

## 2026 Feb VNC Notes

(All Voting is registered in the matrix below)

- Meeting Start Time 6:44
- Roll Call - All Present
- Ex parte Communications: Tima – Everyone about all the agenda items, Erica – Many members about budget and town hall, Kenya, Gary, Soraya – Discussions with most members about most to the agenda items.
- Vincent informed us that there may be a Brown Act Violation regarding the OFW committee and all items in Item 14 on the agenda are to be pulled
- Motion to not table the direction from the city attorney to table motion 14 – Tima, Jason - Motion Carried
- Prior Minutes Dec: Soraya, Clark – Motion carried
- Prior Minutes Jan – Soraya Clark – Motion carried
- Prior Minutes Special Meeting - Jan 2nd – Tima Clark – Motion carried
- Motion to move Items 13.1 & 13.3 to consent – Richard, Ted - Motion Failed
- General Consent approved
- Presidential Appointment –
  - Votes:
    - David Feige - 13 (Elected)
    - Ted Henderson -4,
    - Ben Simon - 2
    - Abstain - 1.
    - Gray Pearl removed himself from the election.
- Motion to move item 16 to after the presidential appointment - Jason, Sarah – carried
- Brennan and Kenya left at 9:30PM
- Alley Bean left at 10PM
- Item 16 Pagodas – Tima, Jason – Motion Carries
- Motion to have a special meeting Tuesday Feb 24th at 7 pm by zoom: Tima, Jason - motion carries
- Adjourn – 10:16

Roll Call	Motion to not table item 14 as directed by the city Atty.	Prior Minutes Dec	Prior Minutes - Jan	Prior Minutes Special Meeting Jan 2nd	Motion to move items 13.1 & 13.3 to Consent	Motion to move item 16 to after the election	Motion 16 - Pagodas	Motion to have a special meeting Tue Feb. 24th for remainder of the agenda
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Alley Bean	x	y	y	y	abstain	n	y	Absent	absent
Tima Bell	x	y	y	y	y	n	y	y	y
Clark Brown	x	y	y	y	y	n	n	y	y
Richard Stanger	x	y	y	absent	y	y	y	<b>y</b>	<b>y</b>
Helen Fallon	x	n	abstain	y	y	n	y	<b>y</b>	<b>y</b>
Yolanda Gonzalez	x	y	y	y	y	y	n	<b>y</b>	<b>y</b>
Brennan Lawson	x	n	y	y	abstain	y	absent	absent	absent
Kenya Lee	x	y	y	y	y	n	absent	absent	absent
Mark Mack	x	n	y	y	y	n	y	<b>y</b>	<b>y</b>
Erica Moore	x	n	abstain	<b>y</b>	<b>y</b>	n	y	<b>y</b>	<b>y</b>
Lisa Redmond	x	n	abstain	<b>abstain</b>	<b>n</b>	n	y	<b>y</b>	<b>y</b>
Gary Pearl	x	y	y	y	y	n	abstain	y	<b>y</b>
Nico Ruderman	x	y	y	y	y	n	y	y	y
Fran Solomon	x	y	y	<b>y</b>	<b>y</b>	n	y	<b>y</b>	<b>y</b>
Jim Fitzgerald	X	y	y	<b>y</b>	<b>y</b>	n	n	<b>y</b>	<b>y</b>
Jason Sugars	X	y	y	<b>y</b>	<b>y</b>	n	y	<b>y</b>	<b>y</b>
Sarah Mahir	X	n	abstain	<b>y</b>	<b>abstain</b>	n	y	<b>y</b>	<b>y</b>
Ted Henderson	X	y	y	<b>y</b>	<b>y</b>	y	n	<b>absent</b>	<b>absent</b>
Soraya Moss	X	y	y	<b>y</b>	<b>y</b>	n	y	<b>y</b>	<b>y</b>
Joseph Garcia	X	absent	absent	absent	abstain	absent	y	y	y
<b>TOTALS</b>		19-0-0-1	<b>15-0-4-1</b>	<b>17-0-2-1</b>	<b>15-1-4-0</b>	<b>15-4-1</b>	<b>13-4-1-2</b>	<b>16-0-0-4</b>	<b>16-0-0-4</b>



# Venice Neighborhood Council

PO Box 550, Venice, CA 90294

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## VENICE NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

### Board Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, February 17th 2026

6:30 pm

Westminster Elementary School

1010 Abbot Kinney Blvd Venice, CA 90291

(enter from parking lot on Westminster Ave)

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.

