

From: David Feige, President Venice Neighborhood Council

To:

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
Council District 11
Mayor’s Office

Subject: Venice Neighborhood Council – Ocean Front Walk Cultural Preservation Plan

Dear City Partners,

On behalf of the Venice Neighborhood Council, I am transmitting a Board-approved motion establishing the **Ocean Front Walk Cultural Preservation Plan**, a framework intended to preserve and strengthen the historic, artistic, and cultural character of Venice Beach’s Boardwalk while ensuring safe, accessible, and well-managed public space.

Ocean Front Walk is one of the most recognized public spaces in Los Angeles and among the most visited destinations in Southern California. Its cultural identity has long been shaped by independent artists, musicians, street performers, and community-driven public expression that together form a defining element of Venice Beach’s international reputation.

The Venice Neighborhood Council believes that future planning and management of Ocean Front Walk should reflect this historic identity while also addressing the operational needs of a major public destination. In particular, we respectfully request collaboration among relevant City departments to support the following objectives:

1. Cultural Preservation and Street Performance

Develop a coordinated Boardwalk cultural preservation plan that:

- Recognizes street performers and independent artists as important cultural contributors to Venice Beach.
- Establishes a transparent and equitable framework for public-space use consistent with existing City policies.
- Provides clear enforcement guidelines that protect public safety while avoiding unnecessary confiscation or destruction of artistic property.
- Incorporates input from Venice residents, artists, performers, and local stakeholders.

2. Community Engagement in Boardwalk Improvements

Ensure that future infrastructure, safety, cleanliness, and accessibility improvements along Ocean Front Walk are developed with meaningful engagement from:

- Venice residents
- Neighborhood councils
- Local businesses
- Artists and cultural advocates

This collaborative process is essential to maintaining the cultural character that distinguishes Venice from other destination areas.

3. Preparation for Increased Global Visitation

With Los Angeles preparing to host the **2026 FIFA World Cup** and the **2028 Olympic Games**, Venice Beach is expected to receive increased international attention and visitation. The Venice Neighborhood Council encourages the City to coordinate planning efforts to ensure that Ocean Front Walk remains:

- Safe and accessible
- Clean and well-maintained
- Welcoming to visitors
- Authentic to Venice's cultural traditions.

We respectfully request that the Mayor's Office, the Chief Legislative Analyst, and the City Administrative Officer work with relevant departments to identify potential funding opportunities, including grants, capital funds, or event-related allocations, that could support cultural infrastructure and visitor readiness in the Venice Beach area.

The Venice Neighborhood Council appreciates the continued collaboration of City departments in supporting the stewardship of one of Los Angeles' most important public spaces.

Sincerely,

David Feige
President
Venice Neighborhood Council

cc:

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