

**TRANSPORTATION AND MOBILITY COMMISSION
CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
ACTION MINUTES
August 20, 2025
6:30 P.M.**

THE CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD HAS ADOPTED SUMMARY AND ACTION MEETING MINUTES, WHICH PROVIDE A BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE ACTIONS TAKEN AND POINTS OF DISCUSSION ONLY. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS OR INDIVIDUAL DISCUSSIONS REGARDING ANY ITEM SUMMARIZED IN THESE MINUTES MAY BE OBTAINED BY ACCESSING THE ARCHIVED RECORDINGS OF THE TRANSPORTATION AND MOBILITY COMMISSION MEETINGS AT www.weho.org/city-government/city-clerk AND SELECTING ACCESS CITY RECORDS.

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Eichman called the meeting to order at 6:33 pm.
2. **LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT:** Chair Eichman read the City's Land Acknowledgement.
3. **ROLL CALL:**

PRESENT: Commissioner Korinke, Commissioner Krieger, Commissioner Litvak, Commissioner Slack, Vice Chair Greene, and Chair Eichman.

ABSENT: None.

ALSO PRESENT: Assistant City Manager Jackie Rocco, Director of Public Works Helen Collins, Assistant Director of Community Development Jennifer Alkire, Long Range Planning Manager Francisco J. Contreras, Senior Transportation Planner Chris Corrao, Associate Planner Paige Portwood, Contract Senior Planner Jennifer Davis, and Administrative Specialist III Gabriele Gonzales.

4. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Commissioner Litvak led the Pledge of Allegiance.
5. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:**

Staff requested that ITEM 10.A. FOUNTAIN AVENUE STREETScape PROJECT – PHASE 1 be heard after ITEM 8.

ACTION: Approve the August 20, 2025 agenda as amended. Motion by Commissioner Wentzel, seconded by Vice Chair Greene, and approved (7/0).

6. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

ACTION: Approve the minutes of the July 16, 2025 minutes as amended. Motion by Commissioner Litvak, seconded by Vice Chair Greene, and approved (7/0).

7. **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

MIKIE FRIEDMAN, WEST HOLLYWOOD, expressed concerns about the Fountain Avenue protected bike lanes, urged consideration of alternative safety measures, questioned delays in ADA improvements, and raised ongoing pedestrian safety issues related to scooter use.

STEPHANIE HARKER, WEST HOLLYWOOD, encouraged the public to listen to the August Street For All Happy Hour with Councilmember John Erickson on YouTube, and noted that the group discusses other transportation-related projects in the region.

ANNETTE KAZMERSKI, WEST HOLLYWOOD, expressed support for speed limit reductions but raised concerns about lack of enforcement on San Vicente Boulevard, citing excessive speeding and unsafe pedestrian activity near the San Vicente Bungalows, and urged stronger enforcement. STEVE MARTIN, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke regarding the Santa Monica Boulevard redesign as a model for the Fountain Streetscape Project and cautioned against decisions driven by individual agendas over community input.

JOE GREEN, on behalf of the Disabilities Advisory Board, echoed concerns about postponing ADA-accessible sidewalk improvements to Phase 2, and recognized Mikie Friedman's prior award from the Disabilities Advisory Board

LYN ETCETERA, WEST HOLLYWOOD, shared concerns about unsafe scooter use and emphasized adapting to emerging transportation, supported protected bike lanes on Fountain Avenue given increasing traffic and development, and raised issues with trash can placement and collection logistics

GUY SEXTON, WEST HOLLYWOOD, commented on recent speed limit reductions, expressing skepticism that signage alone will change driver behavior. Encouraged the City to pursue design-based solutions that influence driver psychology and improve safety, rather than relying on enforcement measures.

8. CONSENT CALENDAR: None.

The following items were heard out of order, as indicated in the motion under Approval of the Agenda.

