

WESTSIDE COMMUNITY PLANS UPDATE

VENICE
COMMUNITY PLAN UPDATE

Kick off Event
10.2.2018

Discussion Summary

On October 2, 2018, the Los Angeles Department of City Planning held a Kick off Event for the Venice Community Plan Update, a part of the Westside Community Plans Update program. This is a summary of the comments recorded at the Discussion Tables at that event. The complete Discussion Table Notes are also available on www.planningthewestside.org.

<i>Category</i>	<i>Community Comments</i>
<p>LIKES Comments generally focused on proximity to the coast, temperate climate, pedestrian scale and walkability, and access to a wide range of amenities and services.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● You can do everything without leaving the community● Rich culture of art, music, and architecture● Position on the coast creates temperate climate● Small streets and human scale allow you to walk and bike everywhere● Cultural and social diversity● Unique community character● Sense of community● Various activities and amenities such as beach, farmers markets, restaurants, canals, walk streets and boardwalk● Natural beauty with protected views
<p>DISLIKES Lack of affordable housing, homelessness, congestion, lack of open space and deteriorating infrastructure were consistently mentioned.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Concentration of homelessness in community● Lack of affordable housing● Presence of Airbnb causing nuisances in neighborhood● Traffic on residential streets often caused by Waze and other navigation apps.● Insufficient parking for residents and non-residents● Air pollution caused by planes flying over community● Limited housing capacity



<p>CONCERNS The community was concerned about the homeless population, traffic due to over development by County, Santa Monica and Venice, lack of bike and pedestrian infrastructure, and incompatibility of new development.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Over-densification and height ● Threats of gentrification and displacement ● New development disrupting pedestrian scale and views ● Congestion on Lincoln ● More bike lanes on side streets in neighborhood ● Collector streets catching overflow traffic ● Collision with bikes, scooters and pedestrians on sidewalks ● Big development favored small development ● Developers are not honoring front yard setbacks in Oakwood subarea ● Lincoln has no adequate street plan and lacks retail between Marco and Venice ● Single family homes losing yards ● Mansionization is creating big and boxy homes ● No transition zones east of Lincoln ● Lack of response to crime in the area ● Services such as police, sidewalks, alleyways, trash pick-up, and bathrooms are inadequate ● Validity of Survey LA
<p>HOUSING General concerns about housing included lack of affordable options, expensive land costs, and Airbnb effects on housing.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Airbnb homes take apartments off the housing market ● Lack of affordable housing options ● Lack of affordable housing specifically for artists and young people ● Effects of condos from Marina Del Rey felt in Venice ● Lack of coordination from governing entities such as LCP, CD11, and County on housing development ● Lincoln traffic creates safety issues on residential streets ● Illegal hotel conversions on Ocean Front Walk ● Land costs are expensive, which stunts development
<p>MOBILITY Comments focused on insufficient parking, lack of transit options and more bike infrastructure.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Lack of street parking in neighborhood ● Parking minimums should apply to all developments ● Provide park and ride option ● More transit options that includes direct transit ● Regulation for scooters ● More bike lanes on Rose and Abbot Kinney ● There is need for bus rapid transit on Venice ● Need micro-mobility in community



<p>SUGGESTIONS</p> <p>Themes included mixed income housing, greening of alleyways, better maintenance of infrastructure, and collaborative efforts for historic preservation.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Provide a mix of affordable housing and permanent supportive housing ● Place power lines and other utilities underground ● There is a need for alley maintenance and greening of alleyways ● Accommodate tourists through tourist center and wayfinding signage in different languages ● Homeless services should be equally shared in Council District ● Better maintenance of Muscle Beach, potholes, alleys, and sinkholes ● Connect with Venice Historical Society to establish relationships ● Restore wetlands, lagoons, and estuaries ● Provide more trees in Oakwood subarea ● Offer reliable and safe access to the beach ● Provide dedicated bike trails ● Offer more parking in neighborhood ● Increase density along corridors ● Include higher heights with development ● Improve pedestrian safety because crosswalks are dangerous
<p>PLAN GOALS</p> <p>Comments about plan goals generally focused on creating measurable and attainable goals, increasing housing production on all levels and providing diverse transit options while maintaining the scale and character of the community, simplifying the development and permit process and reconsidering the validity of Survey LA.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Allow live and work zones in all R zones ● Create more rent controlled units ● Increase housing on all levels and diversity in housing types ● Don't take away additional lanes, road diets don't work ● Provide residential permit parking ● Take out beach parking lots to encourage biking ● Maintain character of walkable beach town ● Proper coordination in homeless programs and services ● More transparency with permit process and planning process ● Growth should be along arterials with transit along Lincoln, Venice and Washington ● Encourage reasonable growth that takes the surrounding neighborhood into consideration ● Explore ways to reduce cost of appeals ● Developments must have commitment to public benefits that are meaningful ● Must respect architecture of historic buildings ● Remove goal that focuses on preservation of cultural resources



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Revisit contributor threshold and restriction on Survey LA ● Treat Venice as a historic neighborhood ● Plan appropriately for climate change ● Goals must be measurable and attainable
<p>FAVORITE PLACES Community members identified the beach, pier and historic district as their favorite places.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Beach ● Pier ● Windward Circle ● Own backyard ● Historic district ● Abbot Habit ● Arcade
<p>OPPORTUNITIES Suggestions for opportunities included converting Penmar golf course into a use that serves the community, curb conversion of multi-family to single-family homes, and create connectivity between North and South Venice.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Turn golf house into affordable housing or other use that serves community ● Identify area for services for the homeless ● There is a significant loss of multi-family so allow multi-family zoned areas to only allow multi-family projects ● Address displacement occurring in Oakwood ● Create bike path on Lincoln, but replace street parking ● Establish more connectivity North and South Venice ● Place mass transit on Lincoln and Venice ● Create more green alleyways ● Address plan for homeless facilities and services ● Add more density and affordable housing on Washington and Venice, but consider parking impacts on residential community ● Selective upzoning on some blocks with step downs from single family areas. The end product should be taken back to the community for review and feedback ● Preserve Ballona Creek and areas currently zoned as open space
<p>MISSING AMENITIES Identified missing services and amenities included affordable shopping options and open space</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Supermarkets ● Park space ● Public gathering spaces ● Cultural Centers

