

DVP BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

January 22, 2026, 9:00am

held in downstairs Santa Rosa room at Crowne Plaza Ventura Beach Hotel, 450 Harbor Blvd.

Call to Order. President Josh Addison called the meeting to order at 9:11am.

DVP Directors present: Addison, Vince Daly, Alex Schneider, Edith Espejo, Sky Sunner, Evan Jonker, Councilman Doug Halter, with Michael Mendelson and Peter Goldenring on Zoom. **Others:** E.D. Kevin Clerici, Police Cmdr. Ryan Weeks, Community Development's A.J. Bernhardt, Nikki Katz from Teddy Bear Cancer Foundation, Christy Weir (DVO).

Approval of January Agenda. Approved with order changes, moving up ED Report and closed session.

Approval of December Meeting Minutes. Motion by Alex Schneider, 2nd by Doug Halter. Passed unanimously.

Police Report. Cmdr. Weeks shared monthly downtown crime stats: no major incidents in Dec/Jan. Some late-night bar fights recorded. Police continue patrols at Vons shopping center, leading to narcotics arrests. Detectives made arrest on burglary suspect believed to have hit numerous midtown retailers. PTF staffing is transitioning with new officers and corporals in Jan.

City Report. No report.

MSM Report. Bernhardt shared various updates, including Main Street Vision Plan is at 95% complete and is returning to Council in late March. City is working on new branding effort and wayfinding program as part of Vision Plan, which is currently unfunded. Contract for bollards and concrete planters to be awarded in April 2026. Restroom trailer staying in place until Feb. 2. Construction on Portland Loo nearing completion, expected to open in Feb. Staff finalizing pre-approved parklet designs and parklet application process, now expected in Jan/Feb.

Executive Director's Report. ED provided updates and monthly written report included with Agenda packet. DVP's vacant ambassador position has been filled. ED to now look at hiring contract events/activation staff for 2026. DVP held successful Tree Lighting event, Winter Wine Walk and holiday decorations. Follow up to Board discussion in Dec on having City look at ways to slow motorists approaching downtown on Main Street in 800-900 blocks. Transportation staff has agreed to lower speed limit to 25mph at Ash. DVP to ask about angled parking, possible roundabouts as other ways to slow traffic.

Finance Committee Report. Treasurer Schneider presented summary of December financial compilation and actuals-to-budget and answered questions. Motion to approve Dec financials and have ED return in February with business plan for acquiring and operating a trailered generator and to look at placing \$300K in a safe money market account to generate interest. Separately, Finance Committee reviewed all December ancillary financial materials, checking statements, credit card purchases and contracts. Motion by Alex Schneider, 2nd by Vince Daly. Passed unanimously.

ED Committee Report. Sky Sunner said group didn't meet this month. Wants to survey restaurants/bars on their interest in Entertainment Zone Pilot Program. That program was shelved for a year by City Council.

Promenade Ad Hoc Committee Report. City still struggling with repairs and delays with new digital system in parking garage. Staff say they need to find solution for validations to restaurants and hotel. City did award stairwell replacement project. Some discussion centered on sand management. Member Daly said area would benefit with a vision plan and greater City involvement.

Closed Session Item & Report. Board held closed session to review and discuss ED performance. It was reported out in open session that Board voted to provide ED with a compensation increase, effective Jan. 1.

Board Election Nominating Committee. Motion made to form annual nominating committee with Evan Jonker, Edith Espejo and Josh Addison. Passed unanimously. The 2026 election includes 2 property owner seats and 1 business owner seat. The terms of Directors Feingold, Goldenring and Stewart are ending in March.

Councilmember Halter Report. Halter said all city residents should feel safe in their community in response to national immigration enforcement. City is continuing work on a possible tax measure to raise funds for critical city needs. Cultural tourism and the arts are important part of local economy. He said he feels this City Council is working together.

DVO Report. Christy Weir said DVO advocating for retail parklets in Vision Plan.

Public Comments. Nikki Katz introduced Teddy Bear Cancer Foundation and its miniature golf event/fundraiser on April 26. Event will feature 18 uniquely designed and constructed holes inside businesses and on the street.

Meeting adjourned at 11:27am.

Minutes prepared by Kevin Clerici