



# Venice Neighborhood Council

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



## Discussion Forum Committee Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, August 7, 2012 from 7:00 to 9:00 PM

### Location

Canal Club (310-823-3878)  
2025 Pacific Avenue (near North Venice Boulevard)  
Venice, California 90291  
*No Host Refreshments Available*

### Agenda

7:00 Call to Order, Approval of Minutes of July 7, 2012 Meeting

7:10 Discussion of VNC Vision Goals using the below DFC Discussion Generator

- In 2009, the VNC identified six vision goals (Participation, Walkability, Diversity, Creativity, Collaboration and Brainstorming) to guide the current Board's mission. In this context, what do you consider to be the 5 top-priority long-term issues upon which you feel the DFC should focus its limited energies, and why?
- Ideas for future meetings.

9:00 Adjourn

### Members

Brodie Seagrave	<a href="mailto:bseagrave05@yahoo.com">bseagrave05@yahoo.com</a>	Joe Murphy	<a href="mailto:joedmurphyvnc@ca.rr.com">joedmurphyvnc@ca.rr.com</a>	Nicolas Hippisley-Cox	<a href="mailto:hippislej@earthlink.net">hippislej@earthlink.net</a>
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### VNC Vision Goals

VNC Standing Rule 20 adopted 090421

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:

#### 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.



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## DFC Discussion Generator

Prepared each month by the DFC facilitators – Joe Murphy (310-305-1444), Ira Koslow (310-392-0868), Daffodil Tyminski (609-876-8418) – to initiate discussion as directed by the DFC at its prior meetings. Please contact a facilitator with questions.

### JDM's 5 top-priority long-term issues \*

1. Assuming that WALKABILITY is a widely shared **Venice Community** vision goal, take the longer-term approach of shifting, from the **Neighborhood Councils** to **City Government**, the burden of identifying and disclosing WALKABILITY impacts. Do this by creating a group of competent individuals with experience in drafting legislation and supporting their drafting of a **Community Impact Statement (CIS) Ordinance** requiring the city and its various departments to prepare and circulate a **CIS** disclosing the community impacts of its actions on WALKABILITY.
2. Use the DFC as a forum to explore alternatives for defining and realizing CHARACTER & SCALE & CREATIVITY in the **Venice Community**. Invite selected **DFC Associate Members** – those having local knowledge/experience/perspectives – to stimulate and participate in the DFC discussion and possible development of viable solutions to this long-term issue to present to the VNC Board for consideration.
3. Use the DFC as a forum to explore alternatives for enhancing diversity in the **Venice Community** using the approach outlined in ¶2 above.
4. Miscellaneous:
  - Use CIF funds to encourage local property-owner installation of residential sitting opportunities (benches) without advertising.
  - Encourage the VNC Arts Committee to focus on: (i) exploring ways to provide housing/working opportunities for 'starving artists' where they, and more established artists, can mingle and exchange ideas; and (ii) exploring ways to expand (encourage/require) involvement of artists and museums and art institutions in providing real hands-on experiences to children of all ages in the communities where they reside and/or attend school, etc.
  - Define 'art' and 'free speech' – I'm thinking of the stumbling blocks encountered on trying to figure out how to provide the mix of uses on the boardwalk – it just seems like a fascinating issue. Perhaps do this by using the approach outlined in ¶1 above.
5. Experiment with a selected manageable number of the above types of long-term approaches to learn how to better assist the VNC in becoming more effective in addressing these types of longer-term issues.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joseph D Murphy  
VNC Discussion Forum Committee Member  
310-305-1444

\* Since I have received no other lists, I have taken the liberty of including only my suggested list of issues which seem to me to be appropriate for DFC focus. I hope other DFC members will provide similar listings from their perspectives to enrich the pool of options for DFC discussion – perhaps spanning more than one of our meetings. My suggestions are most certainly not the only suggestions that can be placed 'on the table' for DFC consideration. (^\_^)