



# Venice Neighborhood Council

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May 19, 2009

Mayor Villaraigosa  
City Hall, Room 415  
200 North Spring Street  
Los Angeles, California 90012

RE: Funding CDD Support Groups

Dear Mayor Villaraigosa:

The Venice Neighborhood Council has learned that funding cuts for the Community Development Department ("CDD") have caused support group meetings held at the Vera Davis Center to be cancelled.

The Vera Davis Center is a priceless resource, which provides countless services to the Venice community. One such service is providing Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous meetings. Attendance at these meetings can reach over eighty people. Due to budget cuts two meetings a week have been canceled.

In this economic climate it is imperative not to cut services that directly affect those who are in need of help the most. Addiction is a plague that ruins lives, destroys families, and deteriorates communities. Every minute of each meeting strengthens sobriety, reduces poverty, and prevents crime.

We urge you to reinstate funding made to the CDD so that the Vera Davis Center can provide this essential service to the Venice community once again.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter

Sincerely,

Mike Newhouse, President  
Venice Neighborhood Council

CC: Councilman Bill Rosendahl  
[Secretary@venicenc.org](mailto:Secretary@venicenc.org)