of a City CDP and a Specific Plan Project Permit for the project at 1648 Abbot Kinney Blvd for the construction of a new 1-story, 22 foot high (flat roof), 1,800 square foot ground floor retail use commercial building on a 30 x 90, 2,700 SF vacant lot (currently contains a temporary non-fixed structure), with no auto parking spaces and six short-term and six long-term bicycle parking spaces, including a waiver of the one-foot dedication and a Specific Plan Exception for a Floor Area Ratio of 0.74:1 in lieu of 0.5:1.

**NOTE : MOTION MADE TO HEAR ITEM 18 PRIOR TO ITEM 16 HELEN, LISA (9-7-2-4) MOTION CARRIES**

**NOTE : MOTION MADE TO HEAR ITEM 19 PRIOR TO ITEM 16 TIMA, STEVE (15-0-1-5) MOTION CARRIES**

**16. CIS IN OPPOSITION TO COUNCIL FILE 21-0329-S5 (WRAC) Moved to old business on next agenda**

The Venice Neighborhood Council, a member of the Westside Regional Alliance of Councils (WRAC), opposes the motion in CF 21-0329-S5, which makes implementation of LAMC Sec. 41.18 unnecessarily and unreasonably complicated and needlessly involves county agencies in city policy. The Venice Neighborhood

Council supports LAMC Sec. 41.18, which has been effectively implemented in Council District 11 and other areas of Los Angeles to protect public health and safety and preserve the use of our public spaces for all constituents.

**17. CIS IN SUPPORT OF CF 24-0140-S1 MOVED TO OLD BUSINESS ON NEXT AGENDA**

The Venice Neighborhood Council supports CF 24-0140-S1 requesting that the City Attorney provide an analysis of the recent *Grants Pass* ruling and its impact on the City's existing rules relative to sleeping, lying and storage of property in the public right of way and other public settings, including but not limited to Los Angeles Municipal Code Sections 41.18, 56.11 and 63.44, as well as its impact on vehicle dwelling.

**18. VENICE COMMUNITY PLAN COMMITTEE**

**VENICE COMMUNITY PLAN COMMITTEE INTERIM REPORT (6-1-0) Jason, Alley (15-0-1-5) Motion Carries**  
(Report attached in Supporting Docs)





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MOTION: The Venice Neighborhood Council supports the attached Interim Report on City Planning's Proposed Venice Community Plan/Local Coastal Program, dated July 10, 2024, prepared by the Community Plan/Local Coastal Program Ad Hoc Committee, which includes interim recommendations to City Planning for Policy Considerations and Changes to Land Use Designations and Zoning

Committee votes: Policy Statements: 1 (6-0), 2 (5-1), 3 (6-0), 4 (5-1), 5 (5-1); Land Use Designations & Zoning Changes: East Venice (5-1), Oakwood (6-1), Milwood (6-1), Southeast Venice (6-1), Oxford Triangle (6-0), Southwest Venice (5-1), Marina Peninsula (6-1), North Venice (3-2-1), Venice Canals (5-2), Ocean Front Walk (7-0), Abbot Kinney (7-0)

## 19. PRESERVING PUBLIC PLACES

### **VENICE SAND DUNES PROJECT (4-0-1) Alley Jason (13-12-1-5) Motion Carries**

MOTION: The Board of Officers of the Venice Neighborhood Council supports the creation of Sand Dunes along a portion of Venice Beach as designed and built by The Bay Foundation with The Venice Oceanarium. Funding is from a Federal Grant. Please see Supporting Documents for a complete description.

This supports the creation of a 5 acre (4 section) native coastal dune habitat funded by the Federal Government through The Bay Foundation with The Venice Oceanarium. The coastal dune will provide natural beauty and will enrich the environment. It will provide a low profile home to a diverse ecosystem with over 900 native species, including endangered butterflies and sensitive species. The coastal dune also provides important protection against sea level rise.

## **20. ARBOR COMMITTEE Moved to old business on next agenda**

### **RESOLUTION SUPPORTING GRAND BLVD LANDSCAPING (4-0-0)**

Whereas, Grand Blvd. is a major thoroughfare and has historical significance as one of the original canals, and turning Grand into a parking lot with diagonal parking does not contribute to the character of the "Lost Canals of Venice" neighborhood; and

Whereas, Grand is used as a speedway, and drivers regularly ignore stop signs and speed limits; the introduction of trees and landscaping, and pedestrian and bicycle-friendly circulation will significantly mitigate this hazard; and





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Whereas, on September 19, 2005, the Los Angeles City Council adopted Ordinance 176861, which:

*Authorized the City Council to designate by Resolution areas where parking is prohibited between 2:00 am and 6:00 am, to issue permits to residents and their guests in residential areas where such parking is prohibited if there is inadequate off-street parking available..., and,*

