

# CITY OF LOS ANGELES CALIFORNIA

## PICO UNION NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL OFFICERS

**Peter J. Sean**  
PRESIDENT

**Dr. Rick Rodriguez**  
VICE PRESIDENT

**Zoila Bañuelos**  
TREASURER

**Sunny Kim**  
SECRETARY



PICO UNION NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL  
GENERAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
**March 3, 2014 at 6:30pm**  
**Kolping House – Auditorium (Parking available)**  
**1225 S Union Ave, Los Angeles, CA 90015**  
[www.picosunionac.org](http://www.picosunionac.org)

## PICO UNION NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL BOARD MEMBERS

Vacant  
Jesus Bañuelos  
Humberto Camacho  
Jorge Dominguez  
John Cameron Kelley  
Mark Lee  
Jay Park  
Cynthia Rodriguez  
Vacant  
Vacant  
Vacant

March 11, 2014

Councilmember Cedillo  
Los Angeles City Council, District 1  
200 N. Spring St., Room 470  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Councilmember Cedillo,

The Pico Union Neighborhood Council supports the Koreatown Youth and Community Center's work to prevent underage drinking and other alcohol-related harms. We would like the City to establish a permanent Conditional Compliance Unit (CCU) that has enough resources to do proactive enforcement of Condition Use Beverage Permits (CUB).

We are not anti-business or interested in shutting down alcohol outlets. We just want alcohol outlets to abide by their CUB's to protect the health and safety of our communities. This will prevent public health and safety problems and make it more desirable to live, work and do business in Los Angeles communities. This is a pro-business, pro-community solution to a myriad of public health and safety problems that are costing our communities money every day.

We are concerned because almost every census tract in the City of Los Angeles is oversaturated with alcohol outlets according to ABC's guidelines. A great deal of research has linked oversaturation to violent crime, traffic crashes, and nuisance activities such as littering, loitering, vandalism and noise.

These negative impacts are costly to the city: they influence property values; hurt nearby businesses; and can affect the quality of life of entire communities. One way to mitigate problems associated with oversaturation is to improve the business practices of alcohol outlets. Proactive enforcement can do this. Having a dedicated staff to educate operators on how they can prevent violations, investigate violations and hold operators accountable is an investment that will save community resources in the long run.

Currently, many alcohol licensed businesses in the communities we serve are not abiding by their CUB's and they are doing so with impunity because there is not an effective or adequately funded compliance monitoring system in place. ABC does not have the authority or the resources to monitor or enforce CUB's and LAPD resources are not designed to monitor alcohol-outlet compliance with their CUB's. Current enforcement of CUB's is complaint driven and resources for this are scarce.

In many cases, neighborhood councils have worked hard to get conditions in place on alcohol licensed businesses, but the conditions are meaningless if there is no proactive compliance monitoring. Also, it is important the local neighborhood councils are provided with an opportunity to weigh in on any decisions made with regard to the CCU.

We would like to work with alcohol-related businesses to protect the health and safety of communities, but these businesses have little or no incentive to work with us if their CUB's are not being enforced. Business interests of the outlets needs to be in balance with public health and safety needs of communities.

We hope you will support our interests when the opportunity arises.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dr. Rick Rodriguez". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dr. Rick Rodriguez

Vice President

Pico Union Neighborhood Council