



# Venice Neighborhood Council

PO Box 550, Venice, CA 90294 / [www.VeniceNC.org](http://www.VeniceNC.org)  
 Email: [info@VeniceNC.org](mailto:info@VeniceNC.org)

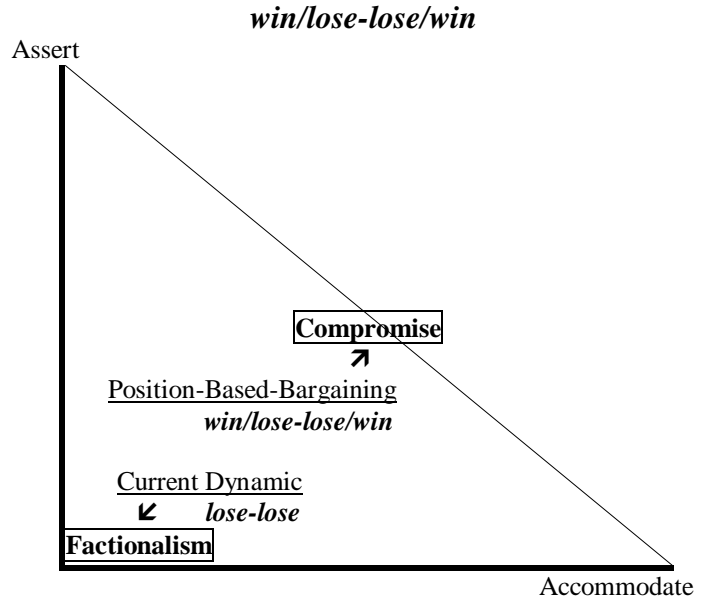
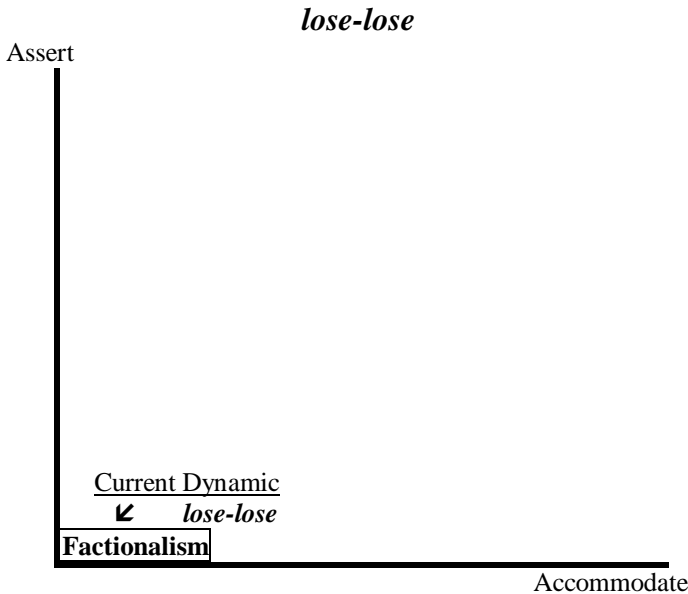


## Extract from Comments & Public Feedback section of 120710 DFC Meeting Agenda

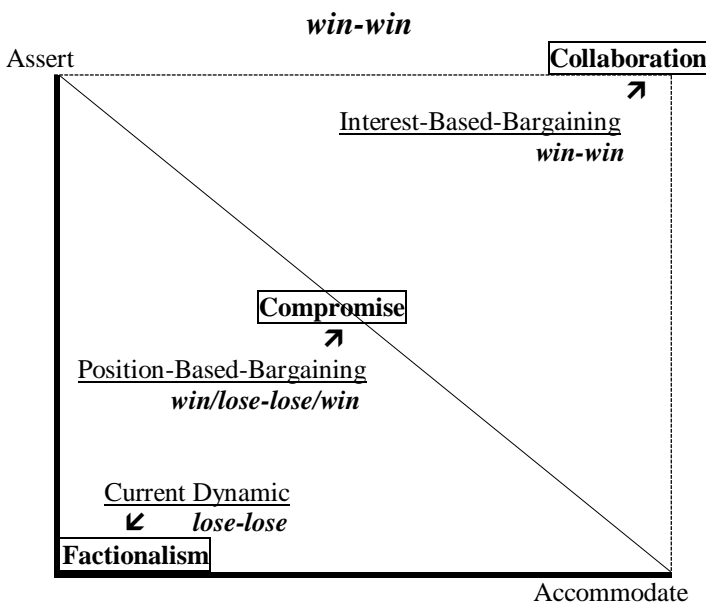
### JDM Perception of VNC Discussion Forum Committee (DFC) Challenge (Developed 6/6/2012 in a conversation with Don Novack)

Current Dynamic: Interacting humans/groups, depending on context, assert &/or accommodate, some more than others & with varying intensity. **Factionalism** occurs when interacting humans/groups cannot (or are reluctant to) accommodate.

Position-Based-Bargaining (negotiation) leads to some form of compromise depending on the skill of the participants to ask clarifying questions.



Interest-Based-Bargaining (collaboration) often leads to the discovery of common ground depending on the skill of the participants to listen & to probe underlying interests – which can often lead to identifying shared common ground (visions).



### JDM Perception of Challenge Presented to DFC

My perception is that, when confronted with contentious issues, we (humans/groups – politicians/parties-factions) have learned to immediately assert hard & fast positions since past experiences have convinced us that suggestions to **Compromise** or **Collaborate** cannot be trusted.

**Factionalism** has become the entrenched norm in contentious issues – a cycle that feeds on itself. We avoid deliberation as a viable means of finding common ground.

In the Venice Community (~35,000), I believe the Venice Neighborhood Council (VNC) is well positioned to help shift the manner in which contentious issues are dealt with from:

**Factionalism**  
towards  
**Compromise** & **Collaboration**

**Challenge: How can the DFC do this?**