



Venice Neighborhood Council

PO Box 550, Venice, CA 90294 / www.VeniceNC.org
 Email: info@VeniceNC.org Phone: 310-421-8627

Joint meeting of Public Health and Safety Committee and Board of Directors – Agenda

Meeting Date: 05/05/2021
Meeting Time: 5pm Pacific
Meeting Location: Webinar online zoom meeting
Contact: soledad.ursua@venicenc.org (Chair)

Please click the link below to join the webinar:
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1. Call to Order and Roll Call (5:00pm-5:05)

Soledad Ursua (Chair)			
Eva Greene (Co-chair)			
John Baginski			
Helen Fallon			
Chie Lunn			
Allan Parsons		Ira Koslow (ex-officio)	

2. **Approval of Agenda** (Start time + 00:05)
3. **Review, Comment and Adopt Minutes from prior meeting** (2 minutes)
4. **Chair Report** (5 minutes)
5. **Committee Member Announcements** (5 minutes)
6. **Public Comment – 60 Seconds on non-agendized items related to Public Health and Safety Committee only** (10 minutes)
7. **Public Safety Reports - LAFD and LAPD Enforcement Discussion** (45 minutes): Includes a crime report and updates on law enforcement and public safety issues in Venice.

Los Angeles Police Department, Steven Embrich (30993@lapd.online), Brian Cook (36258@lapd.online), Monique Contreras (38228@lapd.online);
 Los Angeles Fire Department, Armando R. Hogan, Deputy Chief (armando.hogan@lacity.org)

It's YOUR Venice - get involved!



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8. Monthly Reporting by Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD)

- a. Item for discussion and possible action: Fires have become a growing public safety concern in the Venice community, regularly endangering lives and property. In an effort to increase transparency, we request that LAFD share internal reports, statistical data, and activity reporting.
- b. Public comment – 1 minute per person (10 minutes)
- c. Committee discussion – (10 minutes)
- d. Motion: The VNC requests that the Los Angeles Fire Department provide monthly written reports, similar to those provided by Los Angeles Police Department, to inform stakeholders of the number of fires occurring in Venice broken down by fire type, as well as personnel utilized to respond. This increased transparency will facilitate understanding of fire trends and ensure that corrective action is being applied in a fair and impartial manner.

9. Motion to Address Westminster Elementary School Safety Concerns

- a. Item for discussion and possible action: Residents surrounding the Westminster Elementary School encampment have been observed engaging in criminal activities including dealing drugs, public alcohol consumption/drugs and assault. LAPD has responded numerous times to public violence and fires, children's lives are endangered and their state constitutional right to a safe school environment and passage to school is being violated.
- b. Public comment – 1 minute per person (10 minutes)
- c. Committee discussion – (10 minutes)
- d. Motion: The VNC Board approves sending a letter to the LAUSD Board and Superintendent, Mayor and City Council members informing them of the unsafe conditions adjacent to Westminster Elementary School created by a homeless encampment including tents and RVs that block safe passage to this school and create unsanitary conditions endangering the health and physical safety of students. The VNC asks that LAUSD and LA City take immediate steps, including working with school police, LAPD, and homeless service providers to address and correct this situation.

10. Responsible Reallocation of Prop. HHH Funds

- a. Item for discussion and possible action: With Prop. HHH, passed by voters in 2016, city officials were authorized to issue \$1.2 billion in general obligation bonds to subsidize the development of up to 10,000 supportive housing units for individuals and families experiencing homelessness. An audit by LA Controller Ron Galperin showed that the average cost of such projects was \$531,000 per unit, not including the cost of land, and that the units took between 3 and 5 years to build; 30-60 percent of funds went towards "soft" costs such as fees, consultants and financing and; only 489 units are completed and most of those under construction will not be ready until 2024; and less than \$400 million of the \$1.2 billion in HHH-generated bond money has been earmarked or spent.
- b. Public comment – 1 minute per person (10 minutes)
- c. Committee discussion – (10 minutes)



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d. Motion: The Venice Neighborhood Council recommends that: HHH funds should be redirected towards fiscally responsible, shovel-ready projects, and a cap on the cost per unit should be imposed; HHH funded projects that exceed the city's own Comprehensive Homelessness Strategy estimate of \$350,000 per unit (including all municipal, state, and federal funding) should be audited and/or stripped of funding; and HHH funding can only be used to fund hard costs.

