



Minutes
Bel Air-Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council
Virtual Meeting of Ad Hoc Committee on the Sepulveda Transit Corridor DEIR
Monday August 4, 2025 6:30 P.M. - 8:30 P.M.

Name	P	A	Name	P	A
Irene Sandler, Co-Chair	X		Jamie Hall, Co-Chair	X	
Pamela Pierson	X		Michael Kemp		X
Aaron Lawrence	X		Leslie Weisberg	X	
Patricia Templeton	X		Nickie Miner	X	
Jonathan Brand	X		Robert Schlesinger		X
			Travis Longcore <i>ex officio</i>	X	

Co-Chair Hall called the meeting to order at 6:31 PM, and following flag salute called the roll with quorum met. There were 9 members present and 2 absent.

1. The August 4, 2025 Agenda was unanimously **approved** as moved by Co-Chair Sandler.
2. **Motion** to approve the July 28, 2025 Minutes (Attachment “A”) was moved by Miner. Member Templeton stated that she had listened to the tape and heard it mentioned a couple of times that there is no public transportation to the Getty Center, and thought it should be in the minutes that that there is bus service to the Getty Center. Several committee members noted that the Sepulveda bus stops there. Miner accepted the amendment and the July 28th minutes were unanimously **adopted as amended**.
3. **General Public Comment:** There was no public comment on any topic within the Committee’s jurisdiction but not on the adopted agenda.
4. **Presentation and Q&A / Discussion with Special Guest Speaker Fred Rosen on the position of the Bel Air Association and Keep Bel Air Beautiful on the Sepulveda Transit Corridor Draft Environmental Impact Report:**
Background: Full Text of Draft EIR is found online here:
<https://us.planengage.com/sepulvedacorridor/page/home>

Co-Chair Hall related that this ad hoc committee was created to inform and educate ourselves to help better understand this project and the varying perspectives, as recommended by the BABCNC PLU Committee in a special meeting on 07/21/2025, when we heard from Bob Anderson of the Sherman Oaks Homeowners Association (SOHA).

This evening's meeting was now our *third* on the topic. Chair Hall noted that that we are *not* taking a position to endorse any of positions of the presenters.

Vice-Chair Hall related that during our first meeting as an ad-hoc committee on 07/28/2025, we heard from Mary-Elizabeth Michaels from the Getty Center. He noted that this evening we'd hear from Mr. Fred Rosen, take questions from the committee, then open this up to public comment, following which the committee would create notes from what we've discussed and learned, with the goal, after we conclude our ad-hoc committee meetings, to create a letter to bring to the Board to adopt.

Co-Chair Hall welcomed Mr. Fred Rosen who gave a talk from 6:41 PM to 7:06 PM. Co-Chair Hall then opened the floor to committee questions for Fred, followed by Public Comment from Maureen Levinson, James Enstrom, Cheryce Fischer, Shelby Blecker, Steven Sann, Jonathan Roth's iPhone, Hans & Jenny and several anonymous callers.

[Midway through this Public Comment period, after Mr. Blecker and Mr. Sann spoke, at 8:26 PM, [1:56.26 on the recording,] Dr. Longcore opened the online version of the DEIR and shared information on his screen as to noise/vibration construction impacts and mitigation measures required. He noted that we can look at this chart for different aspects of the project to determine if there are less than significant or significant impacts expected.

8:29 PM: Committee discussion followed, concluding with a request to find an independent transit expert to answer a lot of our questions. Mr. Rosen thanked us for the time and for listening, concluding that this is a delusional project that isn't going to happen. Member Templeton was asking for further information. Mr. Rosen provided a closing comment as to further reasons to oppose this.

Co-Chair Hall thanked Fred for coming, and for the good discussion.

5. Committee Discussion of Planning, Procedures and Priorities of the Ad Hoc Committee

Co-Chair Hall shared his screen and started the discussion to add to his list of notes from the previous meetings as to what we learned this evening, and to isolate the big picture topics that should be in the comment letter based on the conversation we had tonight.

