



# Venice Neighborhood Council

PO Box 550, Venice, CA 90294 / [www.VeniceNC.org](http://www.VeniceNC.org)  
Email: [info@VeniceNC.org](mailto:info@VeniceNC.org) Phone: 310-421-8627



## **Special Board of Officers Meeting Agenda** **Westminster Elementary School (Auditorium)** **1010 Abbot Kinney Blvd, Venice, 90291** **Monday, December 2, 2013 at 7:00 PM**

**BOARD MEETINGS:** The Venice Neighborhood Council holds its regular meetings on the third Tuesday of the month and may also call any additional required special meetings in accordance with its Bylaws and the Brown Act. All are welcome to attend.

**TRANSLATION Services:** Si requiere servicios de traducción, favor de notificar a la oficina 3 días de trabajo (72 horas) antes del evento. Si necesita asistencia con esta notificación, por favor llame a nuestra oficina 213.473.5391.

**POSTING:** In compliance with Government Code section 54957.5 the agenda and non-exempt writings that are distributed to a majority or all of the board members in advance of regular and special meetings may be viewed at Groundworks Coffee (671 Rose Ave.), Penmar Park (1341 Lake St), Beyond Baroque (681 Venice Blvd), the Venice Library (501 S. Venice Blvd), Oakwood Recreation Center (767 California St.), The Venice Ale House (425 Ocean Front Walk), and the VNC website (<http://www.venicenc.org>), or at the scheduled meeting. For a copy of any record related to an item on the agenda, please contact the VNC secretary at [secretary@venicenc.org](mailto:secretary@venicenc.org).

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** The public is requested to fill out a "Speaker Card" to address the Board on any Old or New Business item on the agenda and the Treasurer's Report. Comments from the public on these agenda items will be heard only when that item is being considered. Comments from the public on other agenda matters or on matters not appearing on the agenda but within the Board's subject matter jurisdiction will be heard during the Public Comment period. Public comment is limited to two (2) minutes per speaker, unless modified by the presiding officer of the Board. No new speaker cards will be accepted once Public Comment has begun.

**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.

### **1. Call to Order and Roll Call (7:00PM – 5 minutes)**

Meeting called to order in memory of Guillermo Carmona-Perez, a young man murdered in his prime; and Ita Bayer, 92 year old lifetime resident of Venice. May they rest in peace.

### **2. Pledge Of Allegiance (7:05PM -- 5 minutes)**

### **3. Approval of the Agenda (7:10PM – 5 minutes)**

### **4. Announcements & Public Comment on items not on the Agenda (7:15PM -- 10 minutes)** *[no more than 1 minute per person – no Board member announcements permitted]*

### **5. Ocean Front Walk Safety (7:25PM -- 120 minutes)** (Tom Elliott – Chair, OFW Comm) *[For discussion and possible action]*

The Ocean Front Walk, and Public Safety Committees met and deliberated on recommendations and suggestions heard at The VNC Public Safety Town Hall on October 29, 2013 and responded with the following proposed motions to the Needs Assessment on Public Safety for Venice Beach as submitted by the City Recreation and Parks Department: VNC-OFW-Safety-Report\_8-14-13.pdf)

#### **A AUTOMATED RETRACTABLE BOLLARD SYSTEM**

**MOTION:** The Venice Neighborhood Council recommends that the City of LA should not install automated bollards due to the cost of installation and maintenance, and potential for failure.

#### **B GATE AND BOLLARD SYSTEM**

**MOTION:** The Venice Neighborhood Council recommends that the City of LA should not install a lockable gate system because it will obstruct delivery, restrict handicap access, and is potentially dangerous in crowded panic situation.



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## C HARD STREET CLOSURES

**MOTION:** The Venice Neighborhood Council recommends that the City of LA should not install steel and concrete bollards at OFW, but does support the use of functional and artistic obstructions that may include welcome arches, bike racks, statues, art, monuments, and concrete seating areas that do not obstruct ocean views and beach access. These items should be placed close enough together to block vehicles, but far enough apart to allow pedestrian, wheelchair and hand-delivery access to the boardwalk on all streets except Navy, Rose, Brooks, Market, 18<sup>th</sup>, Venice Bl, and Washington. Further, the The Venice Neighborhood Council recommends that the City of LA consult the community of Venice and the VNC regarding the use of local art and artists in the design and construction of these Hard Street Closures.

