

June 28, 2016

Los Angeles City Council  
Los Angeles City Clerk  
City Hall  
200 N. Spring Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Date: 6/28/16  
Submitted in EDC Committee  
Council File No: 16-0749  
Item No.: 2  
Deputy: Adam R. Lid

**RE: Opposition to the Establishment of Business Improvement District(s) in Venice**

Dear City Officials,

We are writing to oppose the establishment of the proposed Venice Beach Business Improvement District. As longtime residents, property owners, business owners and stakeholders, we are concerned about both the Business Improvement District (BID) process and potential implementation. We oppose for many reasons, including:

1. The process for establishing the BID has not been public or transparent. None of the details or documents about the potential Venice BID have been made public, including the proposed area of coverage, the bylaws or other governing documents, the process for membership, the results or timing of any petitions or ballot processes, and other relevant information.
2. Business Improvement Districts in the City of Los Angeles, and particularly the security forces they hire, have a history of hostility toward homeless and low-income residents resulting in several lawsuits since their inception in the late 1990s regarding unconstitutional practices.
3. Business Improvement Districts are a way to put the control of public spaces and services in the hands of private, commercial property owners that disenfranchises or harms those that don't own commercial property and limits democratic control over resources.
4. Business Improvement District assessments are not feasible for all businesses or property owners to pay, particularly non-profits and small business owners. Additionally, non-profits and small businesses that rent their properties are likely to have to pay their portion of a BID assessment without any voice or vote in the approval process.
5. The founding premise for the Business Improvement District is at fault. It is claimed that a BID is needed because the City of Los Angeles is not providing the proper public services. While the city is not currently providing all needed services, the solution is not giving grossly disproportionate control of public spaces to the select few who own businesses in a neighborhood. We vehemently oppose any privatization of our public spaces and services. The city is responsible for providing these necessary services.
6. Currently, and for at least the past five years, some of the wealthiest global technology corporations such as Google and Snapchat have enjoyed an 80% tax break from the City. Simply requiring these companies pay their fair share would help properly fund our needed public services.
7. Residents, small businesses, tourists and other stakeholders in and near the proposed Venice Beach BID are not in favor of the BID, yet have no voice or vote in the process. Initial petitions documenting this opposition are attached.

For these and other reasons, we urge that any proposal for a BID in Venice be denied.

Sincerely,

Los Angeles Community Action Network  
Los Angeles Human Right to Housing Collective  
Occupy Venice  
People Organized for Westside Renewal (POWER)  
VAGABOND  
Venice Coalition to Preserve Our Unique Community Character (VCPUCC)  
Venice Community Housing  
Venice Justice Committee  
Venice United/Unidos  
Western Regional Advocacy Project  
Westside Tenants Union

We, the undersigned, oppose the establishment of a Venice Beach Business Improvement District (BID). We believe in public control of public resources and oppose the privatization of those resources. We support renters' rights, both for residential and commercial renters, and oppose taxation without representation. BIDs impose taxes that renters often pay, but which landlords decide upon. BID private security forces have a track record of infringing on the rights of our lowest-income neighbors, especially those people who are unhoused. We oppose private security forces controlled exclusively by commercial and industrial interests when their impact will affect the entire community, especially those disenfranchised from BID governance.

Name	Address	Property Owner? (Yes/No)	Type of Address (home, work, other)	Email or phone number
Dadra Stefan	205 Ocean Front Walk	No	Restaurant <sup>On property</sup>	DadraStefan@gmail.com
Anthony Toranella	30 Rose Ave	No	Home	ast2000a@hotmail.com
Kenny Lewis	43 Westminster Ave	NO	Home	Kenny.Lew90@gmail.com
Bobby Parco	201 1/2 Ocean Front	No	Business	boardwalkskate@yahoo.com
Elizabeth Valenzuela	15 Rose Ave	No	Home/Business	310 486 5454
Amber Claybourne	523 Main St	NO	Home	513 509-3899
Jace Sullivan	41 Dudley Ave	<del>No</del> No	Home	JaceSullivan2006@yahoo.com
Eric X Valenzuela	15 rose ave	NO	Home	fitoch33to@gmail.com
Garvin Adams	1921 Canal St.	No	Home	Adams.Gavin@gmail.com
Hugo Aragon	622 Sunset	no	Home	Hugoburgonallyson177@gmail.com
Christina Marquez	44 Rose Ave. #5 Venice, CA	NO	Home	therencequeen@gmail.com
Mac Correia	33 CLUBHOUSE AVE #1 VENICE CA	No	HOME	Macconnorsmail.com
Reina Alvarez	54 ROSE AVE #5	NO	home	sbreinstorm@yahoo.com
Shelley Proctor	214 Market St	NO	home	shellshell50723@gmail.com
RICH HOLGUIN		NO	HOME	805 304 6145
ARIEL REGER		NO	Home	(310) 756-2581