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER AND BOARD ROLL CALL

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

#### 2. DECLARATION OF EXPARTE COMMUNICATIONS AND CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

#### 3. APPROVAL of PRIOR MINUTES:

See supporting documents for Board Meetings: DEC.16<sup>th</sup> 2025, JAN 20<sup>th</sup> 2026

and

Special Meeting FEB 11<sup>th</sup> 2026

#### a. Corrections/Adjustments:

Maker:                      Seconded:                      Vote: (  Yes /  No /  Abstained /  Recused /  Ineligible)



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4. BLACK HISTORY MONTH – Venice Beach – Presentation by Dr. Naomi Nightingale (5 Minutes)

5. CHAIR REPORTS (1 Minute Each):

6. PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS

7. GOVERNMENT REPORTS (2 Minutes Each)

8. BOARD MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS (1 Minute Each)

9. SAFE CLEAN WATER GRANT PRESENTATION – Isabelle Duvivier (8 Minutes)

10. 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 unless adjusted by the presiding officer of the meeting.

11. GENERAL CONSENT

Stakeholder Soraya Moss

**A. MOTION:** The Venice Neighborhood Council approves the establishment of an official VNC YouTube account for the posting of all webinar recordings and assorted activities.

## Land Use and Planning (LUPC):

1. Motions for which VNC Recommendation is Waived, Without Prejudice

The Venice Neighborhood Council waives review of the following projects, without prejudice:

3000 Beach Ave Remodel existing SFD, convert existing attached garage to junior ADU per GCS 66323(a)(1) & 66333

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

19 Sunset Ave 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/casnumber/DIR-2025-5972-SPPC>

20 Privateer Street New ADU within existing building

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

2413 Abbot Kinney Blvd Mello Act review to convert existing attached garage to ADU

[Does not require CDP]

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



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## 2. 3116 Stanford Ave 7-0-0 (1 absent, 1 open seat)

**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.

## 3. 325 Brooks Ave 7-0-0 (1 absent, 1 open seat)

**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.

## 4. 670-672 Westminster Ave 8-0-0 (1 absent, 0 recused)

**Project Description:** Conversion of a 460 SF garage into an ADU David Turnbull, LUPC Staff

<https://planning.lacity.gov/pdiscaseinfo/search/casenumbr/DIR-2025-4836-CDP-MEL>

**MOTION:** The Venice Neighborhood Council recommends approval of this application for the improvement of an existing garage conversion to an ADU, as built. LUPC supports the efforts made by the owner to legitimize the use of the former garage for long term rental as an ADU.

## Outreach Committee

**Website Addition:** Town Hall & Events Page 4-0-0 (Unanimous)

**MOTION:** The VNC Board approves the creation of a Town Hall and Events page on the VNC website to serve as an educational and informational resource related to VNC hosted Town Halls and community events. The page may include event listings, background materials, stakeholder engagement tools, follow up information, and links to relevant



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reports and resources and shall be developed collaboratively by the Outreach and Communications Committees consistent with VNC policies and City guidelines.

**Description:** Creation of a dedicated Town Hall and Events page on the VNC website to support education, transparency, and ongoing stakeholder engagement related to VNC hosted Town Halls and community events. This page would serve as a centralized informational resource for stakeholders, board members, presenters, and committees, and may include upcoming Town Halls and events, background information, links to reports and resources, and clearly identified points of contact. The page may also include structured methods for stakeholder engagement such as submitting questions in advance, suggesting future Town Hall topics, and viewing summaries or outcomes of past events. Where appropriate, follow up information such as key takeaways, responses to commonly asked questions, references to pilot programs, and links to City or community resources may be included to create a clear and lasting public record.

