

**BUSINESS LICENSE COMMISSION  
CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD**

**MINUTES**

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2025  
WEST HOLLYWOOD PUBLIC MEETING ROOM - COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
625 N. SAN VICENTE BOULEVARD**

**6:00 PM – REGULAR MEETING**

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Yusupov called the meeting to order at 6:02 P.M

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Vice Chair Barry led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3. ROLL CALL**

PRESENT: Commissioner Christian  
Commissioner Cockeram  
Commissioner Eisenberg  
Commissioner Labran-Boyd  
Commissioner Vulin  
Vice Chair Barry  
Chair Vulin

ABSENT:

ALSO PRESENT: Director of Community Safety, Danny Rivas  
Code Enforcement Supervisor, Yessica Benitez  
Commission Secretary, Falyn Kingi  
Deputy City Attorney, Scott Shapses

*Commissioner Christian stated for the record that he serves on the Commission in a volunteer capacity, does not accept the Commissioner stipend, and does not provide legal counsel or legal advice to the Commission.*

**4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**ACTION:** Approve the agenda as amended for Wednesday, December 2, 2025.

**Motion by Commissioner Yusupov, seconded by Commissioner Eisenberg and approved.**

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**ACTION:** Approve the minutes of Wednesday, November 12, 2025.

**Motion by Commissioner Christian, seconded by Commissioner Eisenberg and approved.**

**6. PUBLIC COMMENT**

CATHERINE ENG, WEST HOLLYWOOD, introduced herself as the liaison from the Public Safety Commission.

VICTOR OMELCZENKO, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke and provided comments regarding approval of the minutes on Item 5.

VICTOR OMELCZENKO, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke regarding the agenda procedures and posting as it pertains to the December 2, 2025, meeting.

**7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None.

**8. NEW BUSINESS**

None.

**9. PUBLIC HEARING**

**A. RESOLUTION MEMORIALIZING, PURSUANT TO ORDINANCE 25-23, REMOVAL OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD SECURITY GUARD PATROL REQUIREMENT FROM CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL OF ALL EXISTING WEST HOLLYWOOD CANNABIS LICENSES**

*SUBJECT:* The West Hollywood Business License Commission shall adopt a resolution to remove the neighborhood security guard patrol requirement from conditions of approval of all existing West Hollywood cannabis licenses, pursuant to Ordinance 25-23 that was adopted on October 20, 2025.

Code Enforcement Supervisor, Yessica Benitez, informed the Commission that the public hearing was posted as required by law.

Director of Community Safety, Danny Rivas, provided background information as reflected in the staff report dated December 2, 2025.

The Commission inquired about how the municipal code amendment was initiated to remove the neighborhood security guard patrol requirement for cannabis businesses. They also discussed posting requirements and the Commission's authority to reimpose such conditions on Cannabis Business Licenses. Furthermore, the Commission expressed concern about the lack of statistical data presented to the City Council before the decision was made. Additionally, the Commission questioned whether sufficient evidence existed to support removing the neighborhood security guard requirement Citywide. Director of Community Safety, Danny Rivas, explained that the amendment was initiated as a result of direction received by the City Council. Deputy City Attorney, Scott Shapses, also provided further clarification on the municipal code amendment process.

VICTOR OMELCZENKO, WEST HOLLYWOOD, expressed concerns about the process and evidence for the proposed changes and questioned the direction staff received and the decision made to remove neighborhood security guard patrols from all cannabis businesses.

LYNN HOOPINGARNER, WEST HOLLYWOOD, raised concerns about inadequate noticing, the lack of business-specific evidence supporting the blanket removal of neighborhood security patrol requirements, and urged stronger enforcement of the laws such as prohibiting smoking in public areas.

RICHARD EASTMAN, LOS ANGELES, spoke in opposition of Item 9A.

The Commission continued to have a lengthy discussion about the process surrounding the proposed resolution and the municipal code amendment that removed neighborhood security guard patrols from cannabis business licenses. The Commission also expressed interest in postponing the vote to receive further information from staff. Director of Community Safety, Danny Rivas, provided additional information to the Commission in response to several Commissioner questions.

The Commission concluded their deliberation of the item by expressing that cannabis businesses in the City have operated responsibly and without notable neighborhood issues. It was agreed by the Commission that adopting the proposed resolution while retaining the option to reimpose such roaming neighborhood security guard requirements on a case-by-case basis provides a balanced approach, allowing the Commission to fulfill its obligations in complying with the recently adopted municipal code amendment as well as being able to respond to any neighborhood related issues that may emerge from a cannabis business.

**ACTION:** Adopted Resolution No. BLC25-0006, "A RESOLUTION OF THE BUSINESS LICENSE COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD, MEMORIALIZING, PURSUANT TO ORDINANCE 25-23, REMOVAL OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD SECURITY GUARD PATROL REQUIREMENT FROM CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL OF ALL EXISTING CANNABIS LICENSES."  
**Motion by Vice Chair Barry, seconded by Commissioner Labran-Boyd and approved.**

**10. ITEMS FROM STAFF**

Director of Community Safety, Danny Rivas, reported that the recruitment process for the Neighborhood & Business Safety Manager is ongoing and updates will be shared when available. He also extended holiday and New Year greetings to the Commission.

Code Enforcement Supervisor, Yessica Benitez, provided information about the City official parking permits.

**11. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.


**12. ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS**

Vice Chair Barry reported on the recent economic study, highlighting a strong summer for West Hollywood, with consistent visitation, solid hotel performance, stable retail, and increasing office rents. He noted that City programs such as WeHo Loves Locals, the expanded Business Lease Renewal Rebate, and the Rainbow District continue to support local business recovery. Vice Chair Barry also congratulated Jackie Rocco on her appointment as City Manager, thanked David Wilson for his service, and extended holiday and New Year greetings to Commissioners and staff.

**13. ADJOURNMENT**

The West Hollywood Business License Commission adjourned at 7:37 P.M. to its next adjourned meeting scheduled for Tuesday, January 6, 2026, at 6:00 P.M. at West Hollywood Public Meeting Room – Council Chambers, 625 N. San Vicente Boulevard, West Hollywood, CA 90069

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED by the Business License Commission of the City of West Hollywood at a meeting held this 3rd day of February 2026.

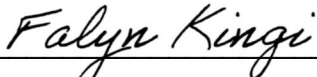
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ANTHONY VULIN, CHAIR

ATTEST:



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FALYN KINGI, COMMISSION SECRETARY