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Name	Address	Property Owner? (Yes/No)	Type of Address (home, work, other)	Email or phone number
Alex Thomas	1313 Oceanfront walk	NO	work	310-399-0555
Mark V	11401 Harza	NO	the sidewalk <sup>cafe</sup>	310-699-0106
Chloe Lebert	4315 Inglewood Blvd	NO	Bank of Venice / Green Goddess	310-468-8341
Daniel Lebert	Los Angeles, CA 90006	NO	Sidewalk cafe	310-707-7691
Colwyn Grant	1408 Linden Ave Venice Ca 90291	NO	Home	310 962-6485
Diana Vukobratovic	3847 Pacific Ave Green City CA 92041	NO	Home / The Green Goddess	310-401-0110
Jason Rosen	44 Rose Ave #5 Venice, CA	NO	Home	ujinfx@gmail.com
Franco Lopez	12119 Washington Pl 90066	NO	Bank of Venice	323 507 1161
MARIA FLAGG	80 WINDWARD AVE VENICE 90291	NO	BANK OF VENICE	310-309-7222
MAX CARAISSO	603 Broadway Venice, CA 90291	NO	Home	914.582.0899
Steele Weninger	Oxnard, Venice 90291	yes	Home	702 271-6719
Rachael Dulin	18th Ave, Venice	NO	home	310-525-7789
Anthony Brucet	1401 Ocean Front Walk	NO	work	310 346-3334
Ronnie McGowan	930 Venice Blvd	NO	Community sports program	310-880-6279
Don Lay	319 Ocean Front Walk Venice, CA 90291	NO	Home/work / Training	310-399-5336
Vanessa Davey	17 Park Ave. Venice	NO	Home	310-399-5336
TERRI CRAFT	319 OCEAN FRONT WALK	NO	HOME	310-455-6169

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Name	Address	Property Owner? (Yes/No)	Type of Address (home, work, other)	Email or phone number
MICHAEL CHAVNESS	232 3rd ST, #1	NO	HcME	602-339-6607
Daniel Milton	425 Piedmont Ave #6	NO	Art	(818) 395-8321
<del>John</del>	6241 Berkman	NO		515-292-7676
Marty	4150 Berman	NO	Art	(310) 717-70-58-
<del>Marty</del>		NO		310 560 2717
<del>John</del>	4182 S Western Ave	NO	Art	(619) 850-6558
<del>John</del>	SWestern Ave	NO	work	nohanks@hotmail.com
Eduardo de la Barra	Alexandria Ave	NO	WORK ART	SATVOMEDIC@gmail.com
Celia Maan	12331 Berham	NO	home	(248) 252-1286
Vanessa Fries	1426 E-Edison	NO		330-356-9551
<del>John</del>	<del>4151 Berman</del>	NO	Art	714 247 9893
<del>John</del>		NO	Art	949 609 1108
Robert Garcia C.	31385 Normandie	NO	ART	rubengarcia@live.com
Pablo Castellon	Horizon <sup>4th</sup> 15 <sup>4th</sup> 7	NO	Art	
Jose Claudio	4101 42 62	NO	ART	446-3433 (323)
JOE KIMLEY		NO	ART	310 781-5056



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Name	Address	Property Owner? (Yes/No)	Type of Address (home, work, other)	Email or phone number
Jeffrey Solomon	22 Navy St #207	Yes	Condo	emj@venicebeachwalkingtours.com
Bryan Ferguson	112 Dudley Ave #1	No	Apt	bferguson20@yahoo.com
Rob Todd Jackson	41 Dudley Ave	No	Apt	terraceandfx@gmail
Tyler Dunham	52 Dudley Ave	No	Apt	tdunham52@gmail.com
Emily Russell	42 Dudley Ave Apt 6 Renter		Apt	Emilyrussellatrua@gmail.com
Sean Wolcott	42 Dudley Ave Apt 6 Renter		Apt	wolcott.sean@gmail.com
EMERSON YOUNG	16 Dudley Ave	NO		highway274@aol.com
RICH RAGSDALE	20 Clubhouse	YES	House	RICHMUSIC@MAC.COM
Angela Marklew	20 clubhouse	Yes	house	info@angelamarklew.com
Dolores DeHue	22 Paloma Ave	No	Apt	Dolores@DehueKnits.com
CATHY DREYFUSS	25 PARK AVE	YES	HOUSE	CRDREYFUSS@GMAIL.COM
GAIL ROGERS	33 Park Av.	Yes	home	rogersgail33@gmail.com
ISHA JONES	102 NAVY ST #14	NO	APT	IJONES@VCHCORP.ORG