And whereas, the city subsequently established by resolution Venice Overnight Parking Districts (OPDs) 520, 521, 522, 523, and 526 west of Lincoln Blvd., and approved city Coastal Development Permits 08-07, 08-08, 08-09, 08-10 and 08-11 for these OPDs, and this legislation is still valid; and,

Whereas, at a stakeholders' election conducted by the VNC on Feb. 22, 2009, Venice residents voted by a margin of 891 to 608 to grant residents the right to establish OPDs on their streets by resident petition and this remains the position of the VNC (<https://www.nbclosangeles.com/news/local/venice-voters-advice-restrict-overnight-parking/1870044/>); and

Whereas, the VNC's Arbor Committee has publicly noted the sparseness of Venice's tree canopy at only 15% coverage, and its stated goal is 30% coverage, and has called for planting trees on excess city land; and,

Whereas, the width of Grand Blvd. is an historical anomaly created by Abbot Kinney; i.e., Grand Blvd. was originally the Grand Canal, and thus made wider than the other canals to accommodate Kinney's dream of recreating Venezia's Grand Canal, which today creates an opportunity to expand Venice's tree canopy by planting down the middle of the street;

MOTION: Now, Therefore Be It Resolved, the Board of the Venice Neighborhood Council calls upon Mayor Karen Bass and Councilwoman Traci Park to adopt and find funding for the Neighbors of Grand plan for the "greening" of Grand Blvd.; including a landscaped median primarily consisting of native trees and plants, with an adequate irrigation system, large trees to provide shade and resist urban heat effects; installation of bike paths; a new lane of resident-only overnight parking next to the new median under the existing OPD district and city CDP; and for the city to apply for a state coastal development permit for the designated OPD parking spaces on Grand, and it is further resolved that the Board of the Venice Neighborhood Council rejects diagonal parking on Grand Blvd.

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Following passage this Resolution shall be forwarded to Mayor Karen Bass and Councilwoman Traci Park and the general managers of StreetsLA and the Department of Transportation.

## 21. BOARD COMMENT ON NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS

## 22. ADJOURN **Meeting Adjourned approximately 9:50PM**

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).

### **Reconsideration and Grievance Process -**

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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 .



VOTES ARE TALLIED  
(yea-nay-abstain-  
absent)

Roll Call

motion to  
postpone

Approval of  
prior minutes

9

12 Arbor  
Committee

14 Budget  
& Finance

15  
Amended

Motion to  
move item  
18 1st

18 ADHOC

Motion to  
move item  
19 BEFORE  
16

19 PPP  
Dunes

Brian Averill		n	y		abstain	abstain	abstain	n	y	Y	y
Alley Bean		y	y		y	y	y	n	y	Y	n
Tima Bell		n	y		y	y	y	y	y	Y	y
Steve Bradbury		n	y		y	y	y	n	y	Y	y
Clark Brown		n	y		y	y	y	y	y	Y	y
CJ Cole		y	y		n	y	n	n	y	Y	n
Eric Donaldson		n	y		y	y	y	y	y	Y	y
Helen Fallon		y	n		y	y	n	y	y	Y	y
Yolanda Gonzalez	<b>Ineligible</b>	<b>ineligible</b>	<b>Ineligible</b>	<b>Ineligible</b>	<b>Ineligible</b>	<b>Ineligible</b>	<b>Ineligible</b>	<b>Ineligible</b>	<b>Ineligible</b>	<b>Ineligible</b>	<b>Ineligible</b>
Bruno Hernandez		n	y		y	y	y	n	<b>absent</b>	<b>absent</b>	<b>y</b>
Michael Jensen	Absent	absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	absent	absent	Absent	absent	<b>absnet</b>
Deborah Keaton		n	y		y	y	<b>abstain</b>	y	y	y	y
Erica Moore		y	y		y	y	y	y	y	y	y
Lisa Redmond		y	n		y	y	<b>abstain</b>	y	y	y	y
Jim Robb		y	y		absent	<b>absent</b>	<b>absent</b>	<b>absent</b>	absent	<b>absent</b>	absent
Nico Ruderman	Absent		Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	absent	<b>absent</b>	Absent	<b>absent</b>	absent
Robert Thibodeau		n	y		<b>abstain</b>	y	y	n	n	y	y
Soledad Ursua		n	y		y	y	y	n	y	y	<b>absent</b>
Jason Sugars		y	y		y	y	y	y	y	y	y
Christopher Lee	Absent		Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	absent	<b>absent</b>	Absent	<b>absent</b>	absent
Fran Solomon		y	y		y	y	y	y	y	y	y
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>18 Present</b>	<b>9-9-0-3</b>	<b>16-2-0-3</b>		<b>13-1-3-4</b>	<b>14-0-3-4</b>	<b>11-2-4-4</b>	<b>9-7-2-4</b>	<b>15-0-1-5</b>	<b>15-0-1-5</b>	<b>13-2-1-5</b>