



## **WEST LA SAWTELLE NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**

[WWW.WESTLASAWTELLE.ORG](http://WWW.WESTLASAWTELLE.ORG) // [CONTACT@WESTLASAWTELLE.ORG](mailto:CONTACT@WESTLASAWTELLE.ORG) // JAMES ALTUNER // RON BEN-YEHUDA // ALEX CARYOTAKIS // WALTON CHIU // TASCHA FOLSOI // JAY HANDAL // KENT KAISAKI // MONICA MEJIA-LAMBERT // VIC PACHECO // VINCE PEAGLER // ALEXANDRA POLIN // ADRIANE RANSOM // DAVID SWARTZ // PIERRE TECON // DANILO TORRO //

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING AGENDA**

**WEDNESDAY, 08.28.2024 7PM**

**STONER PARK [SMALL GYM]**

**1835 STONER AVE. CA 90025**

**JOIN VIA ZOOM** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82474769234>

**OR DIAL VIA TELEPHONE (669) 900-6833 or (833) 548-0282**

**MEETING ID: 824 7476 9234**

Si requiere servicios de traducción, avisar al Concejo Vecinal 3 días de trabajo (72 horas) antes del evento. Contacte J. Altuner, Secretaria, [james@westlasawtelle.org](mailto:james@westlasawtelle.org) para avisar al Concejo Vecinal.

Persons wishing to address the Board must dial (833) 548-0282, enter 824 7476 9234 and press # to join the meeting. When prompted by the presiding officer, dial \*9 or use the Raise Hand option, to address the Board on any agenda item. Comments on agenda items will be heard only when the respective item is being considered.

Comments on matters not on the agenda that are within the Board's jurisdiction will be heard during the General Public Comment period. Please note that under the Brown Act, the Board is prevented from acting on a matter that you bring to its attention during the General Public Comment period; however, the issue raised by a member of the public may become the subject of a future Board meeting. Public comment is a maximum of 90 seconds per speaker.

All agenda items subject to discussion, motion and possible CIS filing.

# **AGENDA**

## **A. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL - WHO IS PRESENT, ABSENT, AND ON ZOOM**

	Meeting start time	
	PRESENT	ABSENT
JAMES ALTUNER		
RON BEN-YEHUDA		
ALEX CARYOTAKIS		
WALTON CHIU		
TASCHA FOLSOI		
JAY HANDAL		
KENT KAISAKI		
MONICA MEJIA-LAMBERT		
VIC PACHECO		
VINCE PEAGLER		
ALEXANDRA POLIN		
ADRIANE RANSOM		
DAVID SWARTZ		
PIERRE TECON		
DANILO TORRO		
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>PRESENT -</b>	<b>ABSENT -</b>

### **PRESENT ON ZOOM (IF ANY):**

## **B. MINUTES**

A. **MOTION**: TO APPROVE MINUTES for June 26th and July 23rd.

06.26.24 <https://tinyurl.com/26up6nnu>

07.23.24 <https://tinyurl.com/July-Minutes>

## **C. GOVERNMENT/ AGENCY PARTNER REPORTS**

A. **UPDATE**: Coyotes in the community

B. **UPDATE**: DEPARTMENT OF NEIGHBORHOOD EMPOWERMENT [DONE], LAPD, LAFD, STONER RECREATION CENTER, ELECTED OFFICIALS, MAYOR'S OFFICE

## **D. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT [NON-AGENDA ITEMS - 90 SECONDS ALLOTTED PER SPEAKER]**

a. **UPDATE**: Marlon (from Au Chocolat)

