City of Los Angeles Pedestrian Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 16, 2026 · 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM Pacific Time
Little Tokyo Branch Library, 203 South Los Angeles Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012
In-Person Meeting

Attendance (22)

PAC Members: Deborah Murphy (Chair; Mayor Representative), Jennifer Clark (CD 2), Andrew Lewis (CD 5), David Sanchez (CD 11), Kaitlin Scott (CD 13), Colleen Corcoran (CD 14, Eagle Rock), Pilar Reynaldo (CD 14, Garvanza)

Agenda Presenters and Organizational Representatives: Matt Garron (LADOT), Ryan Johnson (Caltrans), Arturo Nevarez (LANI), Christine Vazquez (Public Matters)

Guests: Wajenda Chambeshi (City of Los Angeles), Severin Martinez (LADOT), Charles Lau (Caltrans), Jaden (Caltrans), Vanessa Bulkacz (Bureau of Engineering), Kevin Ocubillo (Council District 14), Mariam Imam (CFILC), Candace Cable, Marjorie Codden, Barbara Ibarra, Donald Lovett, Ana Nieves

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1–2. Call to Order and Self-Introductions

Chair Deborah Murphy called the meeting to order at 10:30am. Attendees introduced themselves.

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes

No prior minutes were available for approval. Minutes to be provided by David Sanchez for September, Colleen Corcoran for November.

4. LADOT Vision Zero Update

Presented by Matt Garron and Max Podemski.

Sunset East Safety and Mobility Project (Sunset Blvd / Chavez Ave)

- The project runs from Union Station to Douglas Street near Dodger Stadium. A future phase extends Sunset west to Fountain Avenue. Sunset is a Vision Zero Priority Safety Corridor.
- The corridor will connect to Hollywood Boulevard and Alameda Street, creating approximately six miles of continuous bike lanes.
- Design proposal: $15 million total investment; 1.5 miles of protected bus lanes; protected bike lanes along the entire corridor; 47 curb ramp improvements; parking retained on the south side and removed on the north side; one travel lane per side plus a turn lane that can be used during Dodger games. Estimated delays are one to two minutes for people driving through this area.
- Outreach and design are complete. Work is now focused on sidewalks and curb ramps. Sunset East is scheduled for completion before the Olympics.
- Upcoming presentations: Echo Park Neighborhood Council on September 22 and Historic Cultural Neighborhood Council on September 28. A survey link is available; contact visionzero@lacity.org or ladotlivablestreets.org/projects/sunset.
- **Sunset/Hoover slip lane closure:** Intended to improve pedestrian safety, with construction beginning January 2027. Engagement to date includes an August 27 event, a mid-September mailer,

an October business listening session, and a November mailer on the intersection redesign. LADOT is selecting materials for the closure and has requested data on injuries.

Pico Boulevard Project (Figueroa to Crenshaw)

- The project has gone out to bid. Contractor selection is expected within the next few weeks.

Hollywood Boulevard Project

Presented by Max Podemski, LADOT.

- Phase 1 (Gower to Hillhurst) was completed in 2024 and included two miles of protected bike lanes and three new HAWK signals. The one-year evaluation showed decreased 85th-percentile vehicle speeds, no change in vehicle volume, approximately one minute of added delay, a 39 percent increase in pedestrian volume, a 62 percent increase in bicycle volume, and an increase of one to two severe injuries.
- Phase 2 (Hillhurst to Fountain) will close the gap in the bike lane and connect to the Sunset improvements. Hollywood was designated a priority corridor in 2019. Construction begins early next year.
- Phase 2 scope includes the Vista Theatre intersection, sidewalk changes on Virgil Avenue, a new sidewalk from Sunset to Hollywood, a new left-turn signal at Virgil and Hillhurst, curb ramps, and a bus priority lane.

Discussion

- Members raised the need for protected bike lanes to accommodate delivery vehicles, and asked how lanes are protected, specifically bollards versus hard concrete barriers.
- On bus lane protection, members noted that automated citations could have been part of the solution and that bus-mounted cameras may be needed to issue citations. LADOT will work with Metro on this.
- On sidewalks, LADOT does not have oversight and is working with the Bureau of Engineering. Curb ramps remain within the project scope. Whether curb ramps or sidewalks are redone depends on the Mobility Plan designation, which LADOT holds. Some sidewalk work will be done without street resurfacing; the Bureau of Engineering handles standalone work and LADOT coordinates with StreetsLA (Bureau of Street Services).
- Members observed that all sidewalks are public walkways, that streets and sidewalks are not upgraded holistically, and that property owners are not at fault.

5. Caltrans Route 110 Multimodal Corridor Plan

Presented by Caltrans.

- The Comprehensive Multimodal Corridor Plan covers 20 miles of the Harbor Freeway with a 1.5-mile sphere of influence.
- Goals and objectives include multimodal access, safety as a priority, and travel time, within a high-level planning framework.
- Engagement is ongoing. A hybrid public workshop was held June 23, 2026. A virtual Round 3 is scheduled for early December 2026, with the report finalized January through April 2027.
- Caltrans asked the committee to provide feedback now through the online portal survey.

