



Venice Neighborhood Council

PO Box 550, Venice, CA 90294

www.VeniceNC.org



Board of Officers Regular Meeting Agenda REVISED

6:30PM Tuesday, Jan 20th, 2026

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.

CALL TO ORDER AND BOARD ROLL CALL

Brian Averill	Erica Moore	Jason Sugars	Richard Stanger
Gary Pearl	Alley Bean	Jim Fitzgerald	Yolanda Gonzalez
Helen Fallon	Brennan Lawson	Joseph Garcia	Sarah Mahir
Tima Bell	Ted Henderson	Kenya Lee	Soraya Moss
Mark Mack	Clark Brown	Lisa Redmond	
	Fran Solomon	Nico Ruderman	

- MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR TYLER PACKHAM**
- APPROVAL OF PRIOR MINUTES:** <https://www.venicenc.org/assets/documents/5/meeting694872440e6da.pdf>
- DECLARATION OF EX PARTE COMMUNICATIONS, CONFLICTS OF INTEREST OR RECUSALS**
- PRESENTATION BY CD 11 TO NICHOLAS HIPPISELY-COXE'S FAMILY**
- PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS**
- GOVERNMENT REPORTS (2min each)**
- CHAIR REPORTS (1min)**
- BOARD MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS (1 Min)**
- TREASURER'S REPORT (3min)**
- PRESIDENT'S REPORT**
- GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT – LIMIT TO 20MIN/1MIN PER SPEAKER**



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

PARKING, TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

Motion to Allow the Release of the Venice Bikeway Network Questionnaire (5-0-1-1)

MOTION: The Parking, Transportation and Infrastructure Committee asks the VNC to allow the Committee to release its questionnaire on its proposed Venice Bikeway Network and start a six-week public review period.

DESCRIPTION: Venetians use bicycles five times more than the average Angeleno. However, the City's *Mobility2025 Plan* shows a very minimal bikeway network. The Parking, Transportation and Infrastructure Committee is proposing a much more robust Venice Bikeway Network that may eventually lead to safer bicycle use throughout Venice. The Committee wants the public to comment on the proposed plan including through a questionnaire. Link in Supporting Documents.

13. LUPC CONSENT ITEMS

A. Projects for which VNC Recommendation is Waived, Without Prejudice

The Board can decide to take any project listed in the motions below off of Consent and put it at the end of the LUPC agenda (Not at the end of the board agenda) below to discuss and vote on whether to waive review send the project back to LUPC for review and a public hearing.

Motions:

1. The Venice Neighborhood Council waives review of the following project, without prejudice:

3000 Beach Ave DIR-2025-5967-MEL, ADM-2025-4901-CEX; Remodel existing SFD, convert existing attached garage to junior ADU per GCS 66323(a)(1) & 66333

<https://planning.lacity.gov/pdiscaseinfo/search/casenummer/DIR-2025-5967-MEL>

2. The Venice Neighborhood Council waives review of the following project, without prejudice:

19 Sunset Ave DIR-2025-5972-SPPC, ENV-2025-5973-CE; Remodel existing apartment to demo 2 balconies, replace 2 sliding doors with new windows, replace guardrail on 1 balcony

<https://planning.lacity.gov/pdiscaseinfo/search/casenummer/DIR-2025-5972-SPPC>

3. The Venice Neighborhood Council waives review of the following project, without prejudice:

20 Privateer Street DIR-2025-5994-MEL-HCA, ADM-2025-5996-VSO-ADU, ENV-2025-5995-CE; New ADU within existing building

<https://planning.lacity.gov/pdiscaseinfo/search/casenummer/DIR-2025-5994-MEL-HCA>

4. The Venice Neighborhood Council waives review of the following project, without prejudice:

2413 Abbot Kinney Blvd DIR-2025-6361-MEL-HCA; Mello Act review to convert existing attached



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garage to ADU [Does not require CDP]

<https://planning.lacity.gov/pdiscaseinfo/search/casenumbr/DIR-2025-6361-MEL-HCA>

1. **3116 Stanford Ave - 7-0-0 (1 absent, 1 open seat)**

DIR-2025-5335-CDP-MEL-HCA; ADM-2025-5336-VSO-ADU; ENV-2025-5337-CE

Case on hold

Planner: Michelle.Gallarza@lacity.org

City Hearing Date: not yet scheduled

Project Description: Conversion of existing garage to ADU & storage addition

David Turnbull, LUPC Staff

<https://planning.lacity.gov/pdiscaseinfo/search/casenumbr/DIR-2025-5335-CDP-MEL-HCA>

Motion:

The Venice Neighborhood Council recommends approval of the application for 3116 Stanford Ave for the improvement of an existing garage conversion to an ADU and the removal of unpermitted earlier modifications and supports the efforts made by the owner and their architect to legitimize the use of the former garage and make sensitive adjustments to the window placement and doors.

