



PO Box 550, Venice, CA 90294 www.VeniceNC.org

Board of Officers Regular Meeting Agenda 6:30PM Tuesday, DEC. 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	Jason Sugars	Richard Stanger
Gary Pearl	Alley Bean	Jim Fitzgerald	Yolanda
Helen Fallon	Brennan Lawson	Joseph Garcia	Sarah Mahir
Tima Bell	Ted Henderson	Kenya Lee	
Mark Mack	Clark Brown	Lisa Redmond	
	Fran Solomon	Nico Ruderman	

- 2. APPROVAL OF PRIOR MINUTES: 2025 VNC NOV AGENDA Minutes
- 3. DECLARATION OF EX PARTE COMMUNICATIONS, CONFLICTS OF INTEREST OR RECUSALS
- 4. PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS
- 5. GOVERNMENT REPORTS (2min each)
- 6. CHAIR REPORTS (1min)
- 7. BOARD MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS (1 Min)
- 8. TREASURER'S REPORT (3min)
- 9. PRESIDENT'S REPORT
- 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





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presiding officer of the meeting

#### 11. 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.fees, and details to be returned to the Board **for approval.** 

#### 12. OLD BUSINESS

#### OUTREACH AND EVENT PLANNING

# A. OUTREACH COLLABORATION WITH LUPC AND COMMUNITY PLAN UPDATE (CPU) AD HOC COMMITTEE (5/0/0)

**MOTION:** The VNC Board approves collaboration between the Outreach Committee, the Land Use and Planning Committee (LUPC), and the Community Plan Update (CPU) Ad Hoc Committee to develop outreach strategies that increase stakeholder visibility and participation in Venice land use projects and planning updates. Strategies may include but are not limited to the "Ideas for Consideration" such as neighborhood pop-ups, a "What's Being Planned in Venice?" webpage, outreach verification forms, door hangers, visual education materials and other ideas presented for consideration.

**DESCRIPTION:**Explore collaboration strategies to improve stakeholder engagement with Venice land use projects and the updated Venice Community Plan. Ideas for Consideration Summary: (See Supporting Document for Full Description) • Neighborhood Pop-Ups to share project info and gather feedback. • "What's Being Planned in Venice?" webpage listing active projects and plan updates. • Outreach Verification Form requiring proof of neighbor notification for LUPC applicants. • Visual education campaign explaining zoning and plan changes. • "Planning 101" workshop on what the Community Plan Update is, how to participate in local meetings and at the city level. • Neighborhood Ambassadors to distribute information locally. • Quarterly "What's on the Horizon" summary of key projects and milestones. • Door Hangers as a low-cost option to notify residents in affected areas.

PARKING, TRANSPORTATION, AND INFRASTRUCTURE





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#### COMMITTEE WORK PLAN AND PRIORITIES

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 actively pursue their implementation: a. Upgrading of the Venice portion of the Coastal Bikeway which has not been significantly improved in the 45 years of its life. b. Building a transit center in Venice to better serve its own citizens as well as the many visitors who come to Venice by transit. c. 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. d. 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 staff, and the Venice public. The VNC will be kept informed through periodic updates.

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 approval.

# • MOTION TO CONSIDER THE SCHOOLS AND PARKS COMMITTEE MISSION STATEMENT

#### **Citing Authority:**

In accordance with Article VIII, Section 4 (Reconsideration) and Article VII, Section 1 (Standing Committees) of the Venice Neighborhood Council Bylaws, this motion seeks to reconsider and amend the proposed Schools and Parks Committee mission statement to align with the Council's objectives while maintaining compliance with all neutrality and conflict-of-interest provisions outlined in Article XIV (Code of Conduct).