6. Featured Presentation: Heart of Highland Park

Presented by Pilar Reynaldo, CD 14 Representative.

- The project area is North Figueroa from Meridian to Avenue 61, where there have been 108 injury crashes over the past ten years. The project is supported by Councilmember Ysabel Jurado's office, with Kevin Ocubillo (CD 14) and Severin Martinez (LADOT) present. StreetsLA is leading the work.
- Elements include a new signal at Figueroa and Piedmont, filling in missing crosswalks, a new HAWK signal at Hamlet, speed tables, curb extensions, new crosswalks, trees, and historical markers. Closing the slip lane will be considered.
- Grant design will be completed by October for a December 31 submission. Community input has been completed.

PAC Discussion and Recommendations

- Members asked whether Figueroa and York could become a diagonal crossing. Staff responded that this is not yet possible under current policy.
- On curb ramps, members asked that each corner have two ramps rather than one directed into the middle of the street. Staff will follow up.

The committee offered the following recommendations, in the priority order noted:

  - Determine what the slip lane space will be used for before funding it, potentially through the People St program.
  - Continue the strong communication with LAUSD, including outreach to PTAs and flyer days. Ask board members to support coordinated asphalt work to allow space for a green street. Provide education for street vendors.
  - Address accessibility.

7. PAC Member Reports and Issues

- **CD 2 (Jennifer Clark):** The pedestrian crossing bridge over the 170 near Hart Street has been without lights for eight years. The Bureau of Street Lighting has committed to investigate, but Caltrans needs to return with a quote. Funding may be required from the vandalism budget. Also raised bus lane closure issues on the North Hollywood side of the BRT in the context of SB 79, whose effects remain unknown.
- **CD 5 (Andrew Lewis):** Initially recorded as no report. A subsequent Westwood update addressed the phasing out of old pedestrian tunnels due to lack of accessibility, a Mid-City neighbors meeting held August 27, developing Westwood bus connections, and the Sepulveda Transit Corridor from Van Nuys to Expo/Sepulveda Station, which is in environmental review.
- **CD 11 (David Sanchez):** Reported on the Caltrans multimodal plan update including the need to be understanding of the community when doing large projects. Curb updates on Santa Monica Blvd have had many issues on getting it done in a timely manner.
- **CD 13 (Kaitlin Scott):** Two projects are to be completed by 2028. The district is not initiating many new projects pre-Olympics and is working through maintenance issues, for which guidance is needed.
- **CD 14 (Colleen Corcoran, Eagle Rock):** The Colorado BRT will start in Pasadena and run west to Eagle Rock, with substantial news coverage. Metro and CD 14 (Kevin Ocubillo) reported on Huntington Drive improvements.
- **CD 14 (Pilar Reynaldo, Garvanza):** Reported on the pedestrian plan for Avenue 64.
- **Los Angeles Walks:** A cleanup in Wilmington (CD 15) was noted.

8. Updates from Agencies and Others

- **Bureau of Engineering (Vanessa Bulkacz):** Willits sidewalk and curb ramp repairs for this fiscal year cover 43 sites, 1.82 miles of sidewalk, and associated ramps. The EIR was certified as of today, which allows the work to proceed more quickly with fewer paperwork requirements. The Department on Disability will hold a public hearing in the Public Works Board hearing room as part of a 25-year update.
- **Public Matters (Christine Vazquez):** A civic performance event will mark the ten-year anniversary of the Willits settlement, covering both the advancements in the Sidewalk Repair Program, with $1.3 million committed, and the setbacks created by payments from lawsuit payouts.
- **LANI (Arturo Nevarez):** Sidewalk repairs are underway for the Olympic Games. CD 15 design work is in the proposal selection stage, with a contract expected by November and detail provided on parent selection. CD 13 is maintaining trees on streets. Mr. Nevarez raised the question of how to handle crosswalk upgrades.
- **Caltrans (Ryan Johnson):** Survey results for the LA River Community Connection will be presented at the January meeting. State headquarters is developing a high-level advisory plan for bicycles and pedestrians. A SAFE virtual event is scheduled for September 23 at 7:00 PM. The District 7 transit plan for the state highway network will coordinate with Metro and transit agencies, with a November release. Walk to School Day is October 7.

9. Internal PAC Business

- **Hybrid meetings:** No decision has been made. Jennifer Clark and Deborah Murphy met with LADOT. SB 707 does not require the PAC to hold hybrid meetings. Improving access may require moving to a different building, and using a site such as the Caltrans building would require a City Council resolution.
- **Translation:** Asynchronous translation could be used more easily than live translation.
- **Vacancies (CD 1, 3, 6, 9) still are open**.

10. Public Comment

A Walktober event will be held in Pasadena on October 1, hosted by Pasadena Complete Streets.

11. Closing and Next Meeting

Next in-person PAC meeting: Wednesday, November 18, 2026, 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM. Meetings are held the third Wednesday of odd-numbered months.

Suggested topics for the next meeting:

- Access and Construction Database
- LA River Community Connection

12. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:37 PM.