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. FOUNTAIN AVENUE STREETScape PROJECT – PHASE 1:

Senior Transportation Planner Chris Corrao provided an overview of the Fountain Avenue Streetscape Project ("Project"), including both Phases 1 and 2. He noted that Fountain Avenue presents challenges related to varying street widths, higher traffic volumes, vehicle speeds, and a history of collisions across different travel modes. To create a safer and more accessible corridor, the project proposes reducing Fountain to one travel lane in each direction, adding protected bike lanes, improving crosswalk visibility, and reallocating parking on the north side of the

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street to support these design enhancements.

The presentation addressed concerns such as parking impacts, traffic diversion, and delivery/loading adjustments. Mr. Corrao also confirmed that emergency services (Fire and Sheriff) reviewed and approved the Project.

Matt Benjamin, project lead consultant from Fehr & Peers, provided an overview of how the proposed design accommodates trash collection along Fountain Avenue. He explained the ongoing coordination with Athens Services, the collection methods and logistics, and how the design ensures that residential bins do not obstruct the street or bike lanes.

Mr. Corrao also presented three (3) proposed immediate actions for the City Council to consider at the September City Council meeting, including 1) Leading Pedestrian Intervals (LPI), 2) Signal Recall, and 3) Eliminating Peak-Hour Parking Restrictions.

Mr. Corrao shared additional forthcoming public outreach opportunities, including the Public Facilities, Infrastructure & Recreation Commission meeting on August 26, 2025 at Plummer Park in Rooms 5 & 6 and the September 15, 2025 City Council Meeting.

The Commission requested clarification on the project's purpose and goals, the Phase 1 recommendation and implementation process, and potential design adjustments such as pedestrian and accessibility improvements, traffic calming measures, signal modifications, and parking restrictions. They also inquired about projected traffic diversion impacts, estimated costs for Phases 1 and 2, approvals from partner agencies, and the process for appointing Steering Committee members.

Mr. Corrao, Long Range Planning Manager Francisco Contreras, Mr. Benjamin, and Director of Public Works Helen Collins addressed the Commission's questions and provided clarifications.

Chair Eichman motioned to reduce the public comment speaker time from three minutes to two minutes, seconded by Commissioner Litvak and approved (5/2), noting the "no" votes of Commissioner David and Vice Chair Greene.

The following individuals submitted Citizen Position slips in support of the Item:

Aida Ash, West Hollywood
Jennifer De La Rosa, Los Angeles
Avana Andrade, West Hollywood
Andrea Andrews, West Hollywood

The following individuals submitted Citizen Position slips in opposition of the Item:

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James Croak, West Hollywood
Chris Isaacson, Los Angeles
David Mermelstein, West Hollywood
Gregory Mckay, Glendale

MICHAEL GREENFIELD, WEST HOLLYWOOD, opposed staff's recommendation.

STEPHANIE HARKER, WEST HOLLYWOOD, expressed concerns.

CATHY BLAIVAS, WEST HOLLYWOOD, expressed concerns.

MICHAEL SELDITCH, WEST HOLLYWOOD, opposed staff's recommendation.

MARK EDWARDS, WEST HOLLYWOOD, supported staff's recommendation.

KYLE BRAZEAL, WEST HOLLYWOOD, opposed staff's recommendation.

ANNETTE KAZMERSKI, WEST HOLLYWOOD, opposed staff's recommendation.

TED SROKA, WEST HOLLYWOOD, opposed staff's recommendation.

LESLEY O'TOOLE-ROQUE, WEST HOLLYWOOD, opposed staff's recommendation.

LYN ETCETERA, WEST HOLLYWOOD, supported staff's recommendation.

JAMES CROAK, WEST HOLLYWOOD, opposed staff's recommendation.

STEVE MARTIN, WEST HOLLYWOOD, expressed concerns.

KEVIN BURTON, WEST HOLLYWOOD, supported staff's recommendation.

