

**MINUTES  
CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD  
PUBLIC FACILITIES, RECREATION, AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMISSION**

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 26, 2025  
6:30 P.M.**

**PLUMMER PARK COMMUNITY MEETING ROOMS 5 & 6  
7377 SANTA MONICA BOULEVARD  
WEST HOLLYWOOD, CA 90046**

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Public Facilities, Recreation, and Infrastructure Commission acknowledges that the land on which we gather and that is currently known as the City of West Hollywood is the occupied, unceded, seized territory of the Gabrieleño Tongva and Gabrieleño Kizh Peoples. (pronounced “Keech”)

1. CALL TO ORDER – Chair Payton called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

A. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT – Read by Chair Payton.

B. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Commissioner Karliss (he/him);  
Commissioner Krishna (she/her);  
Commissioner Ragno (he/him);  
Commissioner Rogers (she/her);  
Commissioner Cottrell (he/him; and  
Chair Payton (she/her).  
ABSENT: Vice Chair Jackson (she/her)  
ALSO PRESENT: Helen Collins, Director of Public Works (she/her);  
Erin Hamant, Senior Administrative Analyst  
(she/her); Francisco Contreras, Long Range  
Planning Manager (he/him); Chris Corrao, Senior  
Transportation Planner (he/him); Ric Abramson,  
Urban Design & Architecture Studio Manager  
(he/him); Yvonne Quarker, Director of Community  
Services Department (she/her); Stephanie  
Martinez, Recreation Services Manager (she/her);  
Clavon Jubrey, Senior Recreation Supervisor  
(he/him); Michael Gasca (he/him), Recreation  
Supervisor (he/him); and Debbie Gonzalez  
(Commission Secretary).

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Led by Commissioner Ragno.

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

**ACTION:** Approved the agenda for August 26, 2025 with the following change: move item 6B from Consent Calendar to Excluded Consent Calendar. **Motion by Commissioner Karliss, seconded by Commissioner Ragno, and**

approved unanimously.

**Roll Call Vote:**

**Commissioner Cottrell – Y**  
**Commissioner Karliss – Y**  
**Commissioner Krishna – Y**  
**Commissioner Ragno – Y**  
**Commissioner Rogers – Y**  
**Chair Payton – Y**

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

**ACTION:** Approved the minutes of the prior Public Facilities, Recreation, and Infrastructure Commission meeting dated July 09, 2025. **Motion by Commissioner Krishna, seconded by Commissioner Rogers, and approved unanimously.**

**Roll Call Vote:**

**Commissioner Cottrell – Y**  
**Commissioner Karliss – Y**  
**Commissioner Krishna – Y**  
**Commissioner Ragno – Y**  
**Commissioner Rogers – Y**  
**Chair Payton – Y**

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Wendy Goldman, WEST HOLLYWOOD, expressed sidewalk safety concerns and requested sidewalk improvements on Sunset Strip.

Kyle Brazeal, WEST HOLLYWOOD, addressed the Commission regarding an upcoming item on the agenda and urged them to use their time effectively and ask substantive, relevant questions.

Cathy Blavis, WEST HOLLYWOOD, thanked Ric Abramson, Helen Collins and staff for the excellent outreach on the Plummer Park redesign.

Stephanie Harker, WEST HOLLYWOOD, thanked Ric Abramson, Helen Collins and staff for the outreach on the Plummer Park redesign. Praised new approach compared to earlier proposals. Noted sidewalk uplifts by tree roots in the City and urged the residents to report these for repair.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. ANNUAL OVERVIEW OF PUBLIC FACILITIES

SUBJECT: The Commission will receive an overview of public facilities.

**ACTION:** Receive and file. **This item was approved as a part of item 3, Approval of the Agenda.**

B. PLUMMER PARK COMPREHENSIVE IMPROVEMENT PLAN COMMUNITY VISIONING UPDATE

SUBJECT: Commission will receive a progress update on the Phase 1- Stage 1 of the Plummer Park Comprehensive Improvement Project and provide thoughts and comments related to the community outreach and programming efforts overseen by the City Council Plummer Park Ad-Hoc Subcommittee.

