

**TRANSPORTATION AND MOBILITY COMMISSION
CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
ACTION MINUTES
July 16, 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** – Commissioner Eichman called the meeting to order at 6:31pm.
2. **LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

Staff requested that ITEM 4—Roll Call and ITEM 5—Pledge of Allegiance be heard after ITEM 3.A.

ACTION: Motion carried by consensus of the Commission.

3. **SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS: Administer the Oath of Office to the newly appointed Commissioners.**

A. ADMINISTER THE OATH OF OFFICE TO NEWLY APPOINTED TRANSPORTATION AND MOBILITY COMMISSION MEMBER JODY LITVAK

ACTION: Mayor Byers administered the Oath of Office to newly appointed Transportation and Mobility Commission Members: JODY LITVAK

The following items were heard out of order, as part of the amended agenda:

4. **ROLL CALL**
Commissioners Present: Commissioner Eichman, Commissioner Greene, Commissioner Korinke, Commissioner Krieger, Commissioner David, Commissioner Wentzel, Commissioner Litvak

Commissioners Absent: None

Staff Present: Melissa Crowder, City Clerk, Helen Collins, Public Works Director, David Fenn, Long Range Planning Senior Planner / Interim Staff Liaison, Chris Carrao, Staff Liaison, Gabriele Gonzales, Transportation and Mobility Commission Secretary, Francisco J. Contreras, Long Range Planning Manager

5. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Mayor Byers led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3.B. ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR – CITY CLERK

ELECTION OF CHAIR.

Commissioner Greene nominated David Eichman as Chair of the Transportation and Mobility Commission.

Seconded by Commissioner Wentzel.

There were no other official nominations.

ACTION: Elect David Eichman as Chair of the Transportation and Mobility Commission for a full-term commencing on July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026. Nominated by Commissioner Greene, seconded by Commissioner Wentzel and unanimously passes on a Roll Call vote:

AYES: David, Eichman, Greene, Korinke, Krieger, Litvak, Wentzel

NAYES: None.

ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR.

Chair Eichman nominated Commissioner Greene as Vice-Chair of the Transportation and Mobility Commission.

Seconded by Commissioner Wentzel.

There were no other official nominations.

ACTION: Elect Steven Greene as Vice-Chair of the Transportation and Mobility Commission for a full-term commencing July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026. Nominated by Chair Eichman, seconded by Commissioner and unanimously passes on a Roll Call vote:

AYES: David, Eichman, Greene, Korinke, Krieger, Litvak, Wentzel

NAYES: None.

4. ROLL CALL

This item was moved up to Item 3.A. as part of the amended agenda.

5. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

This item was moved up to Item 3.A. as part of the amended agenda.

6. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

SUBJECT: The Transportation and Mobility Commission is requested to approve the Agenda.

ACTION: Motion by Commissioner Wentzel to approve the July 16, 2025 Agenda and adjourn in memory of Blake Ackerman, seconded by Chair Eichman who requested adjournment for Minnesota House Speaker Emerita Melissa Hortman and her family as well.

All Aye. Motion passes.

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

SUBJECT: The Transportation and Mobility Commission is requested to approve the minutes of the prior Transportation and Mobility Commission meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

VICTOR OMELCZENKO, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke on more detail in Commission meeting minutes to better inform the public and in support of Commissioner Krieger's previous inquiry about adjusting pedestrian crossing time at the Fountain and Laurel intersection.

Public Comment closed.

ACTION: Motion by Commissioner to approve the May 21, 2025 Minutes as amended, seconded by Commissioner .

Motion passes.

8. PUBLIC COMMENT:

MAYOR BYERS, congratulated the new chair, vice chair, Commissioner Litvak and the other new commissioners and acknowledged a challenging week after the death of Blake Ackerman and the ghost bike ceremony before thanking the Commission for its work and encouraging visiting the ghost bike memorial.

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JOE GREEN, WEST HOLLYWOOD, congratulated the Chair and Vice Chair and introduced himself as the new liaison from the West Hollywood Disabilities Advisory Board, encouraged collaboration and shared information about the upcoming Health Fair on October 9th.

KEVIN BURTON, WEST HOLLYWOOD BICYCLE COALITION, spoke on the Coalition hosting placement of the ghost bike at Gardner/Fountain, congratulated the new commissioners and spoke about the history of collisions on Fountain prior to last week's tragic accident, including pedestrian collisions at Havenhurst, Sweetzer, and Harper, and how public communications of these incidents are a problem. He referenced the traffic collision reports that the Public Safety Commission receives from LASD and suggested the Transportation and Mobility Commission should also receive them.