**Whereas**, the Venice Neighborhood Council (VNC) is charged under *Article II: Purpose* with promoting the participation of the community in governmental decision-making and improving the quality of life in Venice; and

**Whereas,** the VNC's *Article VII, Section 1* authorizes Standing Committees "to focus on specific issues affecting the Venice community" under the leadership of duly appointed Board members; and





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Whereas, the Schools and Parks Committee exists to enhance community access to educational and recreational resources, consistent with the VNC's guiding principle of equitable civic engagement; and

**Whereas**, concerns were raised that the prior mission statement mirrored language from an external nonprofit organization; and

**Whereas,** it is the intent of this Committee to maintain neutrality while encouraging collaboration among schools, youth programs, and local organizations in accordance with *ArticleFC XIV* (*Code of Conduct*) requiring transparency, ethical conduct, and avoidance of personal gain;

**Therefore, be it resolved,** that the Venice Neighborhood Council hereby amends the Schools and Parks Committee mission statement to read as follows:

"The Schools and Parks Committee is dedicated to promoting opportunities for Venice youth and residents to thrive through equitable access to safe, educational, and recreational spaces, encouraging partnerships among **schools**, **parks**, community organizations, and local government for the enrichment of the Venice community."

#### PARKING AND TRANSPORTATION

#### A. Motion in support of RV petition

**MOTION:** The Venice Neighborhood Council Board supports the Washington Ave. petition and requests that Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass and the Los Angeles City Council give it consideration.

**DESCRIPTION:** A recent petition was collected to ask for more enforcement along Washington Boulevard between Abbot Kinney and Ocean Avenue. (see Supporting Documents ""PETITION TO ENFORCE.pdf"). This petition has gained a tremendous amount of local support and a large number of signatures. Feedback from public discussions of the petition has been mostly related to concerns about public safety.

#### COMMUNICATIONS

#### A. AUDIO/VIDEO EQUIPMENT

MOTION: The VNC approves an expenditure of \$494.65 for the purchase of new microphones, audio/video cables and adapters.





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DESCRIPTION: The current microphones and cables are in critical need of replacement. They have been repaired to the extent possible in order to extend their useful life, but it is increasingly likely they will fail in the coming months as has been repeatedly demonstrated. Purchasing this new equipment now will ensure an appropriate quality experience for all board meeting participants/attendees.

- Eight Shure PGA48-LC microphones \$323.52
- Tainston XLR Cables + Adapters \$171.1
- BOARD MEMBER YOLANDA GONZALEZ REPORT ON NC COMMISSIONERS CONFERENCE (3 MIN)

#### NEW BUSINESS

#### 13. BUDGET AND FINANCE

- A. **MOTION:** The VNC Board approves the November 2025 Monthly Expenditure Report (MER). ( see supporting document)s (4-0-0)
- B. **MOTION:** The VNC Board approves a standing rule that Neighborhood Purpose Grant (NPG) applicants will follow both the city's NPG funding guidelines and regulations and the VNC NPG Eligibility & Application Guidelines. (see supporting documents) (4-0-0)

#### 14. HOMELESSNESS

#### A. FAMILY REUNIFICATION

**MOTION:** VNC board requests CD 11 in conjunction with relevant VNC committees expand awareness and publicity regarding the existence of a family reunification program aimed at reuniting local unhoused stakeholders with housing in their home region funded by CD 11; staffed daily on the boardwalk, by West coast Cares, by bringing awareness to all community members, especially service providers such as St Josephs, Bible Tabernacle, BID, Circle, and the Venice Family Clinic. We also request a report back detailing how sad publicity has been implemented

#### 15. PARKING, TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

A. WRAC Motion on Request by UCLA to Shift Its Subway Station Site





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(4-0-1)

MOTION: The Venice Neighborhood Council, a member of the Westside Regional Alliance of Councils (WRAC), supports the Sepulveda Transit Corridor Project (STCP), including an on-campus UCLA Station located at UCLA Gateway Plaza, near the center of campus, as described in the STCP Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR). We do not support changing the location of the UCLA Station to the intersection of Gayley Avenue and Strathmore Drive, at the far west end of campus, or to any other location on the UCLA campus that has not been studied and analyzed by Metro in accordance with CEQA. If Metro considers any change to the location of the UCLA Station other than at UCLA Gateway Plaza, Metro must: 1) prepare an amendment to the DEIR; and 2) in conformance with CEQA, conduct outreach to the community for additional public comment on the environmental impacts of this proposed change in location.

