



Pop Up Office Hours Outreach Event | April 18, 2019 Venice Local Coastal Program

SUMMARY

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OPEN HOUSE OVERVIEW

The Local Coastal Program is a policy and regulatory document required by the California Coastal Act that establishes land use, development, natural resource protection, coastal access, and public recreation policies for the Venice Coastal Zone. The Planning Department of the City of Los Angeles is undergoing a multi-year effort to prepare, adopt, and certify the Venice Local Coastal Program (LCP) as the coastal planning tool for the area with public input.

The *Pop Up Office Hours and Appointments* outreach event was held on April 18, 2019 and was conducted by the City of Los Angeles Planning Department. The event took place at the Venice – Abbot Kinney Memorial Branch Library in the Venice Coastal Zone. The first part of the session was held by pre-scheduled appointment sign-ups via MailChimp e-mail notifications. The second part of the session was held in an open format session in which community members met directly with City Planners and were welcomed to discuss any topic. This outreach event was the sixth in the series of Office Hours events and



the 13th outreach event of this process. The Venice LCP Planning Team is committed to providing the community with a variety of opportunities to connect with planners in order attain the information they need while learning about issues that are most important to them. This summary documents the objectives, activities, format, and major themes from the April 18, 2019 *Pop Up Office Hours and Appointment* outreach event.

APPOINTMENT OBJECTIVES

Provide community stakeholders with an opportunity to meet with Department of City Planning staff who are working toward updating the Venice Coastal Zone Land Use Plan and Venice Coastal Zone Implementation Plan with the goal of certifying an LCP for Venice by:

- Hearing from community stakeholders about ideas and suggestions for improving existing policies,
- Listen and learn about challenges or issues facing community stakeholders,
- Answering questions about the LCP and Community Plan update and certification process,
- Helping community stakeholders understand the Coastal Permit Processes.

OPEN HOUSE OBJECTIVES

- Review the Local Coastal Program update process
- Facilitate the collection of community input and discussion topics that were important to the community
- Provide an opportunity for the community to connect with the Venice Local Coastal Program Planning Unit, the Venice Community Planning Unit and Coastal Project Planners for the Venice area.

WHERE AND WHEN

Thursday, April 18, 2018, 10:00 am - 6:00 pm
Venice – Abbot Kinney Memorial Branch Library
501 Venice Blvd, Venice, CA 90291

OUTREACH AND ATTENDANCE

As shown in the table below, the City used the following methods to inform community members about the event and encourage participation. A total of 32 attendees participated in the event, 16 of which were appointments.

<i>Outreach Methods</i>
E-mail announcements to community members using database of contacts.



E-mail invitations were sent to organizations in the community, including the canal area and affordable housing organizations, with request to forward invitation to members and constituents.
E-mail announcement was sent to the Venice Neighborhood Council to share with the community.
E-mail announcement was sent to Council District 11 to share with constituents, including Twitter.
Outreach via City's External Affairs Office on social media platforms (Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram) and at City stakeholder meetings.
E-mail postings on Nextdoor to target Venice LCP subareas.

FORMAT AND ACTIVITIES

The *Pop Office Hours and Appointment* outreach event consisted of the following:

1. Appointments

Dates	Community Stakeholders	Organization / Stakeholder Group
04/18/19	John Reed	Reed Architectural Group, Inc. https://reedarchgroup.com/
04/18/19	Laurette Healey/Marcia Davalos	City Land Use Inc. https://www.citylanduse.com/
04/18/19	Heather Szerlag/Krisitina Olsen	Venice Local Coastal Zone residents
04/18/19	Ingrid Mueller/Margaret Malloy/Naomi Nightingale	Save Venice http://savevenice.me/
04/18/19	Sue Kaplan/Robin Rudisill/Mary Jack/David Ewing/Richard Stanger	Citizens Preserving Venice
04/18/19	Jataun Valentine	Venice Community Housing Board Member http://www.vchcorp.org/
04/18/19	Harris Levey	President's Row Neighborhood Assoc.



2. Pop Up Office: An open house format where attendees could visit stations with informational boards and speak directly with city planners regarding any planning matter they wanted to discuss further. Descriptions of the open house components follow below.

Registration

Participants were all welcomed at the registration table and provided information about the open house format. Light refreshments and snacks were available for the public.

