



Venice Neighborhood Council

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



Discussion Forum Committee Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, December 9, 2014 from 7:00 to 9:00 PM

Le Cellier (424-228-5491)
417 Washington Boulevard
Venice, California 90292
No Host Refreshments Available

"Given that each of us lives in a different world, what can we do to minimize misunderstandings?"

Agenda

[141209VNCDiscussionForumMeetingAgenda.pdf](#)

7:00 Call to Order ■ **Public Comment on items not on the agenda**

7:10 Discussion & Possible Action (DFC Motions & Long-Term Strategies)

- a. **Motions: Request Board Endorse in Concept and Encourage Implementation of the below proposal contained in the Discussion Forum Committee's VNC Vision Goals Idea Matrix:**

Idea ↓	Submitted by Joe Murphy (310-305-1444 joedmur@gmail.com)	Suggested Implementation Strategy	Generated while Brainstorming ↓
Walkability Impact Disclosure Ordinance (WIDO)	Require government departments to prepare & publish a report indicating the impact of their proposed actions on the walkability of the communities in which the actions are to be implemented. Currently, many government departments act without being required to consult a community & without regard to impacts of their actions on community walkability such as: (i) Cutting down trees; (ii) Installing street-lights & telephone poles & bus-stops in sidewalks; (iii) Widening streets; (iv) Unknowns.	Create committee with the necessary expertise to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft & lobby Walkability Impact Disclosure Ordinance (WIDO) into all applicable ordinances Arrange for easy community monitoring of compliance of all departments with the WIDO 	Focus on Children Participation Walkability Diversity Creativity Collaboration Brainstorming

- b. **Discussion of Long-Term Strategies (using DFC Dialogue Procedure):**

- Brainstorm ideas on [Diversity Vision Goal](#)
- ByLaw Amendments:
 - ✚ Staggered 4-year terms
 - ✚ DFC → Standing Committee
 - ✚ Incorporate [VNC Vision Goals](#) into VNC Mission Statement

9:00 Adjourn

Minutes of Prior DFC Meetings

■ **5/1/2012 to 12/09/2014** Formation of DFC, focus on [VNC Walkability Vision Goal](#), development of [VNC Vision Goals Idea Matrix](#), development and presentation of report to board on DFC activities, development of DFC Dialogue Procedure, development of DFC-Board **Modus Operandi** (mutually-supportive relationship), drafted & successfully recommended board adoption of [Focus on Children Vision Goal](#), and recommending board implementation of the [Walkability Impact Disclosure Ordinance \(WIDO\)](#) item in the [VNC Vision Goals Idea Matrix](#).

■ **7/1/2014 to 12/09/2014** Focus on [VNC Diversity Vision Goal](#).
■ **10/14/2014** TBD.

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 the Venice Library, 501 S. Venice Blvd.; Oakwood Rec Center, 767 California Street; The Venice Ale House, 425 Ocean Front Walk; Groundworks Coffee, 671 Rose Ave; Beyond Baroque, 681 Venice Blvd.; Penmar Park & Rec Center, 1341 Lake St.; and at our website by clicking on the following link: <http://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 joedmur@gmail.com.



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DFC Dialogue Procedure

JDM has provided sample responses to the below questions as a guide to using this DFC Dialogue Procedure.

What do you consider to be the most important long-term issue facing the Venice Community?

JDM Gentrification pressures & land-use policies are eroding the character (social & physical) of the Venice Community.

If this issue is not addressed, what do you believe will be the long-term impact on the Venice Community?

JDM Sterile enclave of richer residents (erosion of diversity) living in boxes (erosion of creativity).

What are the long-term obstacles to resolving this issue?

JDM Land-use & other laws prevent or discourage accommodation of more 'creative less-expensive housing'.

How can the DFC use its limited resources to help the Board address these long-term issues?

JDM Help the Board prioritize a long-term focus on identifying how the land-use & other laws are preventing, or are being used or interpreted to prevent or discourage, accommodation of more 'creative less-expensive housing' in Venice. Consider & recommend alternative strategies to the Board to enhance rather than erode diversity & creativity in the Venice Community.

Identify & clarify misunderstandings as necessary to enhance the productivity of the dialogue.

VNC Vision Goals

VNC Standing Rule 20 adopted unanimously by the Board on April 21, 2009 & amended unanimously by the Board on May 20, 2014 to insert the [Focus on Children Vision Goal](#)

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 [**less expensive ***] housing, etc.

[* Clarification inserted November 24, 2014 by Joe Murphy]

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.

DFC Quorum Members

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Upcoming DFC Meetings

(2nd Tuesday of each month unless otherwise notified)

1/13/2015 - 2/10/2015 - 3/10/2015 - 4/14/2015 - 5/12/2015 - 6/9/2015 - 7/14/2015 - 8/11/2015 - 9/8/2015