ACTION: Receive and file. **This item was moved to Excluded Consent Calendar.**

C. LOCATIONS FOR THE ANNUAL TOUR OF PUBLIC FACILITIES

SUBJECT: Commission will review the proposed locations to visit on their Annual Tour of Public Facilities which will take place on September 13, 2025.

ACTION: Approve the tour locations for 2025. **This item was approved as a part of item 3, Approval of the Agenda.**

7. PUBLIC HEARINGS – None.

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. RECREATION FACILITIES & OPERATIONS STUDY

SUBJECT: The Commission will receive a presentation from John Jones of Catalyst Consulting who will provide an update on the ongoing Recreation Services Division's Facilities and Operations Study. Catalyst Consulting is contracted by the City to review facility usage, programming structure, and operational strategies to ensure recreation services continue to meet the needs of the community.

A presentation was provided by John Jones from Catalyst Consulting. The Commission participated in a SWOT analysis to evaluate current facility use, programming, and opportunities for growth.

The Commission's top priorities for the Recreation Division included more youth programming, especially pre-school age; more adult programming such as single adults and community building events; expanded inclusive offerings for people with mobility and mental health issues; more shaded areas in the parks; opening of restricted areas for wider community use; and improving communication and marketing to reach more residents. The Commission identified the strengths of the Recreation Division as being their quality programming, excellent staff and excellent customer service, and inclusive pricing and accessibility. The Commission identified the weaknesses being the limited space due to small city footprint and programs filling up quickly.

ACTION: Receive the presentation, participate in a SWOT Analysis, and

provide feedback to help guide the development of the final report.

**B. FOUNTAIN AVENUE STREETScape PROJECT - PHASE I**

**SUBJECT:** The Commission will receive a presentation on the 30% Plans for Phase 1 of the Fountain Avenue Streetscape Project (Project) including a summary of input by the Fountain Avenue Streetscape Steering Committee and provide feedback to staff which will be summarized in an upcoming staff report to the City Council.

A Presentation was provided by Chris Corrao, Senior Transportation Planner.

Commissioners discussed sustainability features and long-term design as it relates to fixed items in the project.

Commissioner Karliss inquired about the impact on parking and the maintenance of the zones where the trash bins will be staged. Staff shared that the parking study shows a small impact on parking. The trash zones will have a maintenance plan and will be maintained by Athens Services, the City's trash collection contractor.

Commissioner Ragno asked about the impact the trash collection will have on traffic. Athens services will likely increase zig-zag collection to avoid vehicles waiting behind the hauler too long.

Commissioner Krishna asked what other cities and case studies informed the design features and what the maintenance for these features will look like. Staff stated that protected bikeways are common, and they looked at other cities to see what they experienced with durability and upkeep. The City will have maintenance plans in place and ongoing maintenance costs will be included in future budgets. Krishna asked about signage and expressed concern with cars pulling out of driveways into bike lanes. Staff will consider signage in the bikeways.

Commissioner Ragno asked the difference between extruded curbs compared to standard curbs. Extruded curbs are not as sturdy but will be easier to modify for phase 2.

Commissioner Rogers inquired if traffic lights will remain the same and asked about the self-watering plants. Traffic lights will be looked at in Phase 2 of the project. The self-watering plants will be drought tolerant and will be on a manual watering schedule.

Commissioner Cottrell inquired about the planters chosen for the project and the potential risks if damaged by moving vehicles. There are other delineator options, these were chosen to add an aesthetic component and to help define the parking areas.

Chair Payton commented on the visibility of the object markers and inquired if

they can be colored for visibility as well as looking at options to incorporate art. The object markers must remain white but there are opportunities to do painted art in some of the wider curb extension areas. Payton asked if the stormwater/recycled water can be used for the planters. Staff stated that the City does not collect storm water but there may be other opportunities for sustainable options during phase 2 of the project.