Open House

Open house stations were set up in the community room at the library. These five stations consisted of the following: 1) Venice Local Coastal Zone Plan Overview Board 2) Venice Local Coastal Zone Land Use Plan Chapter Board, 3) Venice Coastal Zone Sea Level Rise Map Board, 4) Venice Coastal Zone Land Use Map Board, 5) Venice Local Coastal Program | Venice Community Plan Board and 6) Laptop: Guided Online access to the Venice LCP website and materials.

Station Number	Topic
1	Venice Local Coastal Zone Plan Overview Board
2	Venice Coastal Zone Land Use Plan Chapter Board
3	Venice Coastal Zone Sea Level Rise Map
4	Venice Coastal Zone Land Use Map
5	Venice Local Coastal Program Venice Community Plan Board
6	Laptop: Guided Online Access to the Venice LCP Website and materials

The open house stations provided a chance for community members to ask questions and obtain answers about any planning issues pertaining to the Venice Coastal Zone planning efforts. Members of the Venice LCP policy team, Community Plan update team and Coastal project planning team were available on hand to answer questions, provide information, and collect input from community members. Community members were encouraged to visit all stations and provide input by speaking with planners.



INPUT THEMES

The themes below represent topics that came up most frequently in conversations throughout the Venice Pop Up Office Hours and Appointments. Although the Office Hours and Appointments were designed to foster verbal communication and dialogue, a few attendees provided written comments via online.

Housing in Venice

- *Most stakeholders at this event emphasized continued support for affordable housing (i.e Bridge Housing on Main St/ 740 Rose Avenue project).*
- *A Venice resident felt that ADU pricing is too high for homeowners.*
- *Some stakeholders support ADUs and affordable housing but feel density in some areas /neighborhoods should be kept low, or to a minimum.*
- *One Venice stakeholder shared that the UDU policy should be revised.*
- *Concerns were expressed in reaching out to the homeless population - A long-time Venice homeless community member expressed that housing projects such as the Bridge Housing project may want to invest in more robust outreach efforts.*

Preservation, Historic, Character

- *Some stakeholders expressed the importance of preservation of the social, recreational and historical contributions and planning specifically to preserving and promoting the livelihood of the African American community.*
- *Some community stakeholders are in disagreement with the results of SurveyLA, while others are in support of the findings.*
- *It was expressed by multiple stakeholders that the policy on lot ties needs to be updated and revised (especially pertaining to Oakwood).*
- *Some residents felt development regulations (relating to mass, scale and character) need to be more considerate of how buildings responds to a neighborhood.*

Development Standards

- *Participants expressed that:*
 - *Current Parking standards make it very onerous to develop in Venice (i.e. Rose Ave).*
 - *Footnote #6 of the Venice Land Use Plan Map should re-examined*
 - *They felt footnote #6 is a bad fit with TOC.*
- *Venice stakeholders contend that the Mello Act is a stringent process*
- *Some community members wanted to know if it could be incorporated into the LUP*
- *Some community members felt that Mello need to be better enforced and more strict.*
- *Stakeholders suggested allowing subterranean lot ties amongst different parcel owners to accommodate subterranean parking in order to meet and provide additional parking (Ex. Rose Ave.)*



- *Milwood residents at the event shared with planners that it was important to maintain the character frontage of the neighborhood and that the bulk of the massing would be ok in the back.*
- *Some stakeholders expressed:*
 - *The issue of current development prejudicing the writing of the LCP.*
 - *Would like a prevailing FAR.*
 - *Concerns of cumulative impacts associated with TOC.*
- *Stakeholder expressed desire for allowing preferential parking district (s)*

Venice Local Coastal Program | Venice Community Plan

- *Community stakeholders inquired about the Venice Local Coastal Program and Venice Community updates.*
 - *Inquiries about the current timeline for both programs*
 - *When the best time to provide community for both programs.*
 - *Requests that there be more consistency between LUP/IP in the next update.*

Venice LCP Pop Up Office Hours and Appointments Overall

Pop Up Office Hours and Appointments were hosted at the Venice – Abbot Kinney Memorial Library, as part of a continued effort to provide access and an opportunity for community stakeholders to inquire or provide feedback on the Venice Local Program update. This new format provided an opportunity for ~ 7 appointments during the morning and afternoon. The evening hours were used to host drop-in Office Hours where no appointments were required and all were welcome. During this series, the main topics remained consistent: Housing, Preservation/Historic/Character, Development Standards and the Venice work programs.

Conversations from this event will continue to inform the Venice Local Coastal Program and Venice Community Plan updates. The Venice Local Coastal Program team looks forward to interacting with the community at the next scheduled Venice Community Plan Update community meeting in the Summer of 2019.