

CITY OF LOS ANGELES  
CALIFORNIA

Palms Neighborhood Council  
Transportation & Infrastructure  
Committee

Christopher Gonzalez Wienberg, Chair  
Kasey Crawford, Vice-Chair  
Kay Hartman, Member  
Eliot Hochberg, Member



10008 National Blvd. #210  
Los Angeles, CA 90034

## PALMS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

<https://palmsnc.la/>  
[@palmsnc](https://facebook.com/PalmsNC)

### Transportation & Infrastructure Committee General Meeting Agenda

Thursday, September 9, 2021 – 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Zoom Meeting Online at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8263219749>

or by telephone dial: **+ 1 669 900 6833** or one of the following toll-free telephone numbers: **833 548 0282, 888 475 4499, 877 853 5257, or 833 548 0276**

The toll-free numbers eliminate long-distance call charges for participants although other telephone charges may apply from a participant's phone carrier.

After connecting by telephone enter this meeting ID: 826 321 9749 and press #.

**Press \*9 to raise hand for public comment**

**Press \*6 to unmute**

*The Neighborhood Council system enables meaningful civic participation for all Angelenos and serves as a voice for improving government responsiveness to local communities and their needs. We are an advisory body to the City of Los Angeles, comprised of stakeholder volunteers who are devoted to the mission of improving our communities.*

*VIRTUAL MEETING TELECONFERENCING NUMBER FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION In conformity with the Governor's Executive Order N-29-20 (MARCH 17, 2020) and due to concerns over COVID-19, the Palms Neighborhood Council meeting will be conducted entirely electronically.*

*Every person wishing to address the Neighborhood Council Transportation and Infrastructure Committee must join the zoom meeting at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8263219749> or dial one of the above phone numbers and enter 826 321 9749 and then press # to join the meeting. Instructions on how to sign up for public comment will be given to listeners at the start of the meeting*

- I. **CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL**
  - a. Call to Order
  - b. Roll Call
- II. **INTRODUCTIONS (5 minutes)**
  - a. Introductions and Welcome
- III. **GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT (10 minutes)**
  - a. Limited to non-agenda items – subjects related to transportation and infrastructure issues (up to 2 minutes per speaker, time permitting)
- IV. **COMMITTEE BUSINESS**
  - a. Committee member updates (10 minutes)

- b. **UPDATE** from Jay Greenstein, Council District 5 Transportation Deputy (if available)
- c. **DISCUSSION** regarding Slow Streets Phase 2 rollout and outreach
- d. **DISCUSSION and POSSIBLE ACTION** regarding the [I-405 Sepulveda Pass ExpressLanes project](#) [See attached letter]
- a. **DISCUSSION and POSSIBLE ACTION** on Council File [19-0926-S1](#) regarding the installation of a sidewalk on National Blvd

## V. **Adjournment**

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Time allocations for agenda items are approximate and may be shortened or lengthened at the discretion of the President. Public comment will be taken for each motion as well as for any item in the consent agenda prior to Board action. The public is requested to fill out a "Speaker Card" to address the Assembly on any item of the agenda prior to the Assembly taking action on an item. Comments from the public on Agenda items will be heard only when the respective item is being considered. Comments from the public on other matters not appearing on the Agenda that is within the Assembly's subject matter jurisdiction will be heard during the Public Comment period. Public comment is limited to 1 to 2 minutes per speaker, at the discretion or unless waived by the Assembly. In the interest of addressing all items on the agenda, time limits for individual comments and discussion may be set at the discretion of the President. All items on the consent agenda will be determined by a single Committee vote and without Committee discussion. Committee members may request that any item be removed from the consent agenda and considered individually at any time prior to that vote.

Per Board of Neighborhood Commissioners Policy #2014-01, agendas are posted for public review at: 1) Woodbine Park Kiosk, 3409 S. Vinton Ave.; 2) Palms Neighborhood Council website, <https://palmsnc.la/>.