- b. **NPG: Natasha Harkinson Bundy Triangle Tactical Urbanism**

**E. EX PARTE COMMUNICATIONS**

**F. ADMINISTRATIVE**

- A. Review any open committee member applications
- B. **MOTION: TO APPROVE JUNE 2024 MER**
- C. **MOTION: Los Angeles Congress of Neighborhoods (Annual Event, September 28, 2024) - Donation: \$500**
- D. **MOTION: Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates - Neighborhood Council Budget Day (Annual Event, June) - Donation \$500**  
4- Running annual budget expenditures link below:  
<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1ULFO47dJavyD2tD36RnLQJOyFWfvmMhd uFzAFtbyELg/edit?gid=1462887979#gid=1462887979>
- E. **UPDATE: WE HAVE REQUESTED A CLEANUP IN FRONT OF FELICIA MAHOOD AND BUNDY TRIANGLE. LETS BE VIGILANT AND CONTINUE TO KEEP OUR NEIGHBORHOOD CLEAN.**
- F. **UPDATE: THE CITY ADDRESSED CONCERNS WITH ENCAMPMENT AT FELICIA MAHOOD.**
- G. **UPDATE: LA SANITATION INSTALLED 2 TRASH BINS ON SAWTELLE JAPANTOWN.**
- H. **UPDATE: ACCESS TO NEW OFFICE KEY?**

**G. OLD CONTINUING BUSINESS**

- a. **MOTION: Whereas the sidewalk in front of 12014 Wilshire Blvd is raised and presents a safety and tripping concern to pedestrians, we, the West LA Neighborhood City Council, request the city of Los Angeles to examine and remedy the raised sidewalk in front of 12014 so that it is straight and leveled.**

**H. NEW BUSINESS**

- a. **MOTION TO ASSESS AND RESTRUCTURE CURRENT COMMITTEES - Current committees are described as follows and some do not have chairpersons and others have not met in some time:**
  - i. BUDGET AND FINANCE
  - ii. BYLAWS
  - iii. COMMUNICATIONS+OUTREACH [C+O]
  - iv. DEI
  - v. MOBILITY ENVIRONMENTAL [MEC]
  - vi. PLANNING AND LAND USE MANAGEMENT [PLUM]
  - vii. PUBLIC SAFETY
  - viii. HOMELESSNESS
  - ix. NWC AD HOC
  - x. WEST LA COMMONS AD HOC
- b. **MOTION: TO NOMINATE BOARD MEMBER FOR COMMITTEES.**
- c. **MOTION: REQUEST SPECIAL NO ENCAMPMENT ZONE FOR BUNDY TRIANGLE AND OLYMPIC UNDERPASS.**

**I. OFFICER'S REPORT**

**CHAIR**

- a. **UPDATE: LA CITY PLANNING CAME AND DID A Q&A ON THE COMMUNITY PLANS UPDATE ON AUGUST 7PM. A VIDEO RECORDING OF THE Q&A AND DECK IS AVAILABLE FOR THE PUBLIC ON OUR WEBSITE IN THE EVENT CALENDAR AND ON OUR SOCIAL MEDIA.**
- b. **UPDATE: BOARD HAS SENT OUT A THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR STAKEHOLDERS INCLUDING VIDEO RECORDINGS OF THE Q&A.**

- c. **UPDATE:** WE WILL SEND OUT THE LETTER ON DENSIFICATION AT SAWTELLE TO MAYOR BASS AND CD11 COUNCILWOMAN PARK
- d. **UPDATE:** REMINDER WE HAVE AN UPCOMING LISTENING SESSION FOR SAWTELLE EAST ON WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 4TH.
- e. **UPDATE:** WE ARE IN THE PROCESS OF COMPILING A PUBLIC REPORT ON COMMUNITY INPUT AFTER THE PUBLIC COMMENT SESSIONS ARE DONE ON THE COMMUNITY PLANS UPDATE.
- f. **UPDATE:** PRESERVATION OF SAWTELLE JAPANTOWN AND ITS FUTURE PLANNING.
- g. **UPDATE:** UPCOMING OLYMPIC AND SAWTELLE'S ROLE.
- h. **UPDATE:** WE HAVE ADDRESSED BOARD MEMBER ALEXANDRA POLIN AND RON BEN-YEHUDA'S CONCERNS ON CIVILITY AND EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION AND WILL CONTINUE TO IMPROVE.

**VICE CHAIR**

- I. **UPDATE:** BOD SPECIAL MEETING (Training) ON ROBERT'S RULE.

