

DVP BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

March 26, 2026, 9:00am

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

Call to Order. President Josh Addison called the meeting to order at 9:09am.

DVP Directors present: Addison, Vince Daly, Sky Sunner, Edith Espejo, Evan Jonker, Patricia Solano. **Others:** E.D. Kevin Clerici, Police Cmdr. Ryan Weeks, Deputy City Manager Brick Conners, Community Development's A.J. Bernhardt, Kate McDuffee, Sara Omanovic, Cheryl Heitmann (DVO).

Approval of March Agenda. Approved.

Presentations were started until Board quorum was present to conduct business.

Police Report. Cmdr. Weeks shared monthly downtown crime stats: no major incidents in March. Police continue proactive patrols that have led to various narcotics arrests. Police to provide support at larger downtown events, including April marathon and May's Jackalope Block Party on Main Street.

City Report. Deputy CM Conners shared Council updates, including past action to approve bollards (construction start date now pushed to June); paid parking to go before Council at April 14 meeting, waterfront project and surplus land act update is expected to return to Council at April 20 meeting. City's economic subcommittee will discuss waterfront project at its April meeting. City also to hold a catalyst projects workshop in April.

MSM Report. Bernhardt shared Main Street updates, including Council's support of Vision Plan and revised timelines for parklets. Restaurant owners now must submit plans by July 31 and all parklets must be replaced or removed by Oct. 1. All fees have been deferred until occupancy, Bernhardt said. Staff has released pre-approved parklet designs and parklet application process, now accepting applications. Staff also is working a retail parklet standard aimed at retailers, coffee shops but those plans won't be ready or approved until July, Bernhardt said. Council did not commit any new funds to vision plan's many projects, but staff has some leftover funds and plans to upgrade planters, paint sidewalk curbs, purchase commercial grade street furniture and make ADA upgrades to fill holes/cracks on sidewalks and add ADA parking and drop-off areas at each intersection. New Portland Loo to open in April. City staff in talks with Farmers Market on a solution for parklets in the 200 block as market officials would prefer none or prefer parklets that could be removed on Saturday mornings to allow space for market vendors.

Member Jonker arrived at 10:09am, providing a quorum to take Board actions.

Board Election Results. Board certified 2026 election results. Top 2 vote getters in the property owner election were Alison Huyett from Patagonia and Kate McDuffee from Ventura Majestic Theater and top vote getter in the business owner election was Whitney Riles from Findings Market. Motion by Vince Daly, 2nd by Evan Jonker. Passed unanimously. The terms of Directors Feingold, Goldenring and Stewart end in March, with elected members beginning in April.

Approval of February Meeting Minutes. Motion by Vince Daly, 2nd by Evan Jonker. Passed unanimously. Sunner abstained.

2027 Assessments. Board heard recommendation from finance committee for no change in 2027, pointing to a sluggish economy and DVP's diverse service contracts, healthy cash reserves and targeted budget able to offset labor and cost increases. Board discussed holding a strategic planning retreat in September. Board voted for a 0% increase in 2027. Motion by Vince Daly, 2nd by Evan Jonker.

Executive Director's Report. ED provided updates and monthly written report included with Agenda packet. ED stressed significance of parking changes being considered. City's parking advisory committee voted to recommend a First Hour Free program when City plans to replace aging pay stations in June. City is still looking at expanding paid parking to city surface lots and a pilot employee parking permit program, but details have not been released. Council In April will consider funding to hire firm to initiate study on needed environmental review of proposed multistory parking garage at Santa Clara and Palm streets. Member Sunner and Addison volunteered for parking ad hoc group to continue monitoring parking developments and report back to the Board.

Finance Committee Report. President Addison presented summary of February financial compilation and actuals-to-budget. Motion to approve February financials was made by Vince Daly, 2nd by Evan Jonker. Passed unanimously. Separately, Finance Committee reviewed all February ancillary financial materials, checking statements, credit card purchases and contracts.

ED Committee Report. None.

Councilmember Halter Report. Halter was not present.

DVO Report. Cheryl Heitmann said DVO supports Vision Plan, parking changes to reduce costs and addition of retail parklets.

Public Comments. None.

Meeting adjourned at 10:58am.

Minutes prepared by Kevin Clerici