

# Venice Neighborhood Council

LAND USE AND PLANNING COMMITTEE  
PO Box 550, Venice, CA 90294 www.VeniceNC.org Email:  
Chair-LUPC@VeniceNC.org

## Contact Information:

Name: Ted Henderson

*Nombre el letra de Molde*

Qualifying Stakeholder Address: 

*Dirección*

Street address (if different): \_\_\_\_\_

*Dirección, si diferente*

City: Venice State: CA Zip Code: 90291

*Ciudad*

*Estado*

*Código Postal*

Email (mandatory) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (mandatory) \_\_\_\_\_

*Corero electronico (obligat*

*Telefono (obligatorio)*

I hereby certify, that I wish to serve on the Land Use and Planning Committee of the Venice Neighborhood Council and I am a Stakeholder within the boundaries of the VNC area.

Stakeholder Signature Theodore Passavant Henderson Date 8/12/2025

*Firma*

Proof of stakeholder status via a valid credential must be presented at the August Board meeting. A valid credential includes, but is not limited to one of the following: a CA Driver's License or CA Residency Card (for an address within the VNC area); a school ID Card (for a school with in the VNC boundaries); a business card (in combination with any of the following with a matching Venice address: Business license, business check, or pay stub); a recent utility bill (for an address within the VNC area); an imprinted check (including an address within the VNC area); a Pay stub (from a business within the VNC area); a Passport (only in combination with any other credential item); a school report card (from a school with in the VNC boundaries); a property tax bill (with an address within the VNC area)

1) Democracy has been a career and a passion of mine. As a former legislative staffer in the United States House of Representatives and later as a political app maker, I have sought to promote the representative power of the people. As an annexed town without direct representation for 100 years, few communities in the United States have so little voting representation. In no issue area is that more true than in land use policy where are town's future and character seemed to be decided without binding input from the people of Venice.

In addition to my legislative background, I am trained in mechanical engineering, proficient in software engineering, I hold an advanced degree related to climate adaptation and resiliency, and I am a licensed residential insurance broker. I have never served on a planning committee, but I am aware of the time demands.

2) Earlier this year I ran in the VNC election for LUPC chair. Otherwise my participation has been limited to meeting attendance and community events.

3) In my opinion, the most pressing land use issue facing the Venice community today is preparation for the 2028 Olympics. Venice lacks a strong representative voice expressing its needs and priorities ahead of this significant catalyst for change.

With strategic Olympic investment, Venice will be better positioned to tackle other important issues, including climate resiliency, housing, and transportation.

4) My opinion of both plans is that neither were enacted with strong community representation. The result is longterm economic stagnation and public service mismanagement across Venice. The Venice sign-off is a prime example of Venice's subordination by the City of Los Angeles. However, there is hope on the horizon that major changes may be coming to the Coastal Commission at least, so that supervising body may have less say over our land use and planning in the future.

5) I would view my role with applicants as a public servant. Whether volunteering as a poll watcher or serving on a community board, civic responsibility precludes self-dealing and personal preferences. To do otherwise is a betrayal of the people we serve.

6) My understanding of our ethics and conflicts of interest rules is that they are overly proscriptive and lead to cumbersome accommodations that a lay body of under-resourced volunteers is ill-equipped to shoulder. Geographic restrictions and lack of proportionally distributed representation seem to further hamper proceedings with unnecessary recusals.