PATRICIA D, WEST HOLLYWOOD, opposed staff's recommendation.

RENA GOLDMAN, WEST HOLLYWOOD, supported staff's recommendation.

NICK RENTERIA, WEST HOLLYWOOD, supported staff's recommendation.

LALA KHANIAN, WEST HOLLYWOOD, expressed concerns.

JESI HARRIS, WEST HOLLYWOOD, supported staff's recommendation.

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DAVID MERMELSTEIN, WEST HOLLYWOOD, opposed staff's recommendation.

ALASTAIR SHEARMAN, WEST HOLLYWOOD, supported staff's recommendation.

KELLY PILARSKI, WEST HOLLYWOOD, supported staff's recommendation.

BATYA MOSKOWITZ, WEST HOLLYWOOD, expressed concerns.

VICTOR OMELCZENKO, WEST HOLLYWOOD, expressed concerns.

BEATRIZ NORONA, WEST HOLLYWOOD, supported staff's recommendation.

Public Comment Closed.

The Commission recessed at 8:55 pm and reconvened at 9:04 pm.

Public Comment Re-opened for one additional speaker.

AVANA ANDRADE, WEST HOLLYWOOD, supported staff's recommendation.

Public Comment Closed.

The Commission inquired whether a summary of feedback from the Fountain Avenue Community Meeting would be provided to the Commission and City Council, and whether bicycles could be restricted from certain streets. The Commission also requested clarification regarding the prohibited right turns on red along Fountain Avenue, the proposed green-backed bike sharrows on Olive Street, and the number of potential left-turn pockets.

Mr. Corrao and Mr. Benjamin responded.

The Commission provided input on the overall plan, left-turn restrictions, and proposed interim traffic calming measures. They expressed general support for the project while acknowledging residents' concerns and the inherent trade-offs involved.

Feedback on the overall plan and left-turn restrictions included:

- Prohibiting right turns on red.
- Considering the addition of left-turn pockets to help balance traffic flow.
- Addressing parking, ADA access, and delivery accommodations as areas for improvement.
- Returning to the Transportation Commission or City Council at the 65% design stage prior to construction.

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- Clarifying crosswalk design and reducing crosswalk widths to better delineate space for vehicles.
- Providing mixed feedback on existing left-turn prohibitions.
- Assessing Willoughby Avenue following implementation to mitigate potential spillover traffic.

Feedback on immediate traffic calming measures included:

- Support for quick solutions, particularly the first two options (Leading Pedestrian Intervals and Signal Recall).
- Mixed feedback on removing peak-hour parking restrictions, with concern that roadway geometry may produce mixed results.
- An alternative suggestion for the third option: temporary re-striping to eliminate wider areas rather than removing peak-hour parking restrictions.

9. NEW BUSINESS:

A. BILLBOARD STREET STUDY:

This Item was Tabled until the next Transportation and Commission meeting.

Motion by Commissioner Litvak, seconded by Chair Eichman and approved (6/1), noting the “no” vote of Commissioner Wentzel.

B. COMMISSION LIAISON APPOINTMENTS TO OTHER COMMISSIONS AND ADVISORY BOARDS:

Chair Eichman requested the Commissioners review the list and at the next meeting be prepared to discuss the item and make liaison appointments.

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: This Item was heard prior to Item 8 as approved by the Commission during Approval of the Agenda.

11. ITEMS FROM STAFF:

Senior Transportation Planner Chris Corrao provided an update on the Fountain Avenue Streetscape Project Community Meeting held on August 19, 2025. He reported on the outreach and noticing efforts conducted prior to the meeting, the meeting format, and the methods available for community members to provide feedback.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

BATYA MOSKOWITZ, WEST HOLLYWOOD, requested that future City mailers be translated into additional languages, particularly Russian and Ukrainian, to

better reflect community demographics. They also raised concerns regarding Waymo autonomous vehicles and suggested that the Commission consider placing the issue of Waymo-related impacts on a future agenda.