VICTOR OMELCZENKO, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke about a recent near-miss with a speeding vehicle at Crescent Heights and Norton and the recent tragedy on Fountain and Gardner and requested that the Transportation and Mobility Commission address the traffic safety areas of concern identified by the Public Safety Commission immediately, fund quick build safety measures, and ensure that the Fountain Avenue steering committee reflects the community and moves to a more transparent process with posted agendas and minutes. He additionally defended Councilmember Meister regarding a recent petition and encouraged attendance of National Night Out on August 5th

LYNN RUSSELL, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke on the recent Sheriff Department traffic enforcement operation and suggested that they should be more frequent as part of a broader effort to increase deterrence and reduce speeding on Fountain and elsewhere.

ALASTAIR SHEARMAN, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke about requesting the acceleration of the Fountain Streetscape project and the consideration of interim traffic calming measures to save lives before the permanent improvements are in place. He cited curb extensions, leading pedestrian or bike intervals, raised crosswalks, a road diet, temporary calming features, flex posts, and striping as examples.

STEPHEN POST, WEST HOLLYWOOD, introduced himself as a West Hollywood Public Safety Commissioner, offered condolences for Blake Ackerman, suggested the Commission consider appointing its own liaison to the West Hollywood Public Safety Commission, suggested collaboration on traffic areas of concern, and encouraged attendance at the next Public Safety Commission Meeting when he plans to introduce a motion on an enforcement action following the recent fatal crash on Fountain.

LYNN HOOPINGARNER, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke about her personal

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involvement with the Ackerman family and spoke in support of expanded speed enforcement and creative traffic calming solutions to slow down traffic and prevent future tragedies.

9. CONSENT CALENDAR: None.

10. NEW BUSINESS: None.

11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

12. ITEMS FROM STAFF:

Senior Transportation Planner/TMC Liaison Chris Corrao provided an update on the Fountain Avenue Streetscape Project accelerated community outreach schedule (Community Meeting 8/19, Transportation and Mobility Commission 8/20, Public Facilities Commission 8/26, City Council 9/15) and encouraged community members to follow the project on Engage WeHo – engage.weho.org/fountain.

Chris Corrao also shared that a kick-off meeting was held on the Beverly Boulevard Protected Bike Lane Project, and that draft design plans are expected to be prepared by April or May 2026.

Senior Planner/TMC Liaison David Fenn provided an update on upcoming Transportation and Mobility Commission agenda Items for August (Fountain Avenue Streetscape Project and Sunset Arts and Advertising Safety Study) and September (Dockless Mobility and City Operated Transit Services and Subsidy Programs for Seniors). Also shared that Metro will be holding community meetings (July 30 and August 5) on the K Line Northern Extension project regarding concerns about tunneling that have come up in Mid City Los Angeles.

David Fenn shared that the City is in the recruitment process to hire two new positions as part of the new Transportation and Mobility Division: a division manager and an administrative specialist. And also reported that the City Council had recently approved additional speed limit reductions and upcoming speed surveys on Harratt Street and Almont Drive.

David Fenn responded to a few items brought to Staff's attention from the previous meeting and requested additional clarity from the Commission, specifically regarding the signal issue at Santa Monica and Genesee. Commissioner Greene clarified it's only visible from the left lane. Commissioner Krieger repeated crosswalk signal concerns at Laurel and Fountain Ave, which prioritizes cars over the pedestrian right-of-way. David Fenn also reported that the Engineering Division has improvements to the Crescent Heights and Norton crosswalk in their work plan for this fiscal year, which includes new curb ramps, relocation, and in-roadway warning lights.

Commissioner Wentzel inquired about the pause of the Pickup service. Public Works Director Helen Collins responded that the suspension of the Pickup Service was due to contracting and Staff were actively finding a replacement.

13. ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS | SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Commissioner Litvak

- Congratulated Commissioner Wentzel on completing AIDS Lifecycle
- Encouraged her colleagues to share the upcoming community meetings
- Thanked the public for their comments,
- Excited about the staffing for the new Transportation Division. Requested a work plan and learning more about the vision for the new division.
- Celebrated the start of automated enforcement of the La Brea Bus Lanes,
- Shared that the public comment period for the Sepulveda Transit Corridor EIR is underway.
- Encouraged additional messaging or measures, such as officers on Melrose to reduce motorist confusion when Santa Monica Boulevard is closed for Pride or Halloween
- Requested a discussion on the Commission's work plan in the future.