**SECRETARY**

- J. **UPDATE:** TALLY SHEETS WILL BE REQUIRED FOR ALL VOTES - We will be taking vote records and tallies internally or with a minutes-taker. All minutes must be taken LIVE (in person and not via ZOOM). All minutes must be submitted (in draft form or completed) by the end of any given meeting.
- K. **UPDATE:** Update on motions (language), minutes status, process & procedure

**TREASURER**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**J. BYLAWS COMMITTEE NO MEETING HELD**

**K. COMMUNICATIONS + OUTREACH SCHEDULING CONFLICT**

- A. **UPDATE:** WE ARE PREPARAING OUR ORGANIZATION PROGRAMMING AND CALENDAR FOR THE FISCAL YEAR.
- B. **UPDATE:** ON STONER PAR WIFI INFRASTRUCTURE
- C. **UPDATE:** WE ARE CREATING SIGNAGE TO SLOW DOWN TRAFFIC IN OUR COMMUNITY IN COLLABORATION WITH MEC.
- D. **UPDATE:** WE ARE IN COLLABORATION WITH MEC TO CREATE A SURVEY FOR TRANSPORTATION.
- E. **UPDATE:** WE HAVE A NEW COPY MACHINE.
- F. **MOTION:** WE WILL NEED TO BRING A TEMPORARY PERSON TO FIELD EMAILS, PERFORM DATA ENTRY, HELP US DOWNLOAD/UPLOAD VIDEO/AUDIO.

**L. DEI NO MEETING HELD**

**M. HOMELESSNESS COMMITTEE NO MEETING HELD**

**N. MOBILITY + ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE [MEC]**

- A. **UPDATE:** 6 SERVICE REQUESTS HAVE BEEN ENTERED FOR SAWTELLE:
  - a. 1-4859642261 - Wellesley Ave & Ohio Ave
  - b. 1-4859642801 - Wellesley Ave and Idaho Ave
  - c. 1-4859646041 - Wellesley Ave and Iowa Ave
  - d. 1-4859645541 - Purdue Ave and Iowa Ave
  - e. 1-4859650251 - Sawtelle Blvd and Nebraska Ave
  - f. 1-4859651921 - Beloit Ave and Missouri Ave
- B. **MOTION:** (A. Caryotakis - passed MEC 5-1-1) TO AUTHORIZE THE WEST

LA/SAWTELLE NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL TO SUBMIT A LETTER TO CD11, LADOT AND STREETS LA REQUESTING PEDESTRIAN SAFETY ENHANCEMENTS FOR THE EXPO/BUNDY METRO STATION VICINITY.

C. **MOTION:** (A. Caryotakis) MALCOLM RAY APPLICATION TO JOIN MEC.

O. **PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE** NO MEETING HELD

P. **AD HOC NEW WEST CHARTER SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

D. **MOTION:** TO APPROVE FILING A COMPLAINT WITH THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT AND OTHER RELEVANT CITY DEPARTMENTS REGARDING VIOLATIONS OF THE MODIFY CONDITIONS APPROVED BY THE PLANNING AND LAND-USE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE USE COMMITTEE ON APRIL 28, 2015 (CF 15–0038) INCLUDING THE CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT (CUP) AND THE TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT AND MITIGATION PROGRAM (TMMP).

Q. **PLANNING AND LAND USE MANAGEMENT [PLUM] COMMITTEE**

a. **MOTION:** TO NOMINATE ANDREW RAHM AND ELIZABETH WANG

b. **MOTION:** TO APPROVE Community Impact Statement in Appendix C Re: DCR Core Application No. 101796, or LA-R-24-101796-ANN, 12320 W Pico Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90064 – West LA Sawtelle Neighborhood Council (PLUM Committee) request for a new Community Meeting & Public Hearing due to a Lack of Notice for the March 24th and April 4th Meetings [PLUM Unanimously approved]

c. **MOTION:** Request that the Planning Dept. halt all efforts to upzone our neighborhood until it can demonstrate with hard facts that the current zoning capacity cannot accommodate its desired future population. DIR-2024- . ENV-2024-

d. **Motion:** The Board shall vote, XXX, to request that the Planning Dept. provide detailed data on the West L.A. Community Plan update and halt all efforts to upzone the neighborhood until they can justify it with hard data and not speculation that zoning capacity must increase to accommodate its desired population, and authorize the Chair to submit a Community Impact Statement.