Commissioner Karliss stated that there could be other alternatives to make Fountain Avenue safe that wouldn't negatively impact the residents so much and wondered why other alternatives weren't shown to the community, the Transportation & Mobility Commission, and the Public Facilities, Recreation, and Infrastructure Commission.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Michael Selditch, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke in opposition of item 8.B.

Alex Silverman, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke in support of item 8.B.

Lynne White, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke in opposition of item 8.B.

Brian Hamilton, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke in opposition of item 8.B.

Catherine Eng, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke in support to item 8.B.

Jeff McIlvain, LOS ANGELES, spoke in support of item 8.B.

Kevin Burton, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke in support of item 8.B.

Kyle Brazeal, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke in opposition of item 8.B.

Cathy Blaivas, WEST HOLLYWOOD, felt that community outreach was insufficient and believes the Fountain Streetscape Project should have come first.

Stephanie Harker, WEST HOLLYWOOD, recognizes safety goals but requests better flow planning.

Jesi Harris, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke in favor of item 8.B.

James Croak, WEST HOLLYWOOD, requested clearer communication on phased implementation.

Kelly Pilarski, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke in favor of item 8.B.

Lala Khanian, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke in opposition of item 8.B.

Michael Carter, WEST HOLLYWOOD, submitted a position slip in support of item 8.B.

Victor Omelczenko, WEST HOLLYWOOD, E-mail Correspondence received in support of item 8.B.

Joe Rodriguez-Fritts, WEST HOLLYWOOD, E-mail Correspondence received in support of item 8.B.

ACTIONS:

- 1) Receive and file a presentation by staff on the Project.
- 2) Provide input on proposed fixed streetscape project elements.

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None.

10. EXCLUDED CONSENT CALENDAR

A. PLUMMER PARK COMPREHENSIVE IMPROVEMENT PLAN COMMUNITY VISIONING UPDATE

SUBJECT: Commission will receive a progress update on the Phase 1- Stage 1 of the Plummer Park Comprehensive Improvement Project and provide thoughts and comments related to the community outreach and programming efforts overseen by the City Council Plummer Park Ad-Hoc Subcommittee.

Staff provided a presentation of the item emphasizing the goal of enhancing and augmenting existing park features without losing what already works well.

The Commission asked clarifying questions and praised staff for the great work.

**ACTION: Receive and file. This item was moved to Excluded Consent Calendar.**

11. ITEMS FROM STAFF

- Flex Space construction is near completion.
- Dog Park turf replacement and upgrades are ongoing at West Hollywood Park dog parks.
- Auto Court Library Elevator Modernization is in progress; closure is expected for approximately one month.
- Recreation Programming & Events update provided.
- Holloway House is anticipated to open around the end of September.

12. PUBLIC COMMENTS- None.

13. ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS & SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS  
LOOK AHEAD CALENDAR FOR AGENDA PREP & COMMISSION ITEMS  
TRACKER – No changes.

Commissioner Karliss provided an update on the Kings Road Park Visioning Ad Hoc Subcommittee meeting held on August 12, 2025. They reviewed playground

replacement options but decided they would like to review additional options.

Chair Payton provided an update on the Fountain Avenue Streetscape Steering Committee Meeting held on July 10, 2025. Chair Payton shared that many of the subject matters being asked about in tonight's meeting were addressed at some of the Steering Committee meetings.

Commissioner Cottrell highlighted the public's feedback and would like to hear clearer explanations behind decision making.

Commissioner Rogers expressed concern with heated community climate and spoke against violent behavior especially against children.

14. ADJOURNMENT

The Public Facilities, Recreation, and Infrastructure Commission meeting adjourned at 8:59 p.m. to its next special meeting which will be the Annual Tour of Public Facilities on Saturday, September 13, 2025, departing at 9:15 a.m. from the City Hall Automated Parking Structure, 1085 N. Sweetzer Ave., West Hollywood, CA 90069.

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Debbie Gonzalez, Secretary

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Nicole Payton, Chair