## 12. PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

**CANDIDATES WILL HAVE (2 Minutes to present)**

- A. David Feige
- B. Ted Henderson
- C. Gary Pearl
- D. Ben Simon

**OLD BUSINESS:**

## 13. HOMELESSNESS

### A. FAMILY REUNIFICATION (4min)

**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 said publicity has been implemented.

## 14. OUTREACH

### Newsletter (5 Minutes)

**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.



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## 15. STAKEHOLDER LISA REDMOND (10 Min)

### A. 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.”

#### 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



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**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 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.

**Maker:                      Seconded:                      Vote: (  Yes /  No /  Abstained /  Recused /  Ineligible**

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### **12. BUDGET AND FINANCE:**

#### **A. Treasurers Report (2 min)**



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B. The VNC Board approves the January 2026 Monthly Expenditure Report (MER). see supporting documents.

Maker:                      Seconded:                      Vote: (  Yes /  No /  Abstained /  Recused /  Ineligible)

C. The VNC Board approves a budget not to exceed \$1,000 for the In Person "RVs Parked in the Streets of Venice Town Hall" previously approved as a Zoom event. Funds may be used for reasonable and necessary event related expenses, including location or room costs, equipment rentals such as tables and chairs, security support, decorum signage, location staffing, and very light refreshments such as water and protein bars. VNC approves budget adjustment if needed. (see supporting documents)

Maker:                      Seconded:                      Vote: (  Yes /  No /  Abstained /  Recused /  Ineligible)

## 13. LUPC

### 1. 606 Venice Blvd 8-1-0 (20 min)

APCW-2025-4181-CDP-SPPE-SPPC, ENV-2025-4182-CE

**Motion:** Resolved, the Venice Neighborhood Council supports the project at 606 Venice Blvd, with the following changes:

- a) The project shall add as many mature trees as possible, to provide shade over all areas.
- b) The project shall incorporate best practices in watershed management so that water catchment occurs on site, and cobblestones shall remain permeable.
- c) The applicant shall conduct a traffic circulation study to analyze the possibility of reversing the traffic flow.
- d) The project shall reserve space for Venice-based public art in the open exterior walls and/or outdoor spaces and shall incorporate architectural elements reflective of historic Venice character.
  - a. Case on hold

Planner: [Luis.C.Lopez@lacity.org](mailto:Luis.C.Lopez@lacity.org)

City Hearing Date: not yet scheduled

**Project Description:** Change of use & tenant improvements from existing office, light manufacturing, retail sales, and restaurant to a shopping center including retail, fitness, & sit-down/take-out restaurants

Jenesa Kurland, LUPC Staff

<https://planning.lacity.gov/pdiscaseinfo/search/casenumbr/APCW-2025-4181-CDP-SPPE-SPPC>

Maker:                      Seconded:                      Vote: (  Yes /  No /  Abstained /  Recused /  Ineligible)

### 2. Commercial uses in Industrial Zones--LUP Policy I.C.1.Industrial Land Use 5-2-2 (10 minutes)

**City Council file:**

<https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=25-1282>

**City Council File motion by Councilmember Park:**

[https://cityclerk.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2025/25-1282\\_misc\\_10-28-25.pdf](https://cityclerk.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2025/25-1282_misc_10-28-25.pdf)



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**Certified Land Use Plan excerpt for Industrial Zones:**

**<https://www.venicenc.org/assets/documents/5/meeting6987987584c99.pdf>**

**Motion:**

Resolved, the Venice Neighborhood Council supports the motion in City Council File 25-1282 to amend the certified Venice Land Use Plan to clarify Policy I.C.1. Industrial Land Use, to explicitly prescribe that commercial uses are permitted on industrially designated land, on the condition that high quality industrial uses and artist studios/“artist studios with residences” are the priority uses over commercial use.