- i. The city should estimate how many units are projected to be built with ED1 projects and the CHIP program, and deduct those units from the totals it wants to target in our neighborhood.
- ii. At the August 8 “question and answer session,” the Planning Dept. gave a general presentation about the community plan process that provided little helpful information.
- iii. The planners had little hard data and could not answer simple questions, despite our request to come prepared and give a detailed presentation on how much upzoning they were proposing and why it was justified.

Some questions were:

- How many R1 or -1L blocks will remain? Planning had no answer, but our analysis shows only the ~8 blocks around Stoner Park will remain. (The city already upzoned 12 blocks of R1 to the south of the Bundy Expo Station as part of the Expo Station Transit Neighborhood Plan).
- How many R2 or -2L blocks will remain? Planning had no answer, but our analysis shows only the ~8 blocks to the west of Sawtelle Blvd. will remain. (The R2 in the Nebraska / Centinela neighborhood is proposed to be upzoned to allow 6 story apartments).
- What is the current population and how many units currently exist? Planning had no answer.
- With the current zoning, how many units can be built and how many people can fit in them? Planning had no answer.
- How many people do you want to live here, and how many total units

will be required (based on the 2.5-2.7 person per unit formula from the Community Plan)? That way, we can compare current zoning with desired zoning, and see how many new units are actually needed. Planning had no answer.

**Facts and background:**

1. Los Angeles is barely growing. Our population has been 3,900,000 to 4,000,000 for the past decades, where as planners projected an increase to 4,500,000 by now (those projections were wrong).
2. The State of California is barely growing. Only 0.1% of the population left the state the last several years (the claims of an exodus are false, but the state is not growing).
3. The West L.A. Community Plan area has a population of ~90,000, and current zoning allows for a population of ~205,000.
4. The WLASNC passed a resolution in June 2023 that identified 500 parcels on commercial corridors and large streets that can provide 12,000 units for 27,000 persons.
  - a. That may be enough zoning to provide the additional growth that the city wants (if they would provide that data).
5. The city is proposing upzoning with no idea how many units are actually needed.
6. Of ~140 blocks in our NC district, only ~16 will remain as R1 or R2 (less than 10%).

**Findings and justifications:**

- A. The current excess zoning capacity of ~115,000 residents may be sufficient to absorb all the additional population that the city desires.
- B. Our NC welcomes new growth and high-density development, to provide housing to low-income family and seniors in high-resource areas and to reduce car traffic and global heating. It must be placed in appropriate areas, especially commercial corridors near transit, and site planning must include sufficient trees and greenery (part of Mayor Garcetti's L.A. Green New Deal).
  - a. ED1 zoning allows developers to plant no trees and provide no open recreation space for high-density apartments for dozens or hundreds of residents.
  - b. SB1818 and TOC incentives allow developers to cover all usable open space with tall, unusable stormwater planters in which trees can't grow (only scrawny trees can grow in its shallow 2 ft soil), and excavate underground garages under the entire site, over which trees cannot be planted nor take root in soil.

**R. WESTSIDE REGIONAL ALLIANCE OF COUNCILS [WRAC] CANCELED TECH ISSUES**

- a. **MOTION:** TO SEND A LETTER TO CITY AND CIS OPPOSING COUNCILMEMBER YARASLAVSKY'S PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO LAMC 41.18.  
**BACKGROUND:** WLASNC has consistently supported LAMC 41.18 as a means of protecting sensitive uses in the public space from homeless encampments. The WLASNC has witnessed firsthand the difference between having protected City space, and having County land that is not protected by a similar ordinance, becoming the subject of long-standing, dangerous encampments. We oppose CF

21-0329-S5, as it will make implementation of LAMC 41.18 unnecessarily complicated and unnecessarily difficult, and needlessly involves County agencies in matters of City policy. LAMC 41.18 was never intended to solve the homelessness, but rather to protect the public space near sensitive uses, and we urge the City to not dilute what impact 41.18 has on protecting the public space near sensitive uses. Many other laws, and lawsuit settlements, address the provision of shelter to homeless individuals.

