



Venice Neighborhood Council

PO Box 550, Venice, CA 90294

www.VeniceNC.org



Board of Officers Regular Meeting Agenda
6:30PM Tuesday, Sept. 16th, 2025
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	Erica Moore	Yolanda Gonzalez	Richard Stanger
Gary Pearl	Lisa Redmond	Joseph Garcia	Jason Sugars
Helen Fallon	Jim Fitzgerald	Sarah Mahir	Christopher Lee
Tima Bell	Alley Bean	Fran Solomon	
Mark Mack	Clark Brown	Brennan Lawson	
Nico Ruderman	Steve Bradbury	Kenya Lee	

2. APPROVAL OF PRIOR MINUTES

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

4. PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS

5. ASHLEY OELSEN OCEAN WATER TESTING PRESENTATION (5 Min)

6. GOVERNMENT REPORTS (2 min each/5 min for CD11)

7. CHAIR REPORTS (1 Min)

8. BOARD MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS (1 Min)

9. TREASURER'S REPORT

10. PRESIDENT'S REPORT



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11. 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

12. GENERAL CONSENT CALENDAR

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. BIKE PATH ACCESS (RAVI SANKARAN/BRIAN AVERILL)

MOTION: The VNC calls on the City of Los Angeles and CD11 to work with the California Coastal Commission, Los Angeles County Department of Beaches and Harbors, and the private property owners to immediately restore safe access to the bike path whether at this same entry point or a different location, for the protection of the hundreds of residents who access the bike path daily, and to restore prescriptive coastal access rights that have been taken away WHEREAS, in late July 2025 an access point to the Marvin Braude Bike Path and Yvonne B. Burke Park in Marina del Rey was blocked by construction of a cinderblock wall in the lot adjacent to the Ralph's grocery store at 4311 Lincoln Blvd.

DESCRIPTION: WHEREAS, this entry point had provided safe access to the Marvin Braude Bike Path for Venice residents for decades, and the new wall blocks this entry point and renders access to the bike path dangerous for Venetians and others, including children and seniors, with higher risk for collision with vehicles and bodily injury.

WHEREAS, the VNC acknowledges the vital importance of maintaining safe and open access to the bike path and coastal resources for both current and future residents.

WHEREAS, the wall was constructed by Bayview Property Management at the direction of the property owner Marina Pointe Commercial, with little to no stakeholder input taken and no consultation with VNC.

WHEREAS, the California Coastal Commission provides for public prescriptive right of access across private property in cases where public access has occurred 1) for a period of five (5) years or longer, 2) without asking or receiving permission from the owner, and 3) with the actual or presumed knowledge of the owner. However those public access rights have now been removed with construction of the wall.



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PUBLIC SAFETY

B. VENICE COMMUNITY DISASTER RESILIENCY PROGRAM (6-0-0)

MOTION: VNC Board approves the Public Health and Safety Committee's Venice Community Disaster Resiliency Program for August 2025–December 2026, including two (2) CERT courses with one (1) drill, one (1) CPR class, one (1) first aid refresher, monthly outreach at the Farmers' Market, the Venice Holiday Sign Lighting, and other events to recruit for CERT and other preparedness activities. Final Course scheduling and details will return to the Board for approval

DESCRIPTION: The Venice Community Disaster Resiliency Program (September 2025 – December 2026) * Two CERT courses with one corresponding drill in Venice. * One CPR class and one first aid refresher class. Outreach collaboration at: * Venice Farmers' Market (3rd Fridays monthly) * Venice Holiday Sign Lighting * Possibly additional Outreach Events Purpose of outreach: Recruit participants for CERT and other preparedness activities to strengthen disaster resiliency in Venice through increased training and community engagement Next step: Specific Course dates, locations, and details to be returned to the Board for approval.

C. VENICE TSUNAMI PREPAREDNESS PROGRAM (OCTOBER 2025 – OCTOBER 2026) (6-0-0)

MOTION: The VNC Board approves the Public Health and Safety Committee's Venice Tsunami Preparedness Program to raise public awareness of the serious threat of Tsunami to Venice through public education and live drills starting October 2025–October 2026, authorizing planning for a Venice Tsunami Town Hall in Spring 2026 and a Venice Tsunami Exercise target for October 2026.