**DESCRIPTION:** Time Sensitive: deadline for passage January 2026 https://westsidecouncils.com/motion/support-stc-project-including-on-campus-ucla-station-at-ucla-gateway-plaza-oppose-changing-ucla-station-location-to-gayley-ave-strathmore-dr/ Description: The MTA has been preparing a DEIR on the Sepulveda Corridor subway project connecting the Westside to the San Fernando Valley. At the VNC's August meeting it approved a WRAC-prepared motion that: 1) approved the heavy rail mode and 2) approved that mode's three alignment options all of which located the UCLA station at UCLA's Gateway Plaza. UCLA has now requested that the MTA shift the station west one-quarter of a mile to Gayley Avenue primarily to avoid construction impacts at the central Gateway Plaza location. WRAC has asked its Neighborhood Councils to support the motion below. Further discussion of the item can be found as Supporting Documents (attached.)

B. Request that the Venice Neighborhood Council Holds a Town Hall Meeting on the Topic of RVs Parked on Public Streets in Venice.

**MOTION:** The VNC Board approves a Townhall on the topic of RVs Parked on Public Streets in Venice for 2026.

**DESCRIPTION:** The issue of RVs parked on public streets in Venice has been discussed and addressed many times over the past several years. Most recently, the PTIC discussed this issue at its April and October 2025 committee meetings, and the VNC Board had motions on this issue at its May, June, September and November 2025 meetings. Nevertheless, there has been calls for a town hall meeting to address the multi-faceted dimension of the issue. The motion below is to seek VNC concurrence to begin the planning of a town hall meeting in 2026 on this issue.





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# 15. IMMEDIATE ACTION TO PRESERVE, RESTORE, AND ENABLE CONTINUED CULTURAL VITALITY OF VENICE BEACH BOARDWALK — FOCUSING ON HISTORIC PAGODAS AND SUPPORT FOR STREET PERFORMERS

**MOTION:** The Venice Neighborhood Council (VNC) respectfully communicates to our Councilmember Traci Park (CD-11), the Los Angeles City Council, and Mayor Karen Bass that Venice is not only a neighborhood community in Los Angeles — it is an internationally recognized symbol of creativity, freedom, diversity, and unique public-space culture. The Boardwalk, its historic Pagodas, its street performers, and its distinctive social fabric are integral to that identity. As the City prepares for major events and rising tourism, there is a profound opportunity — and responsibility — to preserve what makes Venice irreplaceable. Therefore, the VNC requests that the City: • Immediately prioritize the restoration and reopening of the historic Pagodas along Ocean Front Walk — providing funding, permits, and resources via the relevant city agencies (e.g., Department of Recreation & Parks, Bureau of Street Services, Office of Historic Resources) to refurbish, repair, or, where necessary, rebuild the Pagodas to original or appropriate historically sensitive design standards. • Undertake formal designation of the Pagodas as a protected historic and cultural resource (e.g., Historic-Cultural Monument status), to safeguard them against demolition or neglect. • Develop and implement a Boardwalk cultural preservation plan that supports street performers, buskers, and other independent artists — recognizing their role in Venice's character and tourism appeal. This should include a transparent, fair, and culturally sensitive enforcement and permitting framework that allows performers to continue contributing to the Boardwalk's vibrancy, rather than displacing them through sweeps or blanket confiscations. • Engage with the local Venice community, stakeholders, and cultural advocates to co-design improvements to Ocean Front Walk that balance public safety, cleanliness, and respect for Venice's historic and cultural identity. • Recognize the strategic importance of Venice Beach as a global-destination neighborhood and allocate resources in advance of the upcoming international events (2026 FIFA World Cup, 2028 Summer Olympics) to ensure the Boardwalk's infrastructure and cultural amenities are maintained, accessible, safe, and welcoming. Be it further resolved, the VNC urges Councilmember Park, the City Council, and the Mayor to act now, decisively, and collaboratively to safeguard Venice's cultural heritage, restore its historic landmarks, and support the community of artists and performers who make Venice come alive. Additionally, upon passage of this motion the prepared letter will be sent.