Commissioner David

- Inquired about the removal of a bus shelter (Public Works Director Helen Collins clarified a bus stop was recently hit by a car at Vista and Gardner and was removed pending replacement and another was removed on Beverly after Metro bus service at that stop was eliminated).
- Requested an update on the Pickup
- Thanked the public for their comments,
- Shared his experience advocating for pedestrian recall at City traffic signals during the Pandemic, and advocated for the City to consider immediate actions to improve safety prior to the streetscape project (ex: no right turn on red restrictions, high visibility crosswalks and signage, raised crosswalks, curb extensions, improved lighting at nighttime, pedestrian

recall at traffic signals, and increase traffic enforcement), and cautioned against relying on surveillance as a tactic to improve safety.

Commissioner Krieger

- Thanked the public for their comments and encouraged to continue to share their experiences.
- Spoke in support of interim safety improvements on Fountain and requested a future agenda item or standing agenda item on this topic.
- Requested a future agenda item to appoint liaisons to other boards and commissions.

Commissioner Korinke

- Agreed with fellow commissioners' comments
- Thanked the public for their comments,
- Shared another hit and run that occurred at Sunset and Sierra Bonita just outside of West Hollywood,
- Supported suggestions for a standing meeting and receiving LASD crash reports.

Vice Chair Greene

- Reported on recent discussions at the Fountain Avenue Steering Committee, including recent Los Angeles County Fire Department approval of draft plans, dedicated spaces included in the plans for trash collection along the corridor, a parking study underway to mitigate parking reductions, how left turns are being facilitated, the benefits of a consistent cross section to reduce swerving around parked cars, suggestions to consult the Disability Advisory Board on potentially designating disabled spaces on side streets on the north side of the street.
- Shared that the City of Los Angeles recently started construction on their Mid City Greenways project to improve bike safety in neighborhoods bordering West Hollywood.
- Inquired about the availability of commission recordings (Secretary Gabriele Gonzales clarified that recordings are available by emailing the City Clerk for now and a system is being set up to make them more easily accessible online).

Commissioner Wentzel

- Requested that the Transportation and Mobility Commission also receive the monthly LASD crash reports that the Public Safety Commission receives,

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- Shared his experience attending the ghost bike memorial for Blake Ackerman,
- Requested a discussion of interim safety improvements related to Fountain Avenue
- Congratulated the new chair and vice chair and commissioner Litvak , welcomed new commissioners
- Encouraged attendance at the Westside/Central Metro Service Council where he also serves,
- Shared updates on other Metro projects (NoHo to Pasadena BRT public meetings underway, Sepulveda Transit Corridor public meetings underway Santa Monica automated Bus Lane enforcement, NoHo Station hosting summer night concerts)
- Shared the upcoming CicLAvia Venice route on 8/17.

Chair Eichman

- Welcomed Commissioner Litvak and encouraged his colleagues to meet with Commissioner Litvak for coffee,
- congratulated Vice Chair Greene,
- inquired about a leading pedestrian interval at Fountain and Gardner and whether signals on Fountain could be set to pedestrian recall to slow vehicles (Staff will follow up with Engineering),
- inquired what company is doing the Fountain Parking Study (Senior Planner Chris Corrao clarified Chen Ryan Associates is conducting it).

14. PUBLIC COMMENT:

LYNN RUSSELL, WEST HOLLYWOOD, emphasized the importance of using the tragic passing of Blake Ackerman as a catalyst for meaningful and timely action. Encouraged the commission and city to move beyond traditional approaches to public engagement, noting that sustained momentum is key to maintaining public interest.

- 15. ADJOURNMENT:** The Transportation and Mobility Commission adjourned in memory of Blake Ackerman and Minnesota House Speaker Emerita Melissa Hortman and her family at 7:55 PM to a regularly scheduled meeting on Wednesday, August 20, 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 20th day of August 2025 by the following vote:

AYES: Commissioner:

NOES: Commissioner:

ABSENT: Commissioner:

ABSTAIN: Commissioner:

Signed by:

765F7396BC8C447...

DAVID EICHMAN, CHAIRPERSON

ATTEST:

Signed by:

99754466D4CC487...

DAVID FENN, COMMISSION LIAISON