DESCRIPTION: Venice Tsunami Preparedness Program (October 2025 – October 2026) * Tsunami Town Hall – Planning now – Target date Spring 2026. - Hosted with LA City Emergency Management, LAPD, and LAFD. - Review evacuation plans and advance the Venice Community Tsunami Exercise Plan. * Venice Tsunami Exercise – Targeted for October 2026. - Purpose: Increase community readiness for a tsunami event through public education & live drills. Next step: Dates, locations, fees, and details to be returned to the Board **for approval.**

BUDGET & FINANCE

- A. The VNC Board directs the President and Treasurer to submit an application to Los Angeles Public Library (LAPL) on behalf of the VNC in order to borrow a Mobile Computer Lab to be used at Board meetings.
(The Mobile lab consists of computers, mobile hotspots, a projector and screen,
<https://www.lapl.org/tech2go>) 4/0/0
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13. OLD BUSINESS

RULES AND ELECTIONS (FROM JULY AGENDA)

A. STANDING RULE FOR SCHEDULING COMMITTEE MEETINGS (4-0-0)

MOTION: The Board of Officers hereby adds the following to its Standing Rules:
Meetings: All Committees are required to establish a regular periodic meeting date and post on the VNC website calendar. Committee Chairs will coordinate with the Vice President to ensure there is no overlap between Committee meetings. No Committee meeting will conflict with an Administrative Committee or Board meeting. Standing Committee scheduling takes priority over Ad Hoc Committees.

DESCRIPTION: On regular occasion, VNC Committee meetings overlap, leading to confusion and frustration for Stakeholders and Board members who regularly attend Committee meetings. This Standing Rule will keep that from occurring.

B. STANDING RULE REGARDING CODE OF CONDUCT REQUIREMENT AS IT APPLIES TO NON-BOARD STAKEHOLDER COMMITTEE MEMBERS (4-0-0)

MOTION: The Board of Officers hereby adds the following to its Standing Rules:
Code of Conduct: The Rules and Elections Committee will be the centralized tracking and verification to ensure all VNC Stakeholder Committee Members are in compliance of their required training. All Committee Chairs are responsible for ensuring their Committee members' Code of Conduct is current. Committee Chairs Venice Neighborhood Council PO Box 550, Venice, CA 90294 www.VeniceNC.org will distribute and collect signed Code of Conduct forms, and forward to the Rules and Elections Committee. Rules and Elections will post the Code of Conduct tracking form on their webpage to provide transparency.

DESCRIPTION: DONE now requires non-Board Stakeholder Committee members to sign a Code of Conduct. NCs must collect and verify those Code of Conducts, and submit the information to DONE. This Standing Rule clarifies how that will be managed within the VNC.

C. REQUIRED ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER TRAINING FOR VNC BOARD MEMBERS (GARY PEARL)

MOTION: The VNC Board approves that all duly elected or appointed Board Members complete the Robert's Rules made simple EmpowerLA – Robert's Rules of Order



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Training Portal within sixty (60) days of the start of their term. Upon completion, each Board Member must provide the Council with a Certificate of Completion as verification. This training ensures that all members are adequately prepared to participate in and lead meetings in accordance with parliamentary procedures and best practices.

DESCRIPTION: As community leaders, VNC Board Members are expected to uphold the principles of transparency, structure, and procedural fairness. Robert's Rules of Order provides the framework for equitable and efficient governance, and the recently launched EmpowerLA training portal offers an accessible, standardized program to support this learning. Requiring this training will strengthen the integrity and functionality of VNC meetings, foster mutual respect, and improve stakeholder trust in the decision-making process.