b. **MOTION:** THE WLASNC, A MEMBER OF THE WESTSIDE REGIONAL ALLIANCE OF COUNCILS (WRAC), REQUESTS THAT THE CITY RECEIVES MONETARY COMPENSATION AND/OR RECEIVES COMMUNITY BENEFITS FOR THE TRANSFER OF EASEMENTS IN THE PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY, EQUIVALENT TO THE FAIR MARKET VALUE OF THE PROPERTY TRANSFERRED, AND THAT THIS VALUE RECEIVED IS INVESTED IN THE COMMUNITY PLAN AREA AFFECTED. WLASNC FURTHER REQUESTS THAT COUNCILMEMBERS REPRESENTING THE WRAC MEMBER COUNCILS BRING A MOTION TO COUNCIL OR OTHERWISE DIRECT THE DEPARTMENT OF CITY PLANNING (DCP) TO INSTITUTE A DCP POLICY TO EFFECTUATE THIS PURPOSE. BACKGROUND: [PROW Easement Compensation](#) MOTION REFERS TO CITY COUNCIL FILE [23-0623](#)

c. **MOTION:** IN REGARD TO CF 23-0623, THE WLASNC, A MEMBER OF THE WEST SIDE NEIGHBORHOOD ALLIANCE OF COUNCILS (WRAC), REQUESTS THAT THE CITY CAP DEVELOPMENT WAIVER AT FIVE (5), WITH NO MORE THAN ONE (1) OF WHICH MAY BE RELATED TO THE ENVIRONMENT, FOR EXECUTIVE DIRECTIVE (ED1) AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING STREAMLINING ORDINANCE PROJECTS, AND FURTHER REQUESTS THAT COUNCILMEMBERS REPRESENTING WRAC MEMBER COUNCILS (CMs PARK, YAROSLAVSKY, RAMAN AND HUTT) BRING A MOTION IN COUNCIL OR OTHERWISE DIRECT THE DEPT. OF CITY PLANNING (DCP) TO INSTITUTE A DCP POLICY TO EFFECTUATE THIS PURPOSE.

BACKGROUND: [CAP ON ED1 WAIVERS:](#)

<https://westsidecouncils.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/Motion-LUPC-Waivers-2.2024.pdf>

and See:

[https://planning.lacity.gov/plndoc/Staff\\_Reports/2023/11-16-2023/CPC\\_2023\\_5273\\_Commision\\_Packet\\_11.16.23.pdf](https://planning.lacity.gov/plndoc/Staff_Reports/2023/11-16-2023/CPC_2023_5273_Commision_Packet_11.16.23.pdf)

**WRAC LUPC POLICY MOTION** :Recommended to WRAC board by WRAC LUPC Committee 1. Developers can request unlimited off-menu incentives and waivers without demonstrating financial need. 2. 11814 Missouri example (100% affordable – ED1 Housing Crisis Act): 13 waivers, including no trees, no parking, no setbacks, front yard parking OK). 3. Developers usually overpay for land, and that is not justification for additional incentives/waivers. 4. By reducing the size of projects, the land prices will decrease correspondingly. 5. Additional affordable housing benefits the community immensely.

S. **ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjournment time	
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**AMERICAN WITH DISABILITIES ACT:** As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of disability and upon request will provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to its programs, services, and activities. Sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices, or other auxiliary aids and/or services may be provided upon request. To ensure availability of services, make your request at least 3 business days (72 hours) prior to the meeting by contacting the Dept of Neighborhood Empowerment at (213) 978-1551 or [NCsupport@lacity.org](mailto:NCsupport@lacity.org) Si requiere servicios de traducción, avisar al Concejo Vecinal 3 días de trabajo (72 horas) antes del evento. Contacte [contact@westlasawtelle.org](mailto:contact@westlasawtelle.org) para avisar al Concejo Vecinal.

**PUBLIC POSTING OF AGENDA:** Neighborhood Council agendas are posted for public review at Stoner Park 1835 Stoner Ave, [www.westlasawtelle.org](http://www.westlasawtelle.org). You can also receive our agendas via email by subscribing to LA City's Early Notification System <https://www.lacity.org/subscriptions>.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Comments on matters not on the agenda that are within the Board's jurisdiction will be heard during the General Public Comment period. Please note that under the Brown Act, the Board is prevented from acting on a matter that you bring to its attention during the General Public Comment period; however, the issue raised by a member of the public may become the subject of a future Board meeting. Public comment is a maximum of 90 seconds per speaker.

