



Venice Neighborhood Council

PO Box 550, Venice, CA 90294

www.VeniceNC.org



**Board of Officers Regular Meeting Agenda
6:30-9:30 PM Tuesday, August 20th, 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.

Start time 7:03

1. CALL TO ORDER AND BOARD ROLL CALL

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	

Jim Robb & Alley Bean Absent
Numerous members left the meeting around 9:30

- 2. APPROVAL OF PRIOR MINUTES** - [meeting66a134d9a70e9.pdf \(venicenc.org\)](#)
Prior Minutes approved with Helen's corrections (14-1-3-3)
- 3. DECLARATION OF EX PARTE COMMUNICATIONS, CONFLICTS OF INTEREST OR RECUSALS**
- 4. PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS**
- 5. GOVERNMENT REPORTS**
- 6. TREASURER'S REPORT**
- 7. PRESIDENT'S REPORT**
15A tabled until next agenda
- 8. CHAIR APPOINTMENTS (Administrative Committee 6-1-1)**
Board vote required for approval.



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- A. DEBORAH KEATON AS OFW CHAIR **CONFIRMED - 16-0-2-3**
- B. SOLEDAD URSUA AS RULES & ELECTIONS CHAIR **CONFIRMED 12-3-3-3**
- C. JASON SUGARS FOR ARTS COMMITTEE CHAIR **CONFIRMED 15-1-2-3**

9. 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.

10. GENERAL CONSENT CALENDAR **APPROVED 18-0-3-3**

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.

SCHEDULING DECEMBER 2024 VNC MEETING

MOTION: Board will hold its regularly scheduled Board Meeting on Tuesday December 17th via Zoom.

DESCRIPTION: Westminster School is not available on the third Tuesday of December. The December Board meeting needs to be held elsewhere if in person or on Zoom. Motion is to hold the meeting on Zoom.

ARBOR COMMITTEE

A. COMMUNITY IMPACT STATEMENT REGARDING ARTIFICIAL TURF (4-0-0)

MOTION: The Venice Neighborhood Council board votes to support the Los Angeles City Council File #24-0602 in transitioning away from the future use of synthetic turf or artificial grass and incentivize drought-friendly landscaping.

DESCRIPTION: The artificial turf surface sheds microplastics and the runoff it causes can become contaminated with PFAS and pollute our drinking water and oceans. Artificial turf cannot be recycled and will end up in the landfill, continuing to pollute the environment. In addition, it off-gasses ethylene and methane contributing to the climate crisis, unlike real grass and other plants. Nothing lives in artificial turf. It also kills the soil and the living organisms in it, removing natural habitat. It is safer and more cost effective to use grass for playing fields rather than substituting artificial turf.

For the VNC board to vote to submit a community impact statement in connection with City Council File #24-0602 in transitioning away from the future use of synthetic turf or artificial grass and incentivize drought-friendly landscaping.



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11. OLD BUSINESS

Tima, Nico Carries (14-3-1-3)

ARBOR COMMITTEE

Amendment to send to Parking and Transportation – CJ, Lisa
Rejected - 3-12-3-3

A. 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

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



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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.

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.

B. CIS IN OPPOSITION TO COUNCIL FILE 21-0329-S5 (WRAC) Nico, Jason Motion Carries (17-1-0-3)

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.

C. CIS IN SUPPORT OF CF 24-0140-S1 (WRAC) Nico, Michael Motion Carries (10-4-4-3)

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.

LUPC

A. 2520 LINCOLN BLVD. (6-0-1) Michael, Jason Motion Carries (13-0-4-4)

MOTION: Number: ZA-2023-7556-CUB Project Description: CUB to allow on-site sale of a full line of alcoholic beverages with a proposed 2,600 sf restaurant with 91 interior seats and 762 sf of patio area with 54 seats.
Hours of operation 8am to 2am daily.

CJ, nico – Motion to extend meeting to 10PM 17-0-0-4

12. NEW BUSINESS

13. RECREATION OF COMMUNITY RESILIENCY COMMITTEE CJ, Steve (10-1-2-8)



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MOTION: The VNC shall renew and extend the committee until the new Public Safety Committee is up and running.