Upon passage, this Resolution shall be forwarded to Mayor Eric Garcetti, Councilman Mike Bonin, the entire City Council, City Controller Ron Galperin.

11. Request Signage at Linnie Canal Park

- a. Item for discussion and possible action: The Linnie Canal and Dell Avenue Park in Venice is a pocket park with equipment for very young children, and is referred to as the Children's Park. Currently, there is no signage stating that adults must be accompanied by children
- b. Public comment – 1 minute per person (10 minutes)
- c. Committee discussion – (10 minutes)
- d. Motion: The VNC calls upon the Los Angeles City Council to with appropriate governmental agencies to ensure signage be placed on the fence stating that "No Adults Allowed Unless Accompanied by Children, CPC 653 G.

Upon adoption of this motion letters be sent to Jimmy Kim, Parks and Recreation (jimmy.kim@lacity.org); Los Angeles City Recreation and Parks Department Office of Board of Commissioners (RAP.COMMISSIONERS@LACITY.ORG); Councilman Mike Bonin (councilmember.bonin@lacity.org)

12. Motion to Repurpose all HHH Funds That Have Not Executed Their Exclusive Negotiating Agreement (ENA)

- a. Item for discussion and possible action: Currently, the city of Los Angeles has over 41,200 homeless people living on the street with one homeless person losing their life every five hours; according to recent data from the L.A. County Coroner-Medical Examiner's office with a 23 percent increase in deaths in the first seven months of 2020 when compared to the same period last year. The Covid-19 Pandemic-driven financial crisis at Los Angeles City Hall has deepened significantly over the past three months, with budget analysts warning the city's shortfall could reach \$400 million to \$600 million by the end of the fiscal year that represent 6% of the 2020-21 budget. An ENA is only a negotiation and not a signed or approved contract to move forward with a development, and there are many alternative and lower costs models for housing the homeless and low income persons
- b. Public comment – 1 minute per person (10 minutes)
- c. Committee discussion – (10 minutes)
- d. Motion: Venice Neighborhood Council asks that the City Council remove itself from and cancel all Prop HHH Exclusive Negotiating Agreements (ENA) with housing developers and asks that the City Council also ask the County to cancel all Measure H and Prop 2 exclusive negotiating agreements (ENA) with housing developers due to the Covid-19 Pandemic Act of



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God Force Majeure and to appropriate those funds towards alternate and more immediate housing for the homeless in order to alleviate the devastation of deaths of one homeless person losing their life every five hours according to recent data from the L.A. County Coroner- Medical Examiner's office (a 23 percent increase in deaths in the first seven months of 2020) when compared to the same period last year. This is a serious public health and safety issue and the city must act to help by repurposing Prop HHH funds for faster forms of housing for the homeless, such as Tiny Homes, Shared Housing, SRO, Adaptive Reuse, Pods, Modular Housing, Stackable Housing Shelters and all alternative low cost models for rapid rehousing of the homeless.

Upon passage, this Resolution shall be forwarded to Mayor Eric Garcetti, Councilman Mike Bonin, the entire City Council, City Controller Ron Galperin.

Questions, comments? Send us an email!

publicsafety@venicenc.org

PUBLIC INPUT AT NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MEETINGS: *The public is requested to fill out a "Speaker Card" to address the Public Health and Safety Committee on any agenda item before the Public Health and Safety 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 Public Health and Safety Committee's jurisdiction will be heard during the General Public Comment period. Please note that under the Brown Act, the Public Health and Safety 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 Public Health and Safety Committee meeting. Public comment is limited to 2 minute 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 <http://www.lacity.org/government/Subscriptions/NeighborhoodCouncils/index.htm>. In addition, if you would like a copy of any record related to an item on the agenda, please contact vp@venicenc.org.*

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.*