CIS for Council File 25-1282

**Maker:                      Seconded:                      Vote: (  Yes /  No /  Abstained /  Recused /  Ineligible)**

**3. 1515 Abbot Kinney Blvd/The Brig 8-1-0 (30 min)**

DIR-2025-2993-CDP, ENV-2025-2994-CE

**Motion:** For the reasons set forth in the LUPC Staff Report and Supplemental LUPC Staff Report, the Venice Neighborhood Council recommends denial of the CDP for “Al Fresco Dining” at 1515 Abbot Kinney Blvd/The Brig.

Case NOT on hold

Planner: Luis.C.Lopez@lacity.org

Hearing Date: not yet scheduled

**Project description:** Conversion of parking lot with temporary outdoor dining to permanent outdoor dining area

David Feige, LUPC Staff

**<https://planning.lacity.gov/pdiscaseinfo/search/casenumbr/DIR-2025-2993-CDP>**

**Maker:                      Seconded:                      Vote: (  Yes /  No /  Abstained /  Recused /  Ineligible)**

**14. OCEAN FRONT WALK**

**A. OCEAN FRONT WALK CULTURAL PRESERVATION PLAN (30 Min)**

**Motion:** that the Venice Neighborhood Council formally requests the City Council, through the appropriate committees, to instruct the **Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP)**, in coordination with the **Bureau of Street Services (StreetsLA)** and the **Department of Public Works**, to:

- Conduct an immediate structural and historic-condition assessment of the Venice Boardwalk Pagodas.
- Identify required repairs, restoration, or reconstruction consistent with historically sensitive design standards; and
- Report back to Council with cost estimates, funding options, and an implementation timeline.



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Initiation and completion of the Report shall take priority over all other items in this resolution and shall not be delayed pending initiation and completion of any other matter identified herein.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Venice Neighborhood Council requests the City Council to instruct the **Office of Historic Resources (OHR)**, in coordination with RAP, to evaluate the Pagodas for **Historic-Cultural Monument (HCM) designation** or equivalent protective status, and to report findings and recommendations under **CF 19-0600** or a successor Council File.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Venice Neighborhood Council calls upon the **Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA)**, in coordination with RAP, LAPD, and relevant enforcement agencies, to develop a **Boardwalk Cultural Preservation Plan**, which shall include:

- Recognition of street performers and independent artists as cultural assets;
- A transparent and equitable permitting or use framework consistent with **CF 11-0923**;
- Clear enforcement guidelines designed to avoid unnecessary confiscation or destruction of artistic property; and
- Community input from Venice stakeholders and cultural practitioners.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Venice Neighborhood Council requests that the **Mayor's Office**, in coordination with the **Chief Legislative Analyst (CLA)** and **City Administrative Officer (CAO)**, identify funding opportunities — including capital funds, grants, or event-related allocations — to support Pagoda restoration and Boardwalk cultural infrastructure in advance of the 2026 and 2028 international events referenced in **CF 20-0317** and **CF 21-1246**.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Venice Neighborhood Council urges the City to meaningfully engage Venice residents, neighborhood councils, local businesses, and cultural advocates in the planning and implementation of Boardwalk improvements to ensure alignment with Venice's historic and cultural identity.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that upon passage of this motion, the Venice Neighborhood Council directs that a formal transmittal letter be sent to:

**cc:**

- Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE)
- Chief Legislative Analyst (CLA)
- City Administrative Officer (CAO)
- Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP)
- Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA)
- Office of Historic Resources (OHR)
- Bureau of Street Services (StreetsLA)
- Los Angeles Police Department, Pacific Area (as applicable)

**Description:**

The Ocean Front Walk Cultural Preservation Plan establishes a comprehensive framework to preserve, restore, and protect the historic, cultural, and artistic character of Venice Beach's Boardwalk. The Plan addresses the restoration and long-term protection of historic infrastructure, including the Pagodas; the recognition and support of street performance and independent artistic expression; community-engaged



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and context-sensitive public-space improvements; and proactive preparation for increased global visitation associated with upcoming international events. The Plan seeks to balance public safety, accessibility, cleanliness, and enforcement with the preservation of Venice’s unique cultural identity and historic legacy.