**DESCRIPTION:** Venice's Ocean Front Walk ("Boardwalk") is not only a jewel in the City of Los Angeles' crown but one of Southern California's iconic





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public-spaces and the second-most visited tourist destination in the region, attracting approximately 28,000–30,000 visitors per day and roughly 10 million per year. Along the Boardwalk stand the historic "Pagodas" hexagonal umbrellas/pergolas — originally constructed in the early 1930s under the Works Progress Administration (WPA), giving Venice Boardwalk a distinctive architectural and cultural character. These Pagodas have been long-cherished as landmarks, and have been repaired or rebuilt in earlier refurbishment efforts, But now all Pagodas are reportedly in disrepair some fenced off — and at risk of permanent removal, despite strong community support for their restoration. The Pagodas' deterioration threatens not just physical structures, but the very aesthetic, historical, and social fabric that makes Venice Beach globally unique and beloved. Of late enforcement and cleanup actions along the Boardwalk have disrupted street performance culture. Recently, a longtime Venice street performer (the "Venice Piano Man," Nathan Pino) had his pianos destroyed/impounded during a multi-agency sweep, despite decades of performing on the Boardwalk — an action that struck many in the community as undermining Venice's cultural legacy. The Boardwalk's cultural vitality — including street artists, musicians, performers — contributes significantly to Venice's identity, draws tourists, supports local businesses, and fosters community life. With upcoming major global events — notably the 2026 FIFA World Cup and the 2028 Summer Olympics in Los Angeles — tourism and visitor demand in Venice is expected to surge significantly.

## A. REQUEST DESIGNATION OF OAKWOOD RECREATION CENTER PARK AS A PEOPLE-ONLY, NO-PET PARK

**MOTION:** Therefore, the Venice Neighborhood Council Moves to formally request that Council District 11 Councilmember Traci Park, Mayor Karen Bass, and the Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) work together to designate Oakwood Recreation Center Park as a "People-Only, No-Pet Park," prohibiting pets (except on-leash ADA-defined service animals) within the park grounds in order to enhance public safety, protect children and seniors, and maintain field quality. Further, the VNC requests that RAP: • Install clear signage indicating the no-pet designation, • Increase enforcement of park rules by Park Rangers or designated RAP personnel, LAPD, and • Provide public communication regarding the availability of nearby off-leash dog parks at Westminster Park and Airport Park. Additionally, the Venice Neighborhood Council shall file the prepared Community Impact Statement (CIS) on this matter with the Board of Recreation and Parks Commission, expressing community concerns and supporting the designation of Oakwood Recreation Center Park as a people-only, no-pet facility. Moreover, the prepared letter will be sent upon passage of this motion.

**DESCRIPTION:** Whereas, Oakwood Recreation Center Park is a City of Los





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Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) facility intended to serve the Oakwood and Venice community with open space designated primarily for youth sports, children's play, senior recreation, and general public use; and Whereas, the large open grassy field at Oakwood Recreation Center Park was designed for and is regularly scheduled for organized athletic activities, including soccer, baseball, youth programs, and other permitted uses; and Whereas, the continuing lack of enforcement of existing leash laws has resulted in Oakwood Recreation Center Park being used by many dog owners as a de facto off-leash dog park, contrary to posted rules and the intended recreational purpose of the facility; and Whereas, off-leash dogs in the park present safety concerns for children, seniors, and other park users, including risks of bites, attacks, or unwanted interactions, and regularly result in dog feces being left on the playing fields; and Whereas, off-leash activity also causes significant turf damage, degrading field quality for permitted youth sports and recreation programs; and Whereas, the Venice community already has access to two designated off-leash dog parks nearby: o Westminster Off-Leash Dog Park, approximately ½ mile from Oakwood Recreation Center Park, and o Airport Park Dog Park, approximately 1 mile away, providing dog owners with appropriate and accessible alternatives; and Whereas, several municipalities in the United States have successfully established peopleonly or no-pet parks to ensure safe recreational environments, protect turf quality, and support intended public uses; and Whereas, preserving Oakwood Recreation Center Park for its intended community purpose will promote public safety, family-friendly recreation, high-quality youth sports opportunities, and equitable access for all park users.

