



# Venice Neighborhood Council

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May 26, 2008

Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa  
Los Angeles City Hall  
200 N. Spring Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Mayor Villaraigosa:

It has come to the attention of the Venice Neighborhood Council that funding for graffiti removal efforts and the oversight of the Venice Graffiti Walls is currently threatened. We are writing to urge you to fully fund these efforts.

During the past year, through the joint efforts of countless neighborhood volunteers, the Venice Neighborhood Council's Graffiti Committee, the Office of Beautification, the Department of Recreation and Parks, the LAPD, and Pacific Graffiti Solutions, we have seen a great reduction in the amount and frequency of graffiti in Venice neighborhoods. And not surprising, while graffiti and tagging has been reduced, feelings of security and community pride (along with involvement) have dramatically risen.

We believe that graffiti is much more than just the destruction of our neighborhood and property. We believe graffiti is an invitation to crime, and a message that "nobody cares." We see on the news, all too frequently, reminders of the violence that graffiti brings to our city.

We also urge you to fully fund the oversight of the Venice Graffiti walls. We believe that having a city sponsored graffiti area without also adequately supporting efforts for removal and beautification is unacceptable.

As you know Venice is a top tourist attraction and revenue generator for the City of Los Angeles. Please know that we will continue to do all we can to present our guests, and residents, with a clean and beautiful environment. We urge you to help us do that.

Sincerely,

Mike Newhouse, President  
Venice Neighborhood Council

CC: Los Angeles City Council  
[secretary@VeniceNC.org](mailto:secretary@VeniceNC.org)