## **A: Restoration and Historic Protection of the Venice Boardwalk Pagodas**

### **Description:**

This motion addresses the urgent need to restore, reopen, and formally protect the historic Pagodas along Ocean Front Walk. Originally constructed in the early 1930s under the Works Progress Administration (WPA), the Pagodas are defining architectural and cultural features of the Venice Boardwalk. This motion seeks immediate City action to assess their condition, fund necessary repairs or reconstruction using historically sensitive standards, and pursue formal historic designation to ensure long-term preservation and prevent demolition or neglect.

**WHEREAS**, Venice Beach is an internationally recognized neighborhood of the City of Los Angeles, known for its historic public spaces, cultural diversity, street performance traditions, and unique artistic character; and

**WHEREAS**, Venice’s Ocean Front Walk (“Boardwalk”) is one of Southern California’s most iconic public spaces and among the region’s most visited tourist destinations, receiving approximately 28,000–30,000 visitors per day and an estimated 10 million visitors annually; and

**WHEREAS**, the Boardwalk’s historic hexagonal pergolas commonly known as the “Pagodas” were originally constructed in the early 1930s contributing to the distinctive architectural, cultural, and historical identity of Venice Beach; and

**WHEREAS**, the Pagodas have previously been repaired or reconstructed through City-led efforts, but are currently reported to be in significant disrepair, with some structures fenced off and at risk of permanent removal; and

**WHEREAS**, the deterioration or loss of the Pagodas would materially harm the historic, aesthetic, and cultural character of Venice Beach and undermine City policies supporting historic and cultural preservation, including Council File **CF 17-1524** and **CF 19-0600**;

## **B: Preservation of Boardwalk Street Performance and Cultural Expression**

### **Description:**

This motion affirms street performers, musicians, and independent artists as essential contributors to Venice Beach’s cultural identity, tourism economy, and public life. It calls for a culturally sensitive and transparent approach to permitting and enforcement along Ocean Front Walk, ensuring that public safety and cleanliness are maintained without displacing long-standing performance traditions or destroying artistic property.



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**WHEREAS**, Venice’s Boardwalk has historically supported a vibrant culture of street performers, musicians, artists, and independent creatives whose presence contributes significantly to tourism, local economic activity, and community life; and

**WHEREAS**, street performance and informal artistic expression are core elements of Venice Beach’s cultural identity and global reputation; and

**WHEREAS**, recent multi-agency enforcement and cleanup actions along Ocean Front Walk — including property confiscation and destruction — have disrupted long-standing performance practices and raised community concern regarding cultural displacement and lack of culturally sensitive enforcement; and

**WHEREAS**, such enforcement actions risk conflicting with City policies supporting arts, cultural equity, and lawful public-space use, including **CF 11-0923** and **CF 15-1138**;

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## **C: Community Engagement and Context-Sensitive Boardwalk Improvements**

### **Description:**

This motion emphasizes the importance of meaningful community engagement in the planning and implementation of improvements to Ocean Front Walk. It seeks to ensure that decisions regarding infrastructure, safety, cleanliness, and accessibility are developed collaboratively with Venice residents, stakeholders, and cultural advocates, and that such improvements respect Venice’s historic character and social fabric.

**WHEREAS**, Ocean Front Walk functions as both a critical public safety corridor and a culturally significant public space requiring careful balance between cleanliness, accessibility, enforcement, and cultural preservation; and

**WHEREAS**, meaningful engagement with Venice residents, neighborhood councils, local businesses, artists, and cultural advocates is essential to achieving durable and community-supported improvements; and

**WHEREAS**, past top-down approaches to Boardwalk modifications have contributed to community distrust and outcomes misaligned with Venice’s historic and cultural identity;

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## **D: Global Event Readiness and Long-Term Cultural Infrastructure Investment**

### **Description:**

This motion addresses the need for proactive investment in Venice Beach’s infrastructure and cultural amenities in advance of major international events, including the 2026 FIFA World Cup and the 2028 Summer Olympic Games. It recognizes Venice Beach as a global-destination neighborhood and calls for coordinated planning and resource allocation to ensure the Boardwalk remains safe, accessible, welcoming, and culturally authentic during periods of increased global attention.

