



Venice Neighborhood Council



PO Box 550, Venice, CA 90294 / www.VeniceNC.org
Email: info@VeniceNC.org / Phone or Fax: 310.606.2015

Joint VNC Board & DFC Focus on Children Meeting Agenda

Monday, February 1, 2021 from 5:30 PM to 7:00 PM

Webinar ID: 849 9356 6282

Or click the following link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84993566282>

Or iPhone one-tap: US: +16699006833,,84993566282# or +12532158782,,84993566282#

Or Telephone Dial (for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):

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Focus on Children

- 5:30 **Call to Order - Approval of Outstanding Minutes and Agenda**
- 5:31 **Introductions, Announcements, Public Comment on items not on the agenda**
- 5:35 **Consideration and possible adoption of the following motion:**

Whereas, per information in <https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2020-12-12/los-angeles-tiny-homes-homeless? amp=true>:

- Under pressure from a federal lawsuit to get homeless people off the streets, the City of Los Angeles is implementing ~64-square-foot **Tiny Homes** projects scheduled to open in April, 2021 at an average cost of ~\$82,000 per home while similar projects in Riverside, California and other state jurisdictions (Seattle, Washington in particular) with similar shared facilities (bathrooms, showers) have been built at an average cost of less than \$12,000 per home - projects which encourage a sense of community often resulting in self-governance of what's felt to be a small albeit temporary 'village' with residents performing chores; and
- The sense of ownership and security provided by **Tiny Homes** contributes to the mental stability homeless people need to move forward and therefore appeals to and attracts homeless people who feel otherwise alienated by other programs (such as shelters lined with beds in large areas shared with unfamiliar people) while waiting for the construction of the permanent housing upon which such temporary housing projects (including **Bridge Housing**) are legally long-term dependent;

Be it therefore resolved that the VNC Board is requested to adopt the following motion to include the above Whereas clause:

The VNC Board supports the concept of Tiny Homes projects and, in a letter to Los Angeles City Councilmember Mike Bonin, Council District 11, with copies to other Los Angeles Neighborhood Councils, requests that he:

- **Research and take whatever steps are necessary to enable the City of Los Angeles to emulate the Riverside, California and Seattle, Washington examples in providing Tiny Homes to homeless people - including Seattle's citizen-driven model (non-profit enterprises with citizen participation) - to the benefit of the Los Angeles Venice Neighborhood Council area as well as to the benefit of all other Neighborhood Council areas in the City of Los Angeles; and**
- **Explore the impact of the implementation of such a program on the current federal decisions which permit homeless people to reside with their belongings on neighborhood sidewalks and streets, whether or not in vehicles or tents or their equivalents.**

- 6:00 **Initiative Updates & Presentations & Discussion as reflected in the January 4, 2021 meeting minutes.**
- 7:00 **Adjourn. Next meeting will be 5:30pm Monday, March 1, 2021**

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Future Joint Board & DFC Meetings: 210405 – 210503 – 210607 – 210705 – 210802 – 210906 – 211004 – 211101 – 211206



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Discussion Forum Committee Mission Statement

Provide a monthly forum for discussion of long-term matters affecting the Venice Community within the context of the VNC Vision Goals*

*The VNC Vision Goals were adopted unanimously by the Board on April 21, 2009 as Standing Rule 20 and amended unanimously by the Board on May 20, 2014 to insert the **Focus on Children Vision Goal**. For further information about the DFC, contact its chair Joe Murphy at 310-305-1444 or at joedmur@gmail.com.

To **stimulate the vitality** of the VNC, the Board and VNC Committees are encouraged to consider the below **VNC Vision Goals** in their deliberations.

Although the VNC is a political body, and inevitably it may become embroiled in issues that divide the community, these goals are designed to promote a more proactive, collaborative vision for VNC Committees to include in their deliberations as they formulate recommendations for Board consideration. The **intent** is to create a working framework of integrated strategies capable of achieving, over time, broader consensus and increased:

Focus on Children

Consider strategies that promote & expand opportunities for children to experience direct meaningful involvement in all aspects of the social and economic and cultural activities of the Venice Community. Include this **Focus on Children** as an integral part of the **consideration** of **strategies** in all of the below **Vision Goals**.

Participation

Consider strategies that encourage & facilitate broader involvement of stakeholders, major organizations, community groups, and government institutions, etc.

Walkability

Consider strategies that reduce the use of cars and that promote alternatives such as walking, skateboarding, biking & bike racks, circulation systems (trolleys), park & ride rather than additional parking, street-narrowing/sidewalk widening, walk/bike/skateboard lanes separated from traffic, easier neighborhood pedestrian access to commercial stores, etc.

Diversity

Consider strategies that encourage & facilitate realistic recommendations designed to increase economic diversity, including affordable housing, etc.

Creativity

Consider strategies that promote the arts, encourage & facilitate creativity. This can apply to architecture, public art, social events (neighborhood gatherings/street movies/theatre/dance/pottery/...), etc.

Collaboration

Consider strategies that encourage & facilitate 'level playing fields' for collaborative negotiation; opt for procedures & policies that 'promote flexibility & dialogue' over 'reacting defensively to rigid criteria', facilitation/mediation training, etc.

Brainstorming

Consider strategies that encourage & facilitate exploring of non-traditional options for achieving shared objectives, etc.

PUBLIC INPUT AT NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MEETINGS: The public is requested to fill out a "Speaker Card" to address the Discussion Forum Committee on any agenda item before the Discussion Forum Committee takes an action on an item. 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 Discussion Forum Committee's jurisdiction will be heard during the General Public Comment period. Please note that under the Brown Act, the Discussion Forum Committee 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 Discussion Forum Committee meeting. Public comment is limited to 2 minutes per speaker, unless adjusted by the presiding officer.

POSTING: In compliance with Government Code section 54957.5, non-exempt writings that are distributed to a majority or all of the board members in advance of a meeting may be viewed at Beyond Baroque, 681 Venice Blvd; Venice Public Library, 501 S. Venice Blvd; and at our website by clicking on the following link: www.venicenc.org, or at the scheduled meeting. You can also receive our agendas via email by subscribing to L.A. City's Early Notification System at <https://www.lacity.org/your-government/government-information/subscribe-meetings-agendas-and-documents/neighborhood>. In addition, if you would like a copy of any record related to an item on the agenda, please contact joedmur@gmail.com.

RECONSIDERATION AND GRIEVANCE PROCESS: For information on the VNC's process for board action reconsideration, stakeholder grievance policy, or any other procedural matters related to this Council, please consult the VNC Bylaws. The Bylaws are available at our Board meetings and our website www.venicenc.org.

DISABILITY POLICY: The Venice Neighborhood Council complies with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act and does not discriminate on the basis of any disability. Upon request, the Venice Neighborhood Council will provide reasonable accommodations 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 by contacting Melissa Diner, Secretary at secretary@venicenc.org.