

DVP BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

July 23, 2026, 9:00am

held in Crowne Plaza Ventura Beach Hotel board room, 450 E. Harbor Blvd.

Call to Order. President Josh Addison called the meeting to order at 9:07am.

DVP Directors present: Addison, Vince Daly, Edith Espejo, Whitney Reed, Evan Jonker, Kate McDuffee, Alison Huyett, Michael Mendelson, Sky Sunner, Doug Halter. **Others:** E.D. Kevin Clerici, Police Cmdr. Ted Caliento, Deputy CM Brick Conners, Community Development's A.J. Bernhardt, Kate Bello.

Approval of July Agenda. Approved.

Approval of June meeting minutes. Approved with added sentence pertaining to MSM license agreement. Motion by Doug Halter, 2nd by Alison Huyett. Passed unanimously.

Police Report. Cmdr. Caliento provided brief report. Overall crime is down in downtown; PTF doing proactive patrols; fentanyl use remains prevalent; no issues with July 3 fireworks; ICE don't share location when doing patrols in town, he said. There was talk about DVP Ambassadors carrying narcan to offer fentanyl users. ED to ask other PBIDs on their policies and practices around carrying narcan. Currently, Ambassadors do not carry and would not apply narcan to someone who is unconscious. Instead, a 911 call would be made in that scenario.

CM Report. Conners shared some items on Council calendar: Aug.18 item to consider changes to parking ordinance; Aug. 25 item to consider mini park lease; Sept. 8 item to consider MSM parklet license agreements. Conners thanked DVP for its Opportunity Zone support letter, said city is now in the running and should learn if selected in September. The next deadline for the Surplus Land Act process for the city owned garage and adjacent vacant parcel on the Promenade is Aug. 3, when affordable housing developers must apply with interest in acquiring the parcels. No responses received yet. He added the ongoing beach stairwell project at the beach garage should be completed within a few weeks, likely just after the Fair. He reported that graffiti requests are the top request going to the city's Ventura Connects app. He said Council's 3-person MSM ad hoc committee is about to start meeting with property and business owners, with the goal to produce a recommendation in October to full Council, prior to the November meeting to discuss MSM.

MSM Report. Bernhardt shared various Main Street updates: Non-ABC parklet guidelines now available. All parklets must be updated or removed by Jan. 7, 2027. Staff going back to Council with license agreements in September, asking for clear direction on a possible 3-year parklet licensing option. Bernhardt said bollards and concrete planters project to begin soon, with underground testing outside the Mission to start first. Contractor will decide on schedule of which intersections to do first, but likely to start at Mission area and move east. City plans to upgrade planters on sidewalks. He said South California Street will reopen to traffic at Santa Clara Street with one-way configuration allowing motorist to exit via the alleys, with possibly new bike parking area in the offset street area near the alley by Lure.

Executive Director's Report. ED provided updates and monthly written report included with Agenda packet. ED provided parking update, including new LPR machines are active. Motorists must start a parking session and will receive up to 90 minutes of free parking. Anyone who stays 91 minutes or more would pay \$1.50 at the 91st minute then go up 25 cents every 15 mins. This triggered much discussion, with Councilman Halter saying this is not what he felt he voted for and that he would look into it immediately. After lengthy discussion, it was agreed to allow Councilman Halter a month to get more information and return to DVP with an update and any possible changes. Separately, those who use the Parkmobile app will face a small transaction fee (45 cents) even if they stay under 90 mins. Council will be asked in September if they want to change the city's municipal code to add language allowing paid parking to expand to city surface lots. Still no progress has been shared on proposed employee parking program. Digital parking system at Harbor Blvd garage still not functioning and public works says it is in negotiations with a parking firm to replace it later this year. No details provided.

President's Report. President Addison shared the results of the 2025 independent audit, which gave DVP a positive review with no deficiencies. Addison introduced an ad hoc committee to review and update the DVP Bylaws. This would follow up on a previous effort that started the update but didn't finalize the changes. The ad hoc committee would include Addison, Vince Daly and Alison Huyett. Motion by Vince Daly, 2nd by Doug Halter. Passed with 2 opposition votes (McDuffee, Jonker). Addison restated his commitment to hold a board retreat/strategic session this year. Board agreed to cancel August meeting and hold a Board retreat in late August/September. Addison also stated he would work to bring back the Brown Act training that had to be postponed.

Finance Committee Report. Treasurer Espejo presented summary of June financial compilation and actuals-to-budget. She shared DVP's new 4-day (Thurs-Sunday) pilot restroom attendant program along the Promenade is going well and is not costing DVP any additional money at this time due to a budgeted ambassador position becoming vacant. Motion to approve June financials by Doug Halter, 2nd by Vince Daly. Passed unanimously. Separately, Finance Committee reviewed all June financial materials, checking statements, credit card purchases and contracts.

ED Committee. Sky Sunner and Whitney Reed updated Board on Downtown Harvest Days concept for month of October. DVP summer events in full swing with Wednesday dance nights and monthly block parties. World Cup events drew over 1,000 people. Previous board action was to create an ad hoc marketing and communications committee. It was decided to combine that committee with the ED Committee and have one group, titled the ED and Marketing & Communications Committee. Motion by Josh Addison, 2nd by Sky Sunner. Passed unanimously. The committee is looking at Aug. 13 for next meeting date.

Councilmember Halter Report. Halter, who sits on MSM Ad Hoc Committee, said the group is about to start in earnest to meet with people and he is eager to have those discussions and then be able to produce a report for the Nov. 10 Council meeting to discuss MSM's future. Halter said he opposed effort to have downtown be identified in city's Housing Element as a spot for a homeless shelter by right, which would allow it to open with little review. Halter said his view prevailed, and the designation now falls on Thompson Boulevard and other corridors.

DVP-CEF Report. Addison said CEF website is live (www.dvpcef.org) and now has 4 dedicated funds that people can donate to: Main Street, Front Street, Promenade and General Fund. Addison said CEF will hold monthly virtual meetings at 9am on the 2nd Thursday of each month, starting on Sept. 10.

Public Comments. None.

Meeting adjourned at 11:44am.

Minutes prepared by Kevin Clerici