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**WHEREAS**, the City of Los Angeles is preparing to host major international events, including the **2026 FIFA World Cup** and the **2028 Summer Olympic Games**, which will place unprecedented global attention on Venice Beach; and

**WHEREAS**, Council Files **CF 20-0317** and **CF 21-1246** emphasize the importance of advance infrastructure investment, visitor experience, and cultural readiness in high-profile destination areas; and

**WHEREAS**, Venice Beach is expected to experience a substantial increase in visitation associated with these events, necessitating proactive investment in historic assets, cultural amenities, and public-space infrastructure to ensure Venice remains safe, welcoming, and culturally authentic.

## **E: Restoration and Preservation of the Venice Boardwalk Art Tiles**

### **Description:**

This motion addresses the preservation, restoration, and long-term protection of the decorative art tiles embedded along Venice Beach’s Ocean Front Walk. These tiles represent decades of community-driven artistic expression and contribute to the Boardwalk’s distinctive visual identity. Many tiles are currently cracked, missing, obscured, or deteriorating due to age, heavy foot traffic, environmental exposure, and inconsistent maintenance. This motion seeks coordinated City action to assess, restore, and preserve the art tiles in a manner that respects their artistic integrity and cultural significance.

**WHEREAS**, Venice Beach’s Ocean Front Walk contains numerous decorative art tiles created and installed over many decades by artists, community members, and City-supported programs, forming a unique and recognizable public art feature of the Boardwalk; and

**WHEREAS**, the art tiles contribute to Venice Beach’s cultural identity, pedestrian experience, and reputation as a center for public art, creativity, and community expression; and

**WHEREAS**, many of the art tiles are currently damaged, cracked, missing, covered, or in advanced stages of deterioration due to environmental exposure, heavy public use, and deferred maintenance; and

**WHEREAS**, the loss or neglect of these art tiles diminishes the artistic, cultural, and historic character of Ocean Front Walk and conflicts with City policies supporting public art preservation and cultural resources, including the City’s Public Art Program and relevant Council Files related to cultural preservation; and

**WHEREAS**, restoration of the art tiles requires coordination among multiple City entities, including the Department of Recreation and Parks, the Department of Cultural Affairs, the Bureau of Street Services, and the Office of Historic Resources, to ensure appropriate conservation methods, public safety, and long-term maintenance.

## **15. Arbor Committee (10 Min)**

### **A. VNC Support for the Great Park Coalition (4-0-0)**



# Venice Neighborhood Council

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**Motion:** The Venice Neighborhood Council supports the creation of a great park on the soon-to-be-closed Santa Monica Airport and will add their endorsement to the Great Park Coalition’s list of partners. A letter of support will be sent to the city council district 11 office, the Rec and Park staff, and Streets LA.

**Description:** A recent meeting of the East Venice Neighborhood Association has brought forward the increased pressure to derail the planned airport closure with various efforts that directly impact Venice stakeholders. Please consider this effort to support the work of the Great Park Coalition to close the airport and use it as a future park. Whereas Santa Monica voters overwhelmingly passed Measure LC in 2014, a charter amendment requiring the 192-acre Santa Monica airport property be used only for parks or recreational space once closed, Whereas the planned conversion of the Santa Monica Airport to a park will greatly increase open space access for Venice residents, especially the residents of East Venice, Whereas the Great Park Coalition has represented the efforts of the Santa Monica public to convert the park into a “Great Park”; Whereas Venice residents support the increase of open space, urban canopy, and biodiversity inside the urban environment and collaborative work can link the Santa Monica airport property, or the “Great Park”, to Venice in a way that supports these goals, Venice ought to engage and participate in the design and future of this space; Whereas the pollution, noise, and use of public space of Santa Monica Airport does not benefit and specifically harms the public at large and many Venice residents,