## D TEMPORARY BOLLARDS

**MOTION:** The Venice Neighborhood Council recommends that the City of LA removes the temporary bollards on OFW because they are unsightly, ineffective, broken, and are a pedestrian safety hazard.

## E SIGNAGE

**MOTION:** The Venice Neighborhood Council recommends that the City of LA removes the “Dead End”, “Road Closed” and “Do Not Enter” signs, and replace them with “Welcome to Venice Beach”, “Pedestrians Only” and directional signs for parking where appropriate, ie Speedway, because the existing signs are unsightly, unwelcoming, and obstruct the view of the beach.

## F SECURITY CAMERAS

**MOTION:** The Venice Neighborhood Council recommends that the City of LA should not install security cameras on OFW, because they are an invasion of privacy, they have historically been poorly maintained, and they would be technologically unfeasible.

## G LIGHTING

**MOTION:** The Venice Neighborhood Council supports lighting upgrades as the number one priority of the RAP Assessment, and recommends vast expansion of lighting on OFW, the bike path and Speedway, using green, LED and solar technology as a crime deterrent, safety measure, and to support commerce on the boardwalk

## H INCREASED LAPD FOOT PATROL

**MOTION:** Whereas, at the OFW Public Safety Town Hall held in October 2013, the people of Venice overwhelmingly agreed that the number one issue surrounding safety on OFW is a marked decrease in Police Presence on the boardwalk in recent years.

Therefore, be it resolved that:

1. The Venice Neighborhood Council demands that LAPD must increase the number of officers on the boardwalk beat, specifically on foot patrol, as there is a dramatic difference in interaction with citizens when officers are on foot, versus in a vehicle of any sort.



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2. Police presence should be 24/7, as nighttime patrol is paramount to safety.
3. "Education", "Community-Style Policing", "Training Specific to the Boardwalk", and "Even-handed Enforcement" of all ordinances, including 42.15, should be the standard.
4. The Police Substation at Windward should be "open and staffed" 24/7.

## **I OPEN AND CLEAN ALL PUBLIC RESTROOMS**

**MOTION:** The Venice Neighborhood Council recommends that the City of LA MAINTAIN, CLEAN DAILY, and KEEP OPEN ALL public restrooms in the Park DURING PARK HOURS.

## **J MAINTAIN BIKE PATH**

**MOTION:** The Venice Neighborhood Council recommends that the City of LA, in conjunction with the County of LA, maintain the bike path by sweeping sand from the path DAILY, and mitigating sand build-up on the grassy knolls between the path and the boardwalk, as sand on the bike path is major safety concern.

## **K WARN, BAG AND TAG PROGRAM**

**MOTION:** The Venice Neighborhood Council recommends that the City of Los Angeles implement a Warn, Bag & Tag program similar to the program currently in use in Downtown Los Angeles for reasons of public safety.

## **L VOLUNTARY STORAGE PROGRAM**

**MOTION:** The Venice Neighborhood Council recommends that the City initiate a voluntary storage program to move unsightly piles of property out of the public view and to reduce blight and enhance public cleanliness, public safety and greatly improve the visitor experience on Ocean Front Walk and surrounding areas. It shall be located at a site to be determined, with input from the community and LAPD, to provide safe storage for the personal property of un-housed local residents. The site should not be on Ocean Front Walk.

## **6. New Business**

*[For discussion and possible action]*

*NOTE: The OFW Committee did not take a position on the following item so it is being agendized separately.*

### **PUBLIC ADDRESS SYSTEM**

**MOTION:** The Venice Neighborhood Council recommends that the City of LA install a Public Address System on OFW for use in emergency and evacuation purposes only.



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7. **Announcements & Public Comment on items not on the Agenda (9:25PM -- 10 minutes)**  
*[no more than 1 minute per person – no Board member announcements permitted]*
8. **Adjourn (approx. 9:35PM)**