Co-Chair Hall clarified that Fred was talking on behalf of the "Bel Air Association" (BAA) and the group, "Keep Bel Air Beautiful," and acknowledged Fred's position that that no amount of noise or vibration is acceptable, that all subways are nonstarters and that any tunneling under Bel Air is categorically opposed. Dr. Longcore noted that one of the perspectives of the different stakeholders was that the cost projections were nothing to trust.

Notes by Co-Chair Hall following the presentation by Fred Rosen include:

1. Fierce Opposition from the Bel-Air Association and Keep Bel-Air Beautiful.
2. Competence of Metro
3. Strong Belief that Project is Not Financial Feasibility
4. Concerns about conflicts of interest
5. Management and design issues

6. Lack of Trust with Metro
7. No amount of noise or vibration is acceptable
8. All subways/tunnels are nonstarters
9. Any tunneling under Bel Air is opposed
10. Promising years of litigation
11. Suitable outcome was to start over
12. Believes that Metro should look at future technologies
13. Concerns about lack of parking at Metro stations
14. Suggested to build elevated portion of 405 freeway with electric buses
15. Project is already out of date - Metro should be looking to the future
16. Technology is old
17. Ridership numbers are unreliable
18. Cost projections are unreliable (and out of date). This is proven by past projects as well.
19. Lack of outreach - refusal to meet with BAA
20. Timeline - concern that it is going to take much longer to build that projected
21. Concerned that elected officials are not adequately representing them.

Comments from Committee Members

1. Level of traffic in other Canyon neighborhoods (Cross Canyon traffic) is a serious quality of life and health issue and needs a solution.
2. Ms. Templeton believes that we should have an independent transit expert to advise BABCNC.

Comments from Members of the Public

1. Robust conversation with Steve Sann, who spoke as Chairman of Westwood Community Council and said that they did *not* feel anything when the construction of the tunnels occurred. He related Westwood's experience with the *Purple D-Line subway construction*, was that they received no reports from any of their Westwood neighbors that they felt anything during the construction of the tunnels... They, their council, and to his knowledge, none of the homeowner associations, no neighborhood council, no Westwood organization received any reports that any Westwood neighbor reported that they felt anything during the construction.
2. James Enstrom indicated that he believes UCLA might change their perspective if they had more information.
3. Maureen Levinson highlighted the cost differences between building a monorail versus a subway.
4. Maureen Levinson spoke on the realistic ridership capacities of the monorail vs the subway. She said that according to Metro's January 2023 public meeting regarding the confusing capacity vs ridership, the monorail has 35% higher passenger capacity per hour than subways. She explained that Metro uses a model that assumes higher ridership for the subway; however, Metro will not share their modeling assumptions for this determination. She asserted that the fact is the monorail has a higher frequency and a higher capacity than subways. She further clarified that there is an argument that the subway can go up to 75 mph but the reality is it will not reach that speed end-to-end due to geographic and safety considerations.

Good of the Order -

Brief discussion was held on outreach to get the word out on these committee meetings and

Member Lawrence volunteered to prepare a flyer type for Board members to send them out to their respective communities and constituents.

We discussed having speaker(s) from UCLA. Templeton volunteered to find a speaker with expertise. Discussion was held on how to best do outreach on this with Co-Chair Sandler suggesting that, as mentioned to her by Dr. Longcore, it is the responsibility of our board members to tell their communities.

It was noted that anyone can see the videos of these ad hoc committee meetings on the STC DEIR, by googling BABCNC YouTube where they'll find three separate meetings, two recent ones, and there will be this one added along with one from a prior year.

Adjournment - The meeting adjourned at 9:08 PM as moved by Hall.

Next Meetings:

Monday August 11th at 6:30 PM

Monday August 18th at 6:30 PM

Monday August 25th at 6:30 PM

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