



Venice Neighborhood Council



LUPC APPLICATION

Contact Information: KELLY LI

Qualifying Stakeholder Address (*Dirección*):

Print Name/Nombre el letra de Molde :			
KELLY LI			
332 1/2 Brooks Ave. Venice, CA 90291			
Street address / Dirección	City / Ciudad	State / Estado	Zip/ Código Postal

Mailing Address (if different):

Street address / Dirección			
City / Ciudad	State / Estado	Zip/ Código Postal	

Contact Numbers:

917-882-1837	_____	_____
Phone (Day) / Teléfono (día)	Phone (Evening) / Teléfono (tardé)	Fax Number
kelly_k_li@hotmail.com Email / <i>Correo Electrónico</i> (very important)		

I hereby certify, that I wish to serve on the Land Use and Planning Committee of the Venice Neighborhood Council and I am a Stakeholder within the boundaries of the VNC area.

Stakeholder Signature/Firma  Date 9/23/08

Note: Stakeholders that did not registered as a VNC Stakeholder in one of the last two elections should register with the Secretary of the VNC at the November 21st, 2006, Board of Officers Meeting. Please bring proof of stakeholder status with you to register.



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:

Community involvement and fostering a sense of “neighborhood” are extremely important values to me. Two years ago, I moved from New York City to Venice. Although I was very involved in my local community in downtown NYC, Venice’s unique neighborhood feel and diversity were primary draws for me in relocating out West. Real estate, urban planning, community and architectural history has always been my interests. As a new Venice homeowner I have an interest in supporting and nurturing the growth of the community. I like to stay involved and try to contribute to making any type of difference for the better. To do so, it is best to start right where my feet are planted – which is here in Venice.

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

No. I have not served on the LUPC. In my experiences, I have had the opportunity to be involved in the NY Landmarks Preservation Committee process.

Currently, I am participating in the Emergency Preparedness Task Force and attended a CERP education session.

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

I am a licensed attorney in three states (NY, NJ and California). I formerly practiced as a mergers and acquisitions attorney on Wall Street and then went in-house to my family business (apparel, real estate and logistics business). As executive vice president and in house counsel of my family business, I handled a variety of transactions, including our real estate transactions. In many of these transactions I interacted with local community leaders on issues that affected my company, property and the community in general. For example, I worked on a co-development of an industrial area in NJ into retail and commercial pedestrian communities. In addition, I have also handled many landlord tenant matters, including dispute resolution, owner occupancy and tenant negotiations.

In keeping with remaining active in my community, I have clerked for local NYC judges and have been involved in supporting local political campaigns.

More relevantly, my initial exposure to the workings of neighborhood councils and land use preservation and development began in 2003 when I purchased a



Venice Neighborhood Council



landmarked historical building in Tribeca, New York City. Using only neighborhood architects, contractors, consultants, I began the process of developing the 5 story loft building (mixed use commercial / residential) while maintaining the historical and community goals in mind. During this time, I worked closely with the Landmarks Preservation Committee and studied the various codes for development in Tribeca. Moreover, I worked closely with the resident artist tenants in the building to improve their current loft apartments. My interest in neighborhood development and historical community mores was piqued. I would often attend Landmarks Preservation Committee hearings on proposals of nearby properties.

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

I have always spent a large portion of my time volunteering in the community. Particularly I have focused on community education for the youth and the arts.

For the past year I have volunteered with Venice Arts teaching the Introduction to Comics class. I have also volunteered for a vareity of local festivals, including the Venice Neighborhood Artwalk, Venice Recovery Center women's support, and Emergency Preparedness Task force.

In NY, I was on the Young Executive Board of the National Foundation for the teaching of Entrepreneurship – which teaches students about starting your own Business. I was a volunteer summer mentor for the Center for Talented Youth (a gifted high school student program) which was located at Columbia University Teachers College. Further, I developed and executed an extremely succesful and fun Saturday Workshop program on "Leadership" for inner city youth.

i was also very involved with pro bono legal assistance programs in the community.

Finally, as an artist, I have always been involved in supporting the arts.

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

Planning issues include: 1) traffic / parking ; 2) development and change of architecture and 3) maintaining mix of services in neighborhood including local artists, retail and merchants. As an aside, I also feel that integrating diversity of old-time residents along with the new residents via proper planning of community spaces is important.

- 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?

Each case at hand must be reviewed on a fact specific, individual basis. Exceptions and variances may be appropriate in certain instances; however, the totality of the circumstances and the affect on the neighborhood must be examined.

I do not have any examples of situations regarding the Venice Specific Plan or other City Planning code.

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

I am familiar with the Venice Specific Plan on a preliminary basis and have reviewed the Coastal Plan. It addresses and limits over development by addressing the parking issues and overbuilding on lots.

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

I do not foresee any private business interactions with developers.

As a member of the LUPC board, my role would be to view each project fairly and objectively. A both a homeowner / community advocate as well as a business person, I feel that I have the understanding and vision to see both sides and to encourage developers to appreciate the fact that any development project has a vested interest in the community welfare.

9) What is your Vision for Venice?

Grow and develop while maintaining the diversity, community feel and unique architectural and "neighborhood" characteristics of Venice. Maintain historical elements of Venice and stave off cookie cutter uniformity.

Thank You for Volunteering to Help Our Community!