

Hollenbeck Park Advisory Board

Minutes of Meeting:

Thursday, August 14, 2025 at 6:35 pm

Submitted: by Stephanie Vendig and Armando Martinez, Staff- Ex Officio

PAB Members Present: Hollenbeck Classroom

Stephanie Vendig, Susana Betancourt, Vivian Escalante and Vilma Castro, Don Baisa, Carlos Montes, and Sophia Valadez, Teen Representative. Community representatives, Claudia Mancia, Annabella Mazariegos, Angela Sanchez, Sandra Villalobos, Noemi Valadez, Rosie Echeverria, CD 14, Dominique Sanchez, CD 14, Elsie Garcia, CD 14, Sgt. Veronica Padilla, LAPD, Serapio Jarramillo, CATrans, Alfredo Rodriguez, Office of the Mayor, Armando Martinez, Ex Officio, Alicia Prieto, Hollenbeck RC staff. Quorum reached with all seven members present.

Board Member Absent: None

* Carlos Montes, Chair of PAB, Welcomes the LA City Mayor Karen Bass for a State of the City Address and Questions & Answers. 6:05pm to 6:25pm, Approved by the Hollenbeck PAB Members.

*Carlos Montes, chair of PAB, welcomed community representatives and led the Advisory meeting. Stephanie Vendig took notes as secretary, and meeting began at 6:35 pm. Approval of Minutes of PAB meeting for June 12, 2025, were reviewed and approved by board. Vote: 7 yes; and 0 no.

Community Reports: *Various Organizations. Updated the PAB members and community with local organizations who help the local unhoused community and people looking for mental health assistance.

- Rosie Echeverria, Office of Ysabel Jurado, CD 14, Gave an update on the activities of their office to service the community of Boyle Heights. Also gave the office number (323)526-9332. Shared info on future food banks, Immigrant Rights workshops and future activities in Boyle Hts. Also, Elsie Garcia shared new information on future grants for Hollenbeck RC for the renovation of the bandshell. Dominique Sanchez, also announced the possible the return of the Drones Community Celebration in the next few

months. An update will be shared in the near future at the next PAB meeting. And update on the new construction for the Ben Franklin Library,

- Claudia Mancia, Proyecto Pastoral: Shared info on current ICE raids in the community and the need to establish a Rapid Response Network, Also shared info on a legal team Hotline: (323) 805-1049 and on planting 30 new trees in the community.
- Sandra Villalobos, Community Action Group: Proposed a new collaborative clean-ups with the local community and Hollenbeck Park. Also recommended more activities for Senior programs at Hollenbeck Park and advocating for more food bank programs, community events, and information sharing with various non profits in the Boyle Heights Community.
- Sarapio Jarramillo, CalTrans Supervisor, Working to improve the clean-ups around the Hollenbeck Park, Freeway wall, sound barrier and to ensure that all the garbage and junk is removed at least once or twice a week. Also works on removing graffiti that is out of control. The community can also call in to do special job orders on their job order hot line. Next clean up on Wednesday, August 20, around Boyle Ave next to the park.
- **Leadership Training on PAB Mission and Bylaws:**
 - a. Armando Martinez, reviewed the Organizational Objectives of the PAB and included the Mission and Vision statements.
 - b. Alicia Prieto, gave an overview of the PAB bylaws and had a question and answer period to review rules and protocols of the Park Advisory Board.

Matters Under Board Consideration:

1. First Item: Susana Betancourt as chair of the Clean-up committee Gave an update on our successful, Clean up, Saturday, April 26, 2025 for Earth Day. Future clean ups to be discussed. This was an update.
2. Second Item: Environmental Study & Soil Analysis: The board is exploring funding for our Environmental Study report so we can understand the toxic nature of the run-off water from the freeway. A

new committee will be developed in the future to spearhead a letter from the Hollenbeck PAB. Info only. (This was not addressed)

3. Third Item: The Board is continuing the research on the partnership plans with Roosevelt High School on the high schools involvement. Stephanie Vendig & Carlos Montes will be working on developing a working outline. Info only, still working on developing details.
4. Fourth Item: Review of the Historic Hollenbeck Band shell Renovation Project . Built circa 1940's, discussed that this is a secondary issue and the most important is funding for Hollenbeck security through the night. Information only. (This was not addressed)
5. Fifth Item: Recommendations to improve the crumbling infrastructure and ways to improve the park. Some examples are the crumbling concrete retainer walls on the southwest side of the park, the crumbling bridge, and the need for new modern drinking fountains. A formal letter from the PAB members was recommended. A draft will be written by the Hollenbeck Infrastructure committee, as led by Don Baiso and Vivian Escalante to the supervisors of Construction. (This was not addressed.)
6. Sixth Item: There is no response from the Mayor's office on the letter sent to her in December of 2024 regarding night time security for Hollenbeck Park. The PAB will review strategies for future follow up on night time security. (This was not addressed)

Informational Reports:

1. President's Report: None at this time.
2. Director's Report: Armando Martinez, shared with the PAB and community, the current status of the restrooms and their maintenance. Also updated the board on the Hollenbeck Lake Restoration which we hope begins in the Summer of 2028.

Meeting adjourned at 7: 35pm

Next Meeting: to be **Thursday, October, 16, 2025 at 6pm.**