2. **325 Brooks Ave - 7-0-0 (1 absent, 1 open seat)**

DIR-2025-5126-CDP-MEL-HCA; ADM-2025-5127-VSO-ADU; ENV-2025-5128-CE

Case on hold

Planner: Michelle.Gallarza@lacity.org

City Hearing Date: not yet scheduled

Project Description: Conversion of detached garage into ADU with 2nd story addition

David Turnbull, LUPC Staff

<https://planning.lacity.gov/pdiscaseinfo/search/casenumbr/DIR-2025-5126-CDP-MEL-HCA>

Motion:

The Venice Neighborhood Council recommends approval of the project at 325 Brooks Ave, for the conversion of an existing detached garage into a two story ADU + garage, facing Indiana Court, establishing a street face, contributing to the character of the alley, and a gentle density up-lift consistent with long term goals set out in the Venice Community Plan and certified Venice Land Use Plan, conditioned on the applicant conforming with the relevant Home Sharing Ordinance and not offering this unit as a short-term rental

OLD BUSINESS

14. PARKING, TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

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



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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.)

15. IMMEDIATE ACTION TO PRESERVE, RESTORE, AND ENABLE CONTINUED CULTURAL VITALITY OF VENICE BEACH BOARDWALK (LISA REDMOND/SARAH MAHIR)

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 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.



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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.

NEW BUSINESS

16. ELECTIONS / APPOINTMENTS

LUPC COMMITTEE MEMBER ELECTION (1 Minute Introductions)

- **Natasha Afshar**
- **Jerry Pullman**
- **Susan Beningfield**
- **Gabriel Ruspini**

17. BUDGET AND FINANCE

- a. The VNC Board approves the December 2025 Monthly Expenditure Report (MER). (see supporting documents)
- b. The VNC Board approves a reimbursement of \$25 to Outreach Chair Erica Moore for parking expenses incurred 11/1/25 during tabling at Jazz Is Festival. (see supporting documents)
- c. The VNC Board approves an Outreach Expenditure of up to \$400 for banner patches and promotional materials for a Zoom Town Hall focusing on RVs. The VNC also approves any necessary budget adjustments. (Town Hall was approved by the Board at the December 2025 Board meeting.) (see supporting documents)
- d. Pet Resources Fair Event subject to approval by the Board: MOTION: The VNC Board approves an in person Pet Resource Fair hosted at a local park. The non-profit “Reducing Animal Stress” will coordinate and bring in local services. Sponsored by



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Council District 11, with VNC Costs not to exceed \$1,500.00 that could include a picnic/ bbq component and other costs for promotion and swag. Specific expenses and any necessary budget adjustments must be approved by the Board prior to expenditure



- e. The VNC Board approves an Outreach Expenditure of up to \$400 for banner patches and promotional materials for the Board approved Tsunami Townhall. (see supporting documents)
- f. The VNC Board approves an Outreach expenditure of up to \$150 for door hangers for LUPC (see supporting documents)

18. HOMELESSNESS

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

19. OUTREACH

A. Pet Resource Fair

Motion: The VNC Board approves an in person Pet Resource Fair hosted at a local park. The non-profit "Reducing Animal Stress" will coordinate and bring in local services. Sponsored by Council District 11, VNC Costs will not exceed \$1,500.00 that could include a picnic/bbq component and other costs for promotion and swag.

B. Newsletter

Motion: The VNC Board approves the adoption of the sample Newsletter template with adjustments. This newsletter would be sent out biweekly and include relevant information related to the VNC for Venice Stakeholders, including upcoming events, committee meetings, and ways to get involved.

C. Outreach Materials for Events

Motion: The VNC Board approves the purchase of Banner Patches announcing the preapproved Tsunami Town Hall Event, Door Hangers w/the VNC Logo Style Design and Corresponding Flyers utilized for LUPC notifications not to exceed \$550.00

20. LUPC

3. 17-21 Jib St - 5-0-2 (1 absent, 1 open seat)

CPC-2025-1561-DB-CU2-CDP-MEL-SPPC-HCA; ENV-2025-1562-EAF

Case NOT on hold

Planner: Michelle.Gallarza@lacity.org

City Hearing Date: not yet scheduled

Project Description: Demolition of residential improvements on two walk street lots: 4225-011-009 (after the fact approval of demo of SFD) & 4225-011-011 (5-unit residential



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structure), and construction of a 5-story, 59', 25-unit residential structure, including 5 units reserved for Very Low Income (VLI) households, & 1 unit reserved for Lower Income (LI) households, with Density Bonus incentives and waivers.

David Turnbull & Robin Rudisill, LUPC Staff

<https://planning.lacity.gov/pdiscaseinfo/search/casenummer/CPC-2025-1561-DB-CU2-CDP-MEL-SPPC-HCA>

Motion:

The Venice Neighborhood Council (VNC) opposes the City's approval of the project at 17–21 Jib Street and recommends that the project be denied in its current form for failure to comply with the State Density Bonus Law, the Coastal Act, the certified Venice Land Use Plan, and the Venice Coastal Zone Specific Plan.

The VNC further recommends that any revised project at this site:

1. Comply with the 28 foot height limit for structures on walk streets in the Marina Peninsula Subarea of the Venice Coastal Zone;
2. Provide substantially more on-site parking to protect coastal access and neighborhood livability;
3. Respect the scale, massing, and character of the historic Venice walk streets that have been recognized in the LUP as a highly scenic coastal area and key element of Venice's designation as a Special Coastal Community; and
4. Demonstrate that any Density Bonus incentives and waivers are the minimum necessary to physically accommodate the affordable units, in a manner that is fully consistent with Government Code §65915(m) and the Coastal Act.

STAKEHOLDER LISA REDMOND

21. 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 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.”



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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



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outreach, listening sessions, surveys, and engagement 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-a-generation 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.

22. 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 -

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- 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



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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.



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