Implementation Details:

- As long as is available through EmpowerLA, Board Members must complete the training within 60 days of the start of their term.
- Certificates of completion should be submitted to the Secretary and recorded.
- This requirement applies to all current and future Board Members moving forward.
- A reminder shall be included in onboarding materials for all new Board Members

14. NEW BUSINESS

15. BUDGET AND FINANCE

- A. The VNC Board of Officers approves the **August** 2025 Monthly Expenditure Report (MER). (See supporting documents) (3-0-0)
 - B. The VNC Board authorizes the following budget adjustment to allocate the 2024-2025 Carryover of \$3,922.40: \$250 to Equipment for Board Meetings, \$400 to Printing, \$1,250 for a locked bulletin Board and the balance of \$2,022.40 to Neighborhood Purpose Grants. (4-0-0)
 - C. The VNC Board approves the purchase of a printer cartridge for the Treasurer for \$102.61 from Staples. (3-0-0)
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16. STAKEHOLDER MOTION (ANDREAS KEMKES AND SARAH WAUTERS)

ARBOR COMMITTEE AS STANDING COMMITTEE

Approve the Venice Arbor Committee as a standing committee (2 / 3 vote required)

MOTION: The Venice Neighborhood Council approves the Arbor Committee as a Standing Committee with the following language to be included in the VNC Bylaws, under ARTICLE VII: COMMITTEES AND THEIR DUTIES, Section 1: Standing Committees: "Arbor Committee: Chaired by a Stakeholder or Community Officer Board Member as nominated by the Board President, subject to approval of the Board. Supports and encourages the planting and maintenance of trees and plants through advocacy, education and policy work. Works to create, improve, and care for the tree canopy, support and improve local biodiversity, and a healthy ecosystem throughout the Venice neighborhood and surrounding communities."

DESCRIPTION: Whereas: The VNC Arbor Committee has been in existence as an ad hoc committee since 2019, renewing annually as required by the Bylaws; Whereas: VARB has created substantial benefit by creating a bridge between the VNC Board and Venice residents, and has increased community engagement and community commitment to increasing the urban canopy and green spaces in Venice; therefore:

17. PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY

EXEMPT LAPD FROM HIRING FREEZE (5-0-0)

MOTION: Venice Neighborhood Council Board requests that Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass exempt LAPD from any hiring freezes, caps, or restrictions until they reach 10,270 officers.

DESCRIPTION: LAPD staffing has fallen to historically low levels. This has a direct impact on the safety and quality of life on everyone in our neighborhood. Current recruiting efforts are not keeping up with attrition which means we have less officers this year than last. We are not replacing those that are retiring or leaving LAPD for other reasons. The force is shrinking when we need it to be growing. Any restrictions, delays, or caps on hiring pose an additional challenge to this urgent need. • Staffing levels are already impacting our neighborhoods. • Overtime costs are ballooning. • Recruiting and training takes time. • If we are not fully staffed by the start of the 2028 Olympics, it is likely that resources from outside of Los Angeles will be called in to fill the gap.



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18. LUPC

920 VICTORIA DR. (7-0-0)

MOTION: The Venice Neighborhood Council recommends the City's approval of the project at 920 Victoria Ave, as proposed.

DESCRIPTION: New 168 SF ADU on existing detached garage to an existing single-family dwelling (see supporting docs)

19. STAKEHOLDER MOTION (CLARK BROWN)

FOLLOW UP MOTION FOR PROMPT AND EFFECTIVE CITY ACTION TO TICKET RVS AND OVS ON WASHINGTON BLVD BETWEEN ABBOT KINNEY AND BEACH

MOTION: the VNC Board respectfully requests the City to:

1. Forthwith assign DOT officers to ticket RVs and OV's on Washington and nearby streets which the officers determine:

(a) Lack license plates or other evidence of registration as California Vehicle Code sec. 22651(j) requires.

(b) Parked in one location over 72 hours in violation of California Vehicle Code sec. 22651(k)

(c) Lack an engine, transmission, wheels, tires, doors, windshield or any other part of equipment necessary for safe operation as California Vehicle Code sec. 22669(d) requires.

(d) Constitute a public nuisance due to disturbing the peace, illegal drug activity, public drunkenness, public urination, lewd conduct, illegally parking which adversely affect nearby uses in violation of Los Angeles Municipal Code sec. 11.00

(e) Parked in violation or signs restricting parking in violation of Los Angeles Municipal Code secs. 80.54, 80.69 and 80.69.4

(f) Parked in front of expired parking meters in violation of Los Angeles Municipal Code sec.88.13(a).



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2. As storage space becomes available, tow and impound vehicles which continue to violate the above provisions of law after receiving tickets which the Los Angeles Municipal Code secs. 11.00 (1). 22651 authorize the City to do.

