



# Venice Neighborhood Council

PO Box 550, Venice, CA 90294

www.VeniceNC.org



## DRAFT MINUTES

### **Parking, Transportation, and Infrastructure Committee Meeting Agenda Wednesday, September 24, 2025 - 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm Venice Library's Community Room 501 Venice Boulevard**

Si requiere servicios de traducción, favor de avisar al Concejo Vecinal 3 días de trabajo (72 horas) antes del evento. Por favor contacte, Secretaria, al por correo electrónico Secretary@VeniceNC.org para avisar al Concejo Vecinal.

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 one (1) minute per speaker, unless adjusted by the presiding officer of the Board.

**CALL TO ORDER: 6:35**

#### **BOARD ROLL CALL AND CONFLICTS OF INTEREST STATEMENTS:**

Richard Stanger, Chair ✓	Selena Inouye <b>absent</b>	Andreas Kemkes ✓
Crystal Lopez <b>absent</b>	Ellen Schwartz ✓	Colin Warn ✓

**Public attenance was lesss than 8.**

**GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT** - Comments from the public on non-agenda items within the Board's subject matter jurisdiction. Each speaker will be allowed one (1) minute.

- **Concern about homeless people near bus stops**
- **Concern about a running club using library parking spaces. And coastal bikeway.**
- **Note that it is the last day to challenge sanitation rate increase.**
- **Planner of MTA Garage site interested in working with committee.**

**CHAIR COMMENTS:** Rules for items with motions: presentation, then public comments, then only committee discussion and the moving of motion(s).

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES: September 2nd Meeting** **Approved 4-0.**

**OLD BUSINESS:** none

**NEW BUSINESS:**

#### **1. Recommendation to Approve Committee's Work Priorities**



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- a. Description: The PTIC has discussed and adopted a list of issues it wants to pursue over the next two years. It will be very helpful to have VNC's backing. See supporting documents for full discussion.

- b. Public Comments:

Question: Why does proposed work plan need to go to VNC for concurrence?

Answer: It is felt that having the VNC concur gives the committee increased leverage to pursue these projects with City staff.

Question: Will pedestrianization of Windward west of Pacific close Speedway?

Answer: No.

- c. Committee Discussion:

## **Preamble to Motion:**

**Whereas** Venice is one of the most-visited attractions in Los Angeles County, with visitors locally and world-wide arriving by car, transit and bicycle; and

**Whereas** the attraction of Venice will grow during and after the 2025 World Cup and the 2028 Olympic Games. Venice Beach will host three Olympic events that will attract thousands of additional visitors; and

**Whereas** the Venice section of the Marvin Bruade Coastal Bikeway is the single most-used bikeway in the County yet has not been significantly improved since it was built in the early 1980's. It has long suffered from overcrowding and unsafe conditions; and

**Whereas** the many visitors arriving by bus would benefit from a defined "transit center" that tells them clearly they have arrived and allows them to easily interchange among the three bus routes; and

**Whereas** a study has documented that the parking spaces on streets and lots in Venice are too often poorly managed, poorly unenforced, and consequently lead to excessive vehicle-miles of travel as cars search for available spaces.

## **Motion:**

The Parking, Transportation, and Infrastructure Committee of the Venice Neighborhood Council asks it both to support the following improvements and to request that the City aggressively pursue their implementation:

1. Upgrading of the Venice portion of the Coastal Bikeway which has not been significantly improved in the 45 years of its life.
2. Building a transit center in Venice to better serve its own citizens as well as the many visitors who come to Venice by transit.



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3. Implementing the VNC's Parking Recommendations adopted January 2025: 1) establish a Venice Coastal Zone Benefit Parking District, 2) install wayfinding signage, 3) encourage the City to better manage its parking assets, 4) increase the number of parking meters on commercial streets, 5) provide designated drop-off and pick-up locations near the beach and Abbott Kinney Boulevard, 6) raise in-lieu parking fees and modify the in-lieu program to lessen short-term financial impacts, and 7) change on-site parking requirements within the Venice coastal zone.
4. Implementing the pedestrianization of Windward Avenue from Pacific Avenue to Speedway.

