



Venice Neighborhood Council



Questions:

Please limit your answers to the 9 questions below to 200 words or less each.

1) Please explain why you wish to serve on the LUPC:

As a resident of Venice and a student of urban planning and real estate development, I have a passion for the built environment and Venice in particular. Venice possesses such a unique authenticity of place that should be maintained. I want to play an active role in the neighborhood and work with the council to ensure that Venice's urban fabric does not take a turn for the worse.

2) Have you served before on the LUPC or other planning and land use related committee? If so, what committee and when?

I have not served on a planning or land use committee previously.

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

I am currently in the process of completing dual masters degrees in urban planning and real estate development at the University of Southern California. I am passionate about architecture, history, and the built environment.

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

While not confined to a neighborhood, I am a student member of both the American Planning Association and the Urban Land Institute. From 1999 to 2002, I taught 3rd grade in Compton as a member of Teach For America (part of Americorps) and sought to close the achievement gap for my students. I am actively involved in the Teach For American alumni network.

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

I believe the three most pressing planning issues facing Venice are maintaining the unique and authentic sense of place inherent to Venice's identity, ensuring that we include affordable and workforce housing in the neighborhood, and developing smart infill projects rather than a sea of stucco boxes and McMansions.

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?

If a proposed development aligns itself with transit and incorporates affordable units, then depending on the location and design, it might make sense to grant permission for a couple of extra floors above the height limit.

7) What is your opinion of the Venice Specific Plan?



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Overall, I think the Venice Specific Plan makes sense in terms of its attempts to maintain reasonable height restrictions and density requirements. Venice is not the Marina or downtown, so having a slew of high-rise infill developments would be out of character. I am excited that the city has Gail Goldberg on board

8) How do you view your role in private interactions with developers who have projects proposed before the Land Use and Planning Committee?

In private settings, I would not discuss the project under consideration with the developer. We could talk about other topics, but not about a project before the LUPC. It would simply be unprofessional to talk about it in a forum outside of the LUPC.

9) What is your Vision for Venice?

Simply put, I want to see that Venice does not sacrifice what makes it so unique. Its history, architecture, pedestrian scale, and local mix of businesses offer a very authentic and irreplaceable built environment. Progress and change are inevitable, but we should ensure that future development does not compromise Venice's sense of place and identity.

Thank You for Volunteering to Help Our Community!