**PUBLIC ACCESS OF RECORDS:** In compliance with Government Code 54957.5, non-exempt writings that are distributed to a majority of the board in advance of a meeting may be viewed at Stoner Park 1835 Stoner Ave, via appt, at website: [www.westlasawtelle.org](http://www.westlasawtelle.org), online at <https://tinyurl.com/WLASNC-Board>, or at the meeting. If you want a copy of any record on the agenda, contact James Altuner at: [james@westlasawtelle.org](mailto:james@westlasawtelle.org).

**PUBLIC RECORDS ACT REQUEST:** Requests shall be forwarded to DONE and the City Attorney for guidance in determining compliance with the request. The Board will respond to the person or agency requesting the records in writing, within 10 days of receipt of the request, informing them that their request has been received and forwarded to DONE and the City Attorney to determine compliance. Link <https://recordsrequest.lacity.org/> DONE link <https://empowerla.org/public-records-requests/>

**RECONSIDERATION AND GRIEVANCE PROCESS:** For information on the NC's process for board action reconsideration, stakeholder grievance policy, or any other procedural matters related to this Council, please consult the NC Bylaws. The Bylaws are available at our Board meetings and our website [www.westlasawtelle.org](http://www.westlasawtelle.org).

**TELECONFERENCING:** In conformity with the October 6, 2023 enactment of California Senate Bill 411 (Portanitino) an LA City Council approval on November 1, 2023, The Sawtelle Neighborhood Council will be conducted virtually.

**SB 411 UPDATES:** If a Neighborhood Council has a quorum of board members in a physical location, board members who wish to join the meeting via teleconferencing must adhere to AB 2449 rules and regulations. If a Neighborhood Council does not have a quorum of board members in a physical location, they must adhere to SB 411 rules and regulations.

In the event of a disruption that prevents the eligible legislative body from broadcasting the meeting to members of the public using the call-in option or internet-based service option, or in the event of a disruption within the eligible legislative body's control that prevents members of the public from offering public comments using the call-in option or internet-based service option, the eligible legislative body shall take no further action on items appearing on the meeting agenda until public access to the meeting via the call-in option or internet-based service option is restored. Actions taken on agenda items during a disruption that prevents the eligible legislative body from broadcasting the meeting may be challenged pursuant to Section 54960.1.

The eligible legislative body shall not require public comments to be submitted in advance of the meeting and shall provide an opportunity for the public to address the legislative body and offer comments in real time.



Notwithstanding Section 54953.3, an individual desiring to provide public comment through the use of an internet website, or other online platform, not under the control of the eligible legislative body, that requires registration to log in to a teleconference may be required to register as required by the third-party internet website or online platform to participate.

(i) An eligible legislative body that provides a timed public comment period for each agenda item shall not close the public comment period for the agenda item, or the opportunity to register, pursuant to subparagraph, to provide public comment until that timed public comment period has elapsed.

(ii) An eligible legislative body that does not provide a timed public comment period, but takes public comment separately on each agenda item, shall allow a reasonable amount of time per agenda item to allow public members the opportunity to provide public comment, including time for members of the public to register pursuant to subparagraph (D), or otherwise be recognized for the purpose of providing public comment.

(iii) An eligible legislative body that provides a timed general public comment period that does not correspond to a specific agenda item shall not close the public comment period or the opportunity to register, pursuant to subparagraph (D), until the timed general public comment period has elapsed.

**PAID REPRESENTATIVES:** If you are compensated to monitor, attend, or speak at this meeting, City law may require you to register as a lobbyist and report your activity. See Los Angeles Municipal Code Section 48.01 et seq. More information is available at [ethics.lacity.org/lobbying](http://ethics.lacity.org/lobbying). For assistance, please contact the Ethics Commission at (213) 978-1960 or [ethics.commission@lacity.org](mailto:ethics.commission@lacity.org)

**Appendix A: Letter to CD11, LADOT, StreetsLA requesting pedestrian safety enhancements for the Expo/Bundy metro station vicinity.**

To: Traci Park (CD11 Councilmember), Rudy Guevara (LADOT)

CC: Jeff Khau (CD11 Planning & Transportation Deputy), Michael Amster (CD11 Field Deputy)