## 16. Stakeholder Greta Cobar

### A. Venice Pagodas (15 Min)

**Motion:** Requesting that the current refurbishment plan scheduled for the pagodas on OFW have the goal of restoration following the 1931 construction plans, as executed by Arthur Cox. These include, but are not limited to: original size of pagodas; original number and design of seats and seating areas underneath and around the pagodas; original color and decorations of the pagodas

Requesting that the Recreation and Parks Department and CD11 hold a Town Hall meeting for public input regarding restoration of the pagodas on OFW  
Requesting that the design plans for the restoration of the pagodas be released and open for public input

Requesting that the VNC address this motion at the February VNC Board meeting because Recreation and Parks is scheduled to start working on the pagodas soon

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Department of Recreation and Parks  
Department of Cultural Affairs  
Office of Historic Resources  
Bureau of Street Services  
Business Improvement District  
Chief Legislative Analyst  
Chief Administrative Officer

**Description: Whereas the pagodas (originally called pergolas) on Ocean Front Walk were first built in 1931-1932**

**Whereas the pagodas' construction was financed by unemployment bond funds**

**Whereas the pagodas' original 1931 design is historical**

**Whereas the pagodas were designed by famous architect Gregory Ain (1908-1988)**

**Whereas the city of Los Angeles illegally and against its own refurbishment plans of 1997 decreased the size of the pagodas; reduced the number of seats under the pagodas; and fundamentally altered the design of the seats underneath the pagodas**

**Whereas the city of Los Angeles is making an investment into beautifying OFW ahead of the summer 2028 Olympics**

**Whereas the current design of the seats underneath the pagodas does not match the vernacular architecture of Venice**

**Whereas the current seating under the pagodas is not accessible to persons with disabilities, as specified under the Americans with Disabilities Act**  
**Whereas the original pagodas have become iconic and were featured in popular films such as "Harry and Tonto", "Down and Out in Beverly Hills", "LA Story", "White Men Can't Jump", "Cobra", "Xanadu", and the Little Rascals' "Fish Hooky"**

**Whereas the original 1931 design of the pagodas would significantly improve the aesthetics of OFW**

**Whereas the Venice Neighborhood Council previously (2022 and 2024) passed resolutions requesting historical restoration of the pagodas**  
**Whereas the California Coastal Commission did not approve the reduction in seats underneath the pagodas that occurred as a result of the remodel that took place in the late 1990s (the reduction/change in seats underneath the pagodas**



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was not included in the OFW Refurbishment Plan submitted to the CCC in 1997)

## 17. OUTREACH

### A. VNC Sponsorship of the "Paws in the Park Pet Resource Faire" (4-0-0) (10 Min)

**MOTION:** The VNC Board approves becoming a sponsor of the free event "Paws in the Park Pet Resource Faire" at Penmar Park in April 2026. Sponsorship allows the VNC to participate in planning, display the VNC logo on promotional materials, publicize the event through VNC communication channels, and engage stakeholders on-site through our VNC outreach booth with participation from the Outreach Team and other interested committees.

**Description:** The Venice Neighborhood Council as an official sponsor of the Paws in the Park Free Pet Resource Faire, alongside Reducing Animal Stress, Council District 11, and local vendors. Sponsorship would include use of the VNC logo on promotional materials, outreach through VNC communication channels, and an on-site VNC booth to engage stakeholders. A perfect opportunity for other VNC Committees to showcase their projects and highlight upcoming Town Halls and events.

**Maker:**                      **Seconded:**                      **Vote:** (  Yes /  No /  Abstained /  Recused /  Ineligible)

18. **GENERAL COMMITTEE COMMENT: Non-agenda items** within our subject matter jurisdiction. Each member will be allowed one (2) minute(s) unless adjusted by the chair of the meeting.

19. **ADJOURNMENT** *(Minutes will include ending time)*



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## **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)