KELLY PILARSKI, WEST HOLLYWOOD, requested that the City review and refresh street striping on side streets, particularly sharrows, stop bars, and lane dividers that have become faded. She also suggested updating worn reflective sidewalk decals indicating shared bicycle and pedestrian use and recommended conducting a survey to assess and maintain existing markings.

VICTOR OMELCZENKO, WEST HOLLYWOOD, expressed appreciation for the long-term efforts to improve safety on Fountain Avenue, referencing a personal history with the corridor and past advocacy. He commended City staff for their outreach efforts and noted that the Fountain Avenue project impacts both West Hollywood and City of Los Angeles residents. He voiced support for regional connectivity and safer bicycle infrastructure, emphasizing the value of painting existing bike lanes green as a visible and cost-effective safety enhancement.

COUNCILMEMBER HANG, thanked staff for a thorough presentation and expressed appreciation for the Commission's thoughtful discussion. He commended the collaborative spirit among Commissioners and emphasized the value of shared learning in the decision-making process. He noted that they look forward to receiving the Commission's input at the September City Council Meeting.

12. ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS | SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Commissioner Litvak

- Thanked the Chair, the public and commissioners.
- Suggested clearly stating time limits for public comments at the start of meetings to manage expectations.

Commissioner Korinke

- Thanked the public for coming and staying late.

Commissioner Wentzel

- Thanked the public, staff, and fellow commissioners for their participation, hard work, and thoughtful deliberations, and diverse perspectives.
- Invited the public to attend Metro's Westside and Central Service Council meetings on the second Wednesday of each month (in-person or via Zoom).

- Announced the upcoming Metro and West Hollywood “On the Move” riders program for seniors being held on August 26 at Plummer Park
- Inquired about the transit and senior services taxi update in September.
- Suggested identifying leads for subcommittees in case they need to be convened.

Commissioner David

- Inquired about the varying signage in the Rainbow District that restricts where bikes can transition from sidewalk riding to bike lanes. Chris Corrao responded and would confirm at the next meeting.
- Inquired whether there are plans to add protected bike infrastructure in areas where bikes are currently prohibited from riding on sidewalks; staff confirmed no such plans at this time. Expressed concern about the safety of cyclists riding on the street without protected bike lanes, noting the risks compared to riding on sidewalks.
- Requested information on who is responsible for street lighting maintenance, citing a recent hazardous situation where a decorative cable hung low across the sidewalk, posing a danger to pedestrians and scooter riders. Helen Collins addressed the inquiry and confirmed that Staff will investigate the incident and take steps to address the issues for the future.

Vice Chair Greene

- Thanked the public, staff, and fellow commissioners for their contributions and ongoing work.
- Recalled the history of the Santa Monica Boulevard redesign in the 1990s, noting that bike lanes were initially excluded but later added due to public advocacy, and neighboring cities eventually adopted similar bike facilities connecting the bike network.
- Emphasized that infrastructure takes time to build and expressed support for continuing to advance safety and mobility through persistent infrastructure development.

Chair Eichman

- Thanked staff, fellow commissioners, and members of the public for their time and contributions.

- 13. ADJOURNMENT:** The Transportation and Mobility Commission adjourned at 10:33 PM to a regularly scheduled meeting on Wednesday, September 17, 2025, beginning at 6:30 PM at the Community Conference Room, 8300 Santa Monica Blvd., West Hollywood 90069.

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PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Transportation and Mobility Commission of the City of West Hollywood at a regular meeting held this 17th day of, September 2025, by the following vote:

AYES: Commissioner:

NOES: Commissioner:

ABSENT: Commissioner:

ABSTAIN: Commissioner:

Signed by:

765F7390BC0C447...

DAVID EICHMAN, CHAIRPERSON

ATTEST:

Signed by:

00764466D4CC407...

DAVID FENN, COMMISSION LIAISON