The work will require working with appropriate City staff, Council District 11, the Coastal Commission, and the Venice public. The VNC will be kept informed through periodic updates.

d. Motion Made by: **Colin Warn**      Seconded by: **Andreas Kemkes**

Vote: Yes - **4** , No - **0** , Abstain - **0**, Absent - **2**.

## 2. Selection of Windward Avenue-Windward Circle Location for Possible Transit Center

- a. Description: Three possible locations have been mentioned as possible sites for a transit center: the City's Lot 731 just east of Pacific Avenue within the Venice median, the Windward Avenue-Windward Circle (Windward) area, and the old MTA Bus Garage site. These three alternatives have been evaluated and the Windward location is recommended. The other two are encumbered with proposals for other uses making their near-term viability as a transit center uncertain. The use of these properties for an on-site transit center would also compromise these site for other uses. See supporting documents for assessment.

### b. Public Comments:

Where is the information in the assessment from? The information for Lot 731 is from the LADOT staff's December 2024 Board Report; it will be posted on this meetings website.

Is a transit center allowed in the Venice Specific Plan? Both the VCZSP and VLUP are silent on a bus transit center.

There was confusion about the process. Why not do the work detailing the Windward bus transit center and then go to the VNC? The response was that the process was a step-by-step approach with the first step an assessment of alternative sites that would be approved by the VNC. At that point more detailed planning would be done at the selected site with the results of that step also going to the VNC.



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There were questions about public outreach. One purpose of this step is to assess whether a bus transit center at any of the alternative sites is feasible. If not, public input is immaterial. Obtaining public input seemed more appropriate during the next step: the detailing of bus transit concepts at selected location.

A comment was made against the MTA Garage site. It was flowed by a concern that the Lot 731 site was where LADOT wanted the bus transit center, and that the selection of the Windward location was predetermined. It also went against DOT plans for the Lot 731 site.

The response was that an on-site bus center on Lot 731 site was not possible. Having scattered bus stops off-site was not what a bus center was about. Adding more bus turning movements to the busy Venice/Pacific intersections would make an already bad situation worse. The selection of the Winward site did not lessen the importance of the Lot 731 site as a Mobility Hub for beach access by cars and bikes, etc. The location would still be served by a regional bus route.

## c. Committee Discussion:

Would the Windward site still provide access for bicycles and scooters? Yes.

A motion to amend the main motion was made to add the word "bus" before the words "transit center" for clarity. Several public comments seemed supportive.

Motion made by: Andreas Kemkes

Seconded by: Ellen Schwartz

Vote: Yes – 4, No – 0, Abstain – 0, Absent - 2

## Amended Motion:

The Parking, Transportation, and Infrastructure Committee recommends the Windward Avenue-Windward Circle (Windward) location as the best location for a possible **bus** transit center. It asks the Venice Neighborhood Council to concur.

Approval of this motion will allow the Committee to work with City staff to consider design alternatives at the Windward site. Those design alternatives will be reviewed by the committee, other City agencies, the Coastal Commission and the public. It will also come back to the VNC for approval.

d. Motion Made by: Andreas Kemkes

Seconded by: Colin Warn

Vote: Yes - **4**, No - **0**, Abstain - **0**, Absent - **2** .

## 3. Update on Possible Funding Sources for Committee-Related Projects

At its September 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting the Committee noted that it was looking into possible funding sources for projects it plans to pursue. Four possible sources have been identified: MTA



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Local Return funds, Quimby funds, Coastal Transportation Corridor funds, and Venice Coastal Parking Impact Trust Funds. Are any of these funds assured? Not at all. Committee members will be pursuing more positive answers in the months ahead.

Lydia Ponce asked the committee to meet with those from Oakwood that have prior experience with the Quimby Fund. The Chair said he would.

## **ADJOURNMENT: 7:50**

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)

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- 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 \(ENS\)](#)

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### **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 -**

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)