# 16. MOTION TO ESTABLISH AN AD HOC COMMITTEE ON LOS ANGELES CITY CHARTER REFORM

MOTION: The Venice Neighborhood Council moves to establish an Ad Hoc Committee on Los Angeles City Charter Reform for the purpose of engaging Venice Stakeholders in shaping recommendations for the City of Los Angeles Charter Reform process. This Ad Hoc Committee shall consist of up to seven (7) members, including at least one (1) Board member, and may include community Stakeholders with interest or relevant experience. The Committee will automatically sunset on October 31, 2026, unless extended by Board action. The Committee will be advisory only, will not speak on behalf of the Venice Neighborhood Council without prior Board approval, and will comply with all Brown Act requirements if determined to be a standing committee.

Mission Statement of the Ad Hoc Committee on Los Angeles City Charter Reform "The mission of the Venice Neighborhood Council Ad Hoc Committee on Los Angeles City Charter Reform is to gather, document, and





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elevate the needs, concerns, and aspirations of Venice Stakeholders regarding the future structure and governance of the City of Los Angeles. The Committee will actively solicit community input, identify Venice-specific priorities, and develop clear, community-driven recommendations and Community Impact Statements for submission to the Charter Reform Commission and for consideration by the VNC Board."

Committee Tasks and Scope The Ad Hoc Committee shall be authorized to: 1. Engage Venice Stakeholders—including residents, renters, homeowners, unhoused neighbors, businesses, artists, civic groups, and youth, among others—to gather feedback on their priorities for Charter reform. 2. Develop outreach methods, such as surveys, listening sessions, workshops, or online feedback tools, to ensure inclusive community participation. 3. Identify Venice-specific needs and concerns related to governance, representation, public safety, land use, city services, ethics, accountability, neighborhood council authority, and other areas that may be affected by Charter reform. 4. Synthesize Stakeholder input into clear written recommendations that reflect the community's expressed priorities. 5. Draft Community Impact Statements, position letters, and reports to recommend to the VNC Board for approval and subsequent submission to the Charter Reform Commission and other relevant bodies. 6. Analyze possible impacts of proposed reforms on neighborhood representation, budget authority, governance structure, land-use process, ethics rules, and other areas relevant to Venice Stakeholders, and communicate to the Board and Venice Stakeholders important information that will impact the community. 7. Provide updates to the VNC Board, including summaries of community feedback and draft recommendations for Board consideration.

**DESCRIPTION:** The City of Los Angeles is undertaking one of the most significant governance conversations in a generation: the reform and potential rewriting of the Los Angeles City Charter. This process will determine how power is distributed, how communities are represented, how city services are delivered, and how Neighborhood Councils function in the decades ahead. For a community as diverse, complex, and uniquely impacted by citywide policy as Venice, meaningful participation in this process is essential. Venice faces distinct challenges and opportunities ranging from land-use pressures to coastal regulations, from tourism impacts to infrastructure needs, from public safety concerns to the ongoing evolution of local representation. The Charter Reform process presents a rare opportunity for the Venice community to articulate what governance structures, accountability mechanisms, and city systems would best support its future. A dedicated VNC Charter Reform Ad Hoc Committee is necessary to ensure that: 1. Venice stakeholders have a structured, transparent forum to voice their priorities, concerns, and aspirations for the future of Los Angeles governance. 2. Community input is proactively gathered, not merely received, through outreach, listening sessions, surveys, and engagement





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across all segments of the Venice population. 3. Venice's unique needs are translated into clear recommendations and Community Impact Statements that can be formally submitted to the City's Charter Reform Commission and the Los Angeles City Council. 4. The VNC Board receives well-researched, community-driven guidance to inform its positions on Charter reform matters. 5. Venice retains a strong voice in shaping how Neighborhood Councils—and the broader City government—will function in the future. Without this committee, Venice risks being underrepresented in a once-in-ageneration civic process that will shape the City's political, structural, and democratic landscape. Establishing a Charter Reform Ad Hoc Committee ensures that Venice's experiences, values, and priorities are not only heard but elevated and incorporated into the reform dialogue. In short: the committee is essential to protect Venice's interests, empower its stakeholders, and ensure that the neighborhood plays an active role in defining the future governance of Los Angeles.

#### 18. 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

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- Receive agendas by email, subscribe to L.A. City's <u>Early Notification System</u> (<u>ENS</u>)

#### **Notice to Paid Representatives -**

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#### **Public Access of Records -**





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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.