



Venice Neighborhood Council



3) Please state your professional qualifications or related experience relevant to this position:

I was employed in the construction industry for thirty years, as an independent contractor and in construction management. I was the construction manager and director of property management for Venice Community Housing Corp. for six years.

Lined area for providing additional details for question 3.

4) Please list your previous and/or current neighborhood or community involvement:

I have been involved with the Venice Community Coalition, which addresses land use and development issues in the community, and was instrumental in getting a Community Development Overlay adopted for Lincoln Blvd. I am a board member of the Coalition to Ban Billboard Blight, a non-profit corporation working to combat visual blight in the city. I am a member of the CD11 Empowerment Congress' Housing Committee. I am a member of the St. Joseph Working Group, a committee set up by the CD11 office to address issues relating to the St. Joseph Homeless Service Center on Lincoln Blvd.

Lined area for providing additional details for question 4.



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5) Please list the three most pressing planning issues you feel are facing the Venice Community:

The most pressing issue facing the Venice Community is the preservation of the essential nature of the community. Venice has long been a diverse community, with people of varied ethnicities, economic class, and age living side by side. It has also been a community of small, neighborhood businesses, and it has been home to writers, visual artists, musicians, and others who find its eclectic nature creatively stimulating. However, the precipitous increase in housing prices in the past decade is threatening that diversity, and the community is in danger of becoming much more homogeneous, a place where only the well-to-do can afford to live. We need to find ways through the planning process to slow down this trend, by encouraging the construction and preservation of affordable housing and small, locally-owned businesses. We also need be observant of height and density limits that preserve the intimate feel of the community, as a place that is oriented to people, not to cars and the kind of faceless commerce characterized by large chain stores and shopping centers.

Multiple horizontal lines for writing.

6) Under what kinds of situations do you feel it to be appropriate to grant exceptions or variances to the Venice Specific Plan or other LA City Planning codes?

The city charter and municipal code set out very specific and definite conditions a property owner needs to meet in order to be granted exceptions to the specific plan and other codes. Unless these conditions are clearly met, variances and exceptions should not be granted.

Multiple horizontal lines for writing.