**Background**

The City of LA has stated goals to increase walk/bike/transit mode share to 35% by 2025 (currently about 15%) and to reduce pedestrian fatalities to zero (176 last year). One thing that would go a long way in reaching these goals is to improve the pedestrian experience in the immediate vicinity of the Metro stations. The Expo/Bundy Metro station gives Sawtelle residents access to Santa Monica, Culver City, Mid-City, Downtown LA, and beyond without an automobile. Unfortunately, Metro-bound pedestrians must navigate — within a 0.5-mile radius of the station — 3 major arterials in the High Injury Network (Bundy, Olympic, Pico), their intersections, an I-10 underpass, and I-10 on-ramps. The City has made some steps towards better pedestrian safety (leading pedestrian intervals, continental striped crosswalks, and closing a slip lane), but the area is still unsafe and unpleasant.

**Requests**

The West LA/Sawtelle Neighborhood Council recommends that the City (CD11, LADOT, and StreetsLA) improve pedestrian access to the Expo/Bundy Metro station to increase safety for existing Metro users and to promote additional transit ridership. We request that LADOT and StreetsLA study the following specific improvements:

Implement “pedestrian recall” at the Bundy/Olympic intersection. “Pedestrian recall” is when pedestrians receive a “walk” indication without having to push a button. The benefit is that “a pedestrian arriving during the time nominally reserved for the Walk interval will be served immediately rather than waiting to be served in the next cycle.” At this intersection, the pedestrian signal does not affect the cycle length, so there would be no effect on vehicle flow. LADOT has a precedent for making this change, doing so to 900 signals as a response to COVID-19.

Prohibit right on red at the Bundy/Olympic intersection. As USDOT puts it: “While the law requires motorists to come to a full stop and yield to cross street traffic and pedestrians prior to turning right on red, many motorists do not fully comply with the regulations. Motorists are so intent on looking for traffic approaching on their left that they may not be alert to pedestrians on their right. In addition motorists usually pull up into the crosswalk to wait for a gap in traffic, blocking pedestrian crossing movements. In some instances, motorists simply do not come to a full stop.”

Use a flashing yellow right arrow rather than a solid green light on the right-most signal. Drivers making a right on solid green sometimes fail to yield to pedestrians in the crosswalk; using a flashing yellow arrow will emphasize the responsibility to yield.

Add a continental striped crosswalk and curb extensions at Mississippi/Bundy. The distance between Olympic and Mississippi is quite short, so drivers have little time to check for pedestrians before turning and pedestrians have little time to process if a vehicle will turn onto Mississippi. Add curb extensions to reduce the crossing distance and tighten the turning radius for vehicles, and a continental striped crosswalk to alert motorists to check for pedestrians. Consider closing to vehicles the entrance onto Mississippi from Bundy. Vehicles that need to enter and exit here can do so one block over at La Grange, which has a traffic signal.

Rebuild diagonal curb ramps as perpendicular curb ramps. 3/4 of corners at Olympic/Bundy, all corners at Pico/Bundy, and both corners at Mississippi/Bundy have one diagonal curb ramp rather than 2 perpendicular curb ramps. The USDOT recommends against diagonal curb ramps because they direct vision-impaired pedestrians and wheelchair users into the middle of the intersection.

In addition, we request the City to prioritize the following capital improvement projects:

Add a landscaped median on Olympic between Centinela and Barrington. The

benefits of a raised median, as USDOT puts it, is that they “provide space for street trees and other landscaping which, in turn, can help reduce speeds by changing the character of a street.” The City of Santa Monica has a landscaped median on its portion of Olympic, and extending it east to (at least) Barrington is specifically recommended in the “Exposition Corridor Transit Neighborhood Plan” of 2019.

Widen the sidewalk from Olympic to the station. Widen the pedestrian right-of-way enough to accommodate a landscaped buffer and enough sidewalk space for pedestrians, cyclists, and transit users waiting for the bus. To improve the accessibility for pedestrians using mobility aids, ensure the sidewalk portion is flat (separated from the sloped driveway aprons). Consider closing the 2 gas station driveways and the “11900 Olympic” driveway on Bundy to remove conflict points: both properties already also have driveways on the Olympic side.