In compliance with Government Code section 54957.5, non-exempt writings that are distributed to a majority or all of the board in advance of a meeting may be viewed at Woodbine Park Kiosk, 3409 S. Vinton Ave, at our website: [www.palmsnc.org](http://www.palmsnc.org) or at the scheduled meeting. In addition, if you would like a copy of any record related to an item on the agenda, please contact the Secretary at [secretary@palmsnc.la](mailto:secretary@palmsnc.la)

Palms NC Board and Committee members abide by a code of civility (<http://empowerla.org/code-of-conduct/>). Any person who interferes with the conduct of a Neighborhood Council meeting by willfully interrupting and/or disrupting the meeting is subject to removal. A peace officer may be requested to assist with the removal should any person fail to comply with an order of removal by the Neighborhood Council. Any person who resists removal by a peace officer is subject to arrest and prosecution pursuant to California Penal Code Section 403.

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, please make your request at least 3 business days (72 hours) prior to the meeting you wish to attend by contacting the Secretary at [secretary@palmsnc.la](mailto:secretary@palmsnc.la)

SI REQUIERE SERVICIOS DE TRADUCCION, FAVOR DE NOTIFICAR A LA OFICINA 3 DIAS DE TRABAJO (72 HORAS) ANTES DEL

EVENTO. SI NECESITA ASISTENCIA CON ESTA NOTIFICACION, POR FAVOR LLAME A NUESTRA OFICINA AL [secretary@palmsnc.la](mailto:secretary@palmsnc.la)

October xx, 2021

To:

Eric Garcetti, Mayor of Los Angeles  
Paul Krekorian, City Councilmember, 2<sup>nd</sup> District  
Mike Bonin, City Councilmember, 11<sup>th</sup> District

Traffic on the 405 through the Sepulveda Pass can range from free flowing to a nightmarish crawl. There is nobody transiting this stretch of freeway who doesn't want improved traffic flow. The question is, is an express lane the answer to the dilemma?

It is common for the carpool lane to move at a stop and go pace. Adding more vehicles to it may not be the answer we're looking for and runs counter-productive to the goal of getting more people to carpool.

The options under consideration include

- Continue with what we have
- Convert the existing carpool lane into an express lane
- Convert the carpool lane into two express lanes (two variations on this theme)
- Add an additional carpool lane

Changing traffic patterns is always complicated. The Palms Neighborhood Council has a nuanced position, leaning toward creating two express lanes.

The Palms Neighborhood Council is concerned about the use of the transponders for the express lanes. Will the transponders be managed by Metro, the State of California Department of Transportation, or by a private company? The Palms Neighborhood Council supports express lanes ONLY if transponder management is by Metro or the State of California Department of Transportation.

Where private companies manage express lane transponders, carpoolers are charged a nominal fee to use the lanes. Drivers who use the lanes are required to have transponders in their cars and are required to keep a balance on the transponders. If they don't spend money by driving in an express lane for a fee, a nominal monthly charge is removed from their account. This is counter-productive to the goal of encouraging carpooling.

The Palms Neighborhood Council supports express lanes on the 405 ONLY if they are 100% free to carpoolers.

On the 91 freeway, the privately managed express lanes company successfully blocked improvements to the freeway because it would inhibit their ability to make money. The Palms Neighborhood Council supports express lanes on the 405 ONLY if the lanes are owned and operated by Metro or the State of California Department of Transportation.

The Palms Neighborhood Council does NOT support converting the existing carpool lane into an express lane. This is counter-productive to the goal of encouraging carpooling.

Not mentioned is the option of creating an express lane and leaving the existing carpool lane. The Palms Neighborhood Council would be more supportive of an option like this.

All this said, the Palms Neighborhood Council recognizes that express lanes are not equitable, because people with more money will be able to enjoy faster speeds on the 405 than people with less. If an express lane is established on the 405, the Palms Neighborhood Council supports subsidies for the financially disadvantaged so they are not penalized in their transit.

The Palms Neighborhood Council reminds you that Californians pay higher vehicle license fees than residents of other states. Agreement to these fees by the residents of California were based on the promise that they would

enable the freeways to always remain free. Express Lanes are chipping away at this promise. We remain watchful.