3. Designate appropriate City employees with first hand personal knowledge and experience to appear at a mutually agreed date, time and place to provide any testimony, evidence or opinion to show the City lacks the resources, money and personnel to implement the provisions of this motion or that the provisions of this Motion are impractical or that the City has other reasons for not doing what this Motion requests.

Upon passage and finalization of this Motion, the President of the Venice Neighborhood Council shall forthwith forward it to Councilperson Traci Park, the Mayor, the City Attorney and the City Administrative Officer.

DESCRIPTION:

- (1) At its June 2025 meeting the Venice Neighborhood Council passed its Motion For Prompt And Effective City Action On Unhoused Persons.Rvs And Ovs On Washington Between Abbot Kinney And Beach. ("the Motion". See Supporting Documents)
 - (2) Paras. (1)-(4) of the Motion described in detail the adverse impacts illegally parked RVS and OV's on the above described streets adversely affected the residents, businesses and visitors on those streets.
 - (3) The Motion stated The City should forthwith aggressively ticket and tow all vehicles parked on both sides of Washington Blvd. between Abbot Kinney and Beach which are continuously parked over 72 hours in violation of posted signs or do not bear current license tags or which are unsafe or constitute a nuisance.
 - (4) On July 14, 2025 the VNC President sent the Motion to the City. (See Supporting Documents)
 - (5) Soon thereafter, the City cleared many of the RVs and OVS off Washington, but then they returned and are now there.
 - (6) At an August 21, 2125 meeting between City staff and LAPD officers and City residents, City staff stated: (a) The City could use City DOT officers rather than LAPD officers to ticket illegally parked RVS and OV's. (b) A single DOT officer could in a single morning ticket all the illegally parked vehicles on Washington. They further stated the DOT officers could mark the tires of the RVs and OV's on Washington to determine which are parked in excess of 72 hours. (c) An
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impediment to towing is lack of space the City has to store impounded vehicles.

- (7) The City does not have to pay for towing and storing illegally parked vehicles. An 8/27/25 Google Search on the issue “Does the City of Los Angeles pay storage and towing costs for illegally parked vehicles” produced this response. “No, the city of Los Angeles does not pay storage and towing costs for illegally parked vehicles; the registered owner is responsible for all associated fees to retrieve their vehicle. You must pay the towing and storage charges at the Official Police Garage (OPG) before the vehicle is released
- (8) In Telephone conversations on August 21 and 27, 2025 Kevin Bruff of Bruffy’s Tow Service, told VNC Board Member, Clark Brown, that Bruffy’s has a contract with the City which obligates it to tow and store vehicles as the City directs it to do. The City does not pay Bruffy’s for those services. Rather, Bruffy’s seeks payment from the owners of the vehicles as a condition for releasing the vehicles to the owners.
- (9) The VNC Board finds and declares that: (a) There is a reasonable possibility that ticketing by itself without towing may reduce the unlawful RV and OV activity on Washington and nearby streets. (b) Ticketing by itself imposes significant sanctions, including fines, license renewal, insurance and credit problems and other penalties. (c) Most importantly, ticketing communicates that unlawful parking will not be tolerated. (d) Thus, vehicles may move once ticketing starts. (e) If they do not move, the City can tow them as space for impounded vehicles becomes available.
- (10) Doing nothing or delaying effective action will only encourage more illegal activity. The “Broken Windows” theory of criminology (Google Wikipedia Broken Windows Theory of Criminology) posits that simply maintaining and repairing property and forcefully communicating that unlawful conduct will not be ignored or tolerated can by themselves reduce such conduct. This approach has worked in New York City and elsewhere.
- (10) For these reasons the Venice Neighborhood Council finds and declares that consistent, thorough ticketing is worth a try on Washington and its adjoining streets..

20. BUDGET AND FINANCE

D. The VNC Board approves changing the Board meeting location to Penmar Rec Center effective Dec 2025. (See supporting documents) 3/0/0

F. The VNC Board approves the following standing rule: Expenditures involving the purchase of goods or services exceeding \$1,000 shall be made only after the consideration of three alternate bids, proposals, or estimates. This requirement may be waived by action of the Board when the specific expenditure so dictates.



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21. ADJOURN

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

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
- 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 venicenc.org.