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Name	Address	Property Owner? (Yes/No)	Type of Address (home, work, other)	Email or phone number
BRADFORD ECKHART	OCEAN FRONT WALK VENDER SPOT 184	NO	609 CALIFORNIA AVE VENICE CA 9021	venicekennach@hotmail.com venicekennach@hotmail.com
JAY HOWARD	OCEAN FRONT WALK - PERFORMER #185	NO	WORK THERE	GUITARMON JAY66@GMAIL.COM
David Carroll	OCEAN FRONT WALK #183	NO	WORK	davidcarroll149@gmail.com
Peter "Rocky" Rivera	OCEAN FRONT WALK #177	NO	Art Self employed	gemsnifdogesbcglobal.net
ROBERT KENT TUSLER	P.O. Box 90294 453 VENICE, CA	NO	Photo ART self employed	310 658 1511
Kenneth DUARTE	OCEAN FRONT BOARDWALK #175	NO	WORK/ self employed	kmduarte@yahoo.com
Maribel Navarro	Ocean Front BOARDWALK #174	NO	SELF WORK	AVEROSE_@gmail.com
Louie Garcia	Ocean Front WALK #169	NO	WORK	323-597-6683
USIDRO SAIZ	OCEAN FRONT WALK #169	NO	WORK	30-478-6506
Christina Marguez	44 Rose Ave. #5 Venice, CA	NO	Home	thevenicequeen@gmail.com
Gregory Sandoval	OCEAN FR. WALK #193	NO	WORK	323-902-1630
CHRISTOPHER	OCEAN FRONT WALK #193	NO	WORK	—
Richard Medina	4034 68th N. Venice Blvd.	NO	WORK	richard@beyondhaze.org
MARK LIPMAN	681 N. VENICE BLVD	NO	WORK	EDITOR @ VAGABOND BOOKS.NET
JOSEPA P. GULIAUR	15 HORIZON AVE #6 VENICE 90291	NO	Home	joeycalifornia13@yahoo.com

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Name	Address	Property Owner? (Yes/No)	Type of Address (home, work, other)	Email or phone number
Moses Elkayan	305 OF Walk	NO	store	Melkayan83@gmail.com
DAVID HAZAN	401 OCEAN FRONT RD	NO	STORE	310 581 9663
SEAN DALY	465 OCEAN FRONT	NO	STORE	310 392 9254
John R. J.	WALK VENICE 407 OFW #2	NO	home	808 405 2709
David Bennett	407 OFW #4	NO	home	310-396-7013
Robert J. J.	421 Oceanfront walk	NO	store	310-450-0057
Dalia Amin	20909 ANZA AV	NO	store	310-529-4990
Lizzy Mulkey	918 Venezia Ave	NO	home	lizzymulkey@gmail.com
Nick Fuller Grogins	918 Venezia Ave	NO	home	fullerga@gmail.com
Becky Denmonson	345- 4th Ave	yes	affordable housing	bdennison@vchcorp.org

We, the undersigned visitors to Venice Beach, oppose the establishment of a Venice Beach Business Improvement District (BID). We love visiting Venice Beach and do not feel any need for increased security. We love the diversity and culture of Venice Beach, and believe it should be accessible to and controlled by the public, not a small group of commercial property owners.

Name	Address	Email or phone number
Eric Froshauer	Third and Rose Homeles	ericfrosh123@gmail.com
Raymond Remington	Third St.	zeros zeros october 25@yahoo.com
Gerald Beyer	Ocean front walk	beyerger@yahoo.com
Edward Fajardo	—	acquariusrising@gmail.com
Julie ms Chule Royal princess	Queen juliemani Antennae Constantine Honduras	NO phone #
Stefan Jennings	Third St.	stefanjennings@gmail.com
Karl Munchand	Third St	
Elizabeth McRae	N/A	N/A
John P. Jones	3rd	ilohon234@gmail.com
ANDREA MARKSHAN	2041 Tuna Topanga	redtalsky@yahoo.com
Luuk Pij	N/A	N/A
X L B / B / B /	N/A	N/A
Dan Aylin	2041 Hampton Drive	808 388 6033
Yukha Lee	Venice Beach	
Danah M. White	Indiana St.	818-308-0128
Don R		
Tracy M		
"Dylan" J. J. J.	2nd (Lynch) rose	

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Name	Address	Property Owner? (Yes/No)	Type of Address (home, work, other)	Email or phone number
Eric Bromberg	421 Ocean Front Walk	No	home	ericbromberg@hotmail.com
DURAN LUGER	1025 OCEAN AVE	NO	MANAGEMENT	CRUBBS26@HOTMAIL.COM
MORTIN BERMAN	12929 Ocean Ave	YES	NEIGHBOR	MORTIE@VERMONT-CT
Sylvia Kroth	1322 Appleton Way	Yes	home	Venicesylvia@gmail.com
DANTE CACACE	1324 Appleton Way	NO	home	CACACE DANTE@GMAIL.COM
TEM PARIS	911 AMARANTH PL	YES	HOME	paristeam@me.com
Steven Ehrlich	700 Palms Be.	yes	HOME	schrlich@eyrc.com
Sheila Goldberg	15 Via Marina	yes	Home	sheilagoldberg79@gmail.com
Barbara Milliken	857 Novita Pl.	Yes	home	millikenlew@gmail.com
Kim Marshall	920 Abbott Kinney St.	YES	office	Kim@themarshallgroup.com
Jack Prichett	857 Novita Pl	Yes	home	jacquesinvenice@gmail.com
Donna Maudas	1611 Electric Ave	Yes	office	donna@donnaaudas.com
NANCY GRIFFIN	700 Palms Blvd.	Yes	Home	GRIFFIN.N@CARP.COM