DESCRIPTION: Keith to present a Mission Statement to the board (also to be placed in supporting documents)

14. BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE **CJ, Helen Carries (11-1-2-7)**

A. **MOTION:** VNC Board of Officers approves the July 2024 Monthly Expenditure Report (MER), see supporting documents (2-0-0)

15. LUPC **moved to next agenda**

A. OPPOSITION TO VENICE AUXILIARY PUMPING PLANT (3-1-2)

MOTION: The Venice Neighborhood Council opposes CPC-2024-2010-GPA-ZC-CU2-SPPC--allowing the City of Los Angeles to obtain a General Plan Amendment (GPA) and Zone Change (ZC) from RW2-1 to Public Facilities at 133 Hurricane St., a Project Review (SPPC), and a Conditional Use for the construction, use, and maintenance of a public parking area in a residential zone (CU2) for the empty lots located at 128 Hurricane St/3913 Esplanade--unless LA Public Works (LAPW) materially and in good faith addresses the community's serious issues with this project, including but not limited to: 1. Conformance to the certified Venice LUP (Policies I.A.5, I.C.1, I.C.6, and I.D.1); 2. Adherence to court-mandated ESHA protections in the surrounding lagoon area; 3. Mitigation of EIR issues related to loss of species and habitat, groundwater impact, and potentially significant methane gas release; 4. Mitigation of "significant and unavoidable" issues including ground-borne vibration, which could result in residential building damage, and construction noise that exceeds LA CEQA Thresholds guidelines; 5. Improvement of inadequate emergency access during construction activities; 6. Change to five day/week construction instead of proposed six days/week; 7. Elimination of the proposed parking lot at 128 Hurricane St. for which parking requirements can be fulfilled via restricted street parking around the current Venice Pumping Plant (VPP), a savings of at least \$2.5 million to the city; 8. Modification of project design so that it is compatible with its residentially zoned neighborhood; 9. Protection of residential properties from dirt, dust and other construction impacts; 10. Upgrade of deficient maintenance plan for both the new and existing facility.

DESCRIPTION: See supporting Documents

B.23 WINDWARD AVE (5-0-1) **moved to next agenda**

Music Entertainment Facility and restaurant in the Venice SP



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Motion: The VNC Board of Officers recommends approval of the project as presented. (supporting docs will be provided)

16. BOARD COMMENT ON NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS

17. ADJOURN

Clark, Jason 9:48PM

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

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Beyond Baroque, 681 Venice Blvd., Venice, CA 90291

- 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. For assistance, please contact the Ethics Commission at (213) 978-1960 or 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 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.

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

VOTES ARE TALLIED (yea-nay-abstain- absent)	Roll Call	Approval of priorminutes	8A	8B	8C	10	11A Amendment to send back to P&T	11A	11B	11C	LUPC	Motion to Extend Meeting	13A	14A
Brian Averill		y	y	y	y	y	abstain	abstain	abstain	abstain	abstain	y	abstain	abstain
Alley Bean	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	absent
Tima Bell		y	y	y	y	y	n	y	y	n	y	y	y	y
Steve Bradbury		y	y	y	y	y	n	y	y	y	y	y	y	n
Clark Brown		y	y	y	y	y	n	y	y	y	y	y	y	y
CJ Cole		abstain	y	y	y	y	y	n	y	y	y	y	y	y
Eric Donaldson	absent	absent	absent	absent	absent	absent	absent	absent	absent	absent	absent	absent	absent	absent
Helen Fallon		y	y	n	abstain	y	y	n	y	y	abstain	y	n	y
Yolanda Gonzalez		y	y	y	y	y	n	y	y	abstain	y	y	absent	y
Bruno Hernandez		y	y	y	y	y	n	y	y	y	y	y	y	y
Michael Jensen		abstain	y	y	y	y	n	y	y	abstain	y	y	Absent	absent
Deborah Keaton		y	y	abstain	y	y	n	y	y	y	y	y	y	y
Erica Moore		y	y	n	y	y	abstain	y	y	n	y	y	y	y
Lisa Redmond		N	abstain	n	abstain	y	y	n	n	n	abstain	y	abstain	y
Jim Robb	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	absent
Nico Ruderman		y	y	y	y	y	n	y	y	abstain	y	y	y	abstain
Robert Thibodeau		y	y	y	no	y	abstain	y	y	y	y	y	absent	absent
Soledad Ursua		y	y	y	y	y	n	y	y	y	Absent	Absent	Absent	absent
Jason Sugars		y	y	abstain	y	y	n	y	y	n	y	y	y	y
Christopher Lee		abstain	y	y	y	y	n	y	y	y	abstain	y	absent	absent
Fran Solomon		y	y	abstain	y	y	n	y	y	y	y	y	y	y
TOTALS	19 present	14-1-3-3	16-0-2-3	12-3-3-3	15-1-2-3	18-0-3-0	3-12-3-3	14-3-1-3	17-1-0-3	10-4-4-3	13-0-4-4	17-0-0-4	10-1-2-8	11-1-2-7