

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Kelly  
**Date Submitted:** 10/29/2021 03:28 AM  
**Council File No:** 21-0829-S1

**Comments for Public Posting:** Re: Council File No. 21-0829-S1 Dear Members of the City Council: I hope you saw the news this week that Sonya Reese Greenland and Evan Hines have come out against the Reese Davidson Community on the Venice Canals, including the Gregory Hines Community Art Center. See: [https://www.westsidecurrent.com/news/reese-family-demands-name-be-removed-from-controversial-vche-project-on-venice-canals/article\\_248dd98e-36d0-11ec-a05e-6ffa4f17a762.html](https://www.westsidecurrent.com/news/reese-family-demands-name-be-removed-from-controversial-vche-project-on-venice-canals/article_248dd98e-36d0-11ec-a05e-6ffa4f17a762.html) [https://www.westsidecurrent.com/venice/gregory-hines-son-speaks-out-against-fathers-name-associated-with-controversial-vche-project/article\\_7b4cb400-3786-11ec-ab71-af6ed9feb5b5.html](https://www.westsidecurrent.com/venice/gregory-hines-son-speaks-out-against-fathers-name-associated-with-controversial-vche-project/article_7b4cb400-3786-11ec-ab71-af6ed9feb5b5.html) Ms. Reese Greenland sent a cease and desist letter to the developers stating that her grandfather—Venice legend Arthur L. Reese—would want the project “stopped immediately” and demanding that the Reese name be removed from the project. She also states that the project is “the opposite of social justice” because it reduces beach access for communities of color by replacing existing surface lot parking with expensive, mechanical lift parking 500 feet further from the beach and freezing substandard streets and sidewalks in place forever. A copy of the letter is available here: (<https://bit.ly/2ZzRwrG>) Mr. Hines, for his part, says it is wrong to put such a massive project so close to the beach and that his father—legendary entertainer Gregory Hines—“would not be for this given what the effect on the community is going to be.” “I don’t think it’s right,” he said, “and Greg would not have thought this was right either.” I stand with Ms. Reese Greenland and Mr. Hines in opposing this project. Further I understand that the project will needless destroy 4 existing units of affordable housing - displacing 4 Venice families - and that the developers are not conducting any environmental review even though the project is in a FEMA flood zone. Affordable housing is important, but so is access to California’s most storied and diverse beach. The Reese Davidson Community does not strike the right balance. Please vote no. Thank you.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Steven Pearl  
**Date Submitted:** 10/29/2021 05:28 AM  
**Council File No:** 21-0829-S1

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## Communication from Public

**Name:** Sean Obrien

**Date Submitted:** 10/29/2021 10:10 AM

**Council File No:** 21-0829-S1

**Comments for Public Posting:** This meeting has had no public outreach posted on the perimeter of said development, violating brown act, and should be rescheduled. DO NOT APPROVE THIS PROJECT, VENICE IS A CONTAINMENT ZONE, WE HAVE ALREADY DONE OUR FAIR SHARE! This project is a land grab, taking away open space forever in a city that is deficient in open space, the parking lot is not underutilized as has been mistakenly presented as such to the city No one in Venice supports this project unless they are financially or personally involved, it is being pushed through without most residents even knowing, and this after 5+ years, the VNC, VNC LUPC, voted unanimously to reject this project Furthermore, the requests by the developers do not meet current local and coastal requirements, violating the VSP, dual coastal zone, historical zone, etc. And asking to create a whole new sub area to make these exemptions mute, as well as all the unheard of variances being adopted by the city, the Parking, the sidewalks, the height, the density, robotic parking, the list continues ... What will happen to Venice Blvd north and south with all these huge trucks removing tens of thousands of cubic feet of dirt and bringing in millions of pounds of construction materials, it will be torn up and the developers won't be required to pay to for what they destroyed And what about LA mobility plan, no bike lane to the gateway to Venice beach, just another absurdity As per application, 420 people will live at this location, how many friends will visit and where will they park with only 61 parking spaces, On the street, greatly impacting surrounding neighborhoods. What about the noise generated by robotic parking and the endless maintenance and breakdowns causing even fewer parking spaces and less access to the beach. WE NEED a CEQA review, high water table report with massive de watering complications, in the event of a flood, developers state water will go into canals, where is the engineering, or report to mitigated pending disaster Corruption abounds as another Venice project was being challenged in court, some San Francisco area state politician drafted legislation removing CEQA requirements on homeless shelters and affordable housing in LA County only, which the governor signed into law, to thwart a lawsuit that VCHC and PATH were losing, how can a northern California politician pass a state law that only affects LA? It is my

understanding that this is being challenged in court and this project should be put on hold until the courts deem this valid The Parking Structures are not CEQA exempt When tourists visit and park In robotic structure, there is no staging area, they will stop, get out of vehicle, remove coolers, blankets, umbrellas, toys, bikes, boogie board, surf board, radio, the children, etc., then pull into the bay to actually park, this will take a massive amount of time, causing huge traffic jams, potentially reaching Lincoln Blvd or even east to Walgrove ave. Upon departure, the same logjam will continue, resulting in further delays, just imagine wanting to leave and having to wait for an hour to be able to retrieve your vehicle The process of the city approving this project has been shockingly one sided. The staff reports ignore the concerns of the neighborhood or simply dismiss them, the reports seem to be written by Becky Dennisson praising this project no matter the impact to the community, the 10 million visitors a year, or the cost, which my estimate will exceed 100 million dollars, not including the value of the land I have attended all meetings for this project and witnessed commissioners, etc. turn off cameras during public comments, not keeping a quorum, violating the brown act, I have seen unanimous votes in favor of the project and all variances from people who live far away and wont be impacted by this project, i feel they have not even visited the site and dont truly understand how disastrous this project will be, I have even heard members speak of their personal beliefs and experiences with the homeless, leading to bias conclusions The only ones who truly want this project approved are Mike Bonin, Eric Garcetti, VCHC, Hollywood Housing, developers who stand to make 10s of millions of dollars, progressive advocates who are mostly from distant areas, not the community it is being forced upon With prices reaching north of a million dollars per 450 square feet per unit, it is almost criminal to allow taxpayers money to fund this disastrous and unwanted project The developers have no experience with projects of this magnitude either building such a massive project or managing one of this size I have yet to hear about staging during construction. Where will the 100s of workers park, where will building materials be stored, my guess is the farmers market lot to the east will be used, without any notice to the community, taking away EVEN more parking and impacting the farmers market