

## **Motion for VNC Board Election Participation**

01/25

**BACKGROUND:** Los Angeles has determined that the 2025 Neighborhood Elections will be 100% vote-by-mail. To obtain a ballot, constituents are required to either (1) submit a vote-by-mail application online (after creating an Angeleno account if necessary), (2) submit a request on the City Clerk’s website, or (3) pick up a ballot application at the Venice Library to be mailed to the City Clerk. For many residents including the elderly and houseless who have limited internet/computer access or need assistance, these options will likely depress voter participation.

Article V, Section 11 of the VNC Bylaws states “The VNC shall direct that a system of outreach be instituted to inform the Venice community as to the existence and activities of the VNC, including its Board elections, to find future leaders of the VNC, and to encourage all Stakeholders to seek leadership positions within the VNC.” During the present term, some board members have not made an appropriate commitment to fulfill this responsibility.

Section 18 of the VNC Standing Rules directs the board to “consider strategies that encourage & facilitate broader involvement of stakeholders, major organizations, community groups, and government institutions, etc.” Section 24 of the VNC Standing Rules (under Outreach Chair Duties/Responsibilities) requires coordination of tabling activities at multiple locations including the Friday Venice Farmer’s Market.

**WHEREAS:** Only 2.5% of Venetians voted in the 2023 VNC Elections, down 54.3% from the 2021 election cycle, and,

**WHEREAS:** Article V, Section 11 of the VNC Bylaws states, “All Board Members shall be responsible for participating in the VNC’s outreach efforts” and Sections 18 & 25 of the VNC Standing Rules directs board members to seek greater involvement of the community in the VNC,

**THEREFORE,** the following motion is proposed:

**MOTION:** For the period of Jan 17<sup>th</sup> - Mar 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025, all VNC Board members shall participate in no less than two, two-hour public outreach sessions to register voters in-person for the 2025 VNC election. These outreach efforts will be scheduled every Friday at the Venice Farmer’s Market and other publicly accessible locations suggested by VNC board members to the VNC Rules & Elections Committee. This initiative will be led by the Chair of the Rules & Elections Committee with support from the VNC Outreach Chair. Participants will be provided with all necessary guidelines and supplies. A schedule of locations, times and board member participation will be posted on the VNC election web site page.

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