



RIVERWALK AD HOC COMMITTEE

8/25/26

IDEAS FOR RIVERWALK AD HOC REVISED AFTER COMMITTEE MEETING OF 7/27/26 AND INPUT FROM DEVELOPER

NEXT STEPS:

Now that CD4 has named a field deputy for Studio City, this list will be sent to Won Jung (he/him) Field Deputy 213-473-7004 won.jung@lacity.org and we will begin the process of collaboration and cooperation between the relevant entities.

Further to the first committee meeting of July 27th, below is a recap and update. The next step is communicating with CD4 staff, bring them up to date, and have them address this committee and the developer with updates and a plan of action moving forward.

The developer adopts the river and Valleyheart TODAY, keeping it trash free.

Is proactive in reporting to various agencies the encampments, illegally parked cars, vegetation overgrowth.

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1qHhaFzUA3B-D26fwKell6qMya5zD43X2/view?usp=drive_link

Without objection from developer. CD4 to be advised.

Adopt the existing benches along Valleyheart and create a plan to enhance the existing bench system.

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1LmKBx6CPWzIGvmOY0LeaQ0bl9XuaogMe/view?usp=drive_link

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1L-6p0doD6-FtKVSE3oOXjO5FjoyqEHgf/view?usp=drive_link

Without objection from developer. Need input from CD4 Are upgrades planned.

This bench on Valleyheart is now an encampment

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1TbJCHYEtl49AxxreNoHH8EFKGKftJUA/view?usp=drive_link

Without objection from developer who will be proactive with appropriate agencies.

The developer, looking to the future, assesses the situation along the river between Whitsett and LCB, where many tenants will want to travel by foot, or bicycle, to all the amenities of SC including the farmers mkt. Start lobbying the responsible govt agencies to return the riverwalk back to the public and not have portions be permanent homeless encampments, bio hazards, and no go zones.

<https://youtu.be/2-GOQadjaeg?si=XrpQRJk7iYWffeKr>

Without objection from developer. Need input from CD4

Discuss the feasibility of story poles or perhaps a Google Maps type perspective allowing flying over and seeing street views. Personally, I have never seen story poles in LA

Not feasible.

Prepare design sketches of the lights Whitsett to LCB along the river.

Developer is supportive of lights, design sketches not feasible at this time Need input from CD4

Prepare design sketches of a possible revitalization as well as a bike hub at lot 690

Developer is supportive, however need input from CD4. Please see design plan from 2011 LINK. Pages 31-32

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Sx-oBsO6Qw52mAWKuQ1usgvKZDObyKuH/view?usp=sharing>

Prepare design and plant sketches identifying the areas along the river that would be subject to landscaping.

Developer is supportive, design sketches not feasible at this time Need input from CD4

Prepare design sketches of the dedicated right turn lane into the complex

Developer is supportive, design sketches not feasible at this time Need input from CD4 and DOT.

Document the required financial contributions to the transportation improvements and determine if money is simply going to be moved around or if there will be additional revenue.

Without objection from developer. Need input from CD4

Many local neighbors mentioned fire safety, so skin/debeard the palms currently on the property. There has been some concern from activists regarding the yellow bat population. Explore the feasibility of so-called "bat boxes" to help the species.

Developer has trimmed/skinned the palms on the property. There are activists currently advocating for the yellow bats. Issues regarding their habitat and the feasibility of bat boxes

will be left to them. With the palms skinned, there doesn't appear to be any yellow bat habitat on the property.

The developer designates a liaison to work with the SCNC and the council district and perhaps supervisor for community benefits. Work with HWRP and perhaps Midwood as well.

Developer already working with HWRP, and there will be a designated liaison throughout the project. This committee has reached out to Midwood (Shop's at Sportsmen's / Residences at Sportsmen's. Perhaps some cooperation between the "big3" Midwood, HWRP, and Riverwalk since they will all have shared interest in the area along the river north and south side Coldwater to Whitsett and beyond to Laurel Cyn.

Discussion re [good neighbor construction practices](#) and the impact of the haul route. Flagmen, broom bears, hotline and website. 144 daily truck trips through strict operation hours to between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. and require a continuous presence of flagged persons to manage traffic circulation.

No objection to following all city codes.

Work with the council office, Brad Sherman, and the developer regarding the \$250,000 in FY26 Community Projects federal funding for the LA River Greenway area.

Need input from CD4 on this.

Update the SCNC as the process moves forward, input from the various city agencies, plan check etc.

Developer has been and will continue to work with the SCNC throughout the process. The SCNC board will be updated at each board meeting.

Are there sound modeling possibilities to anticipate the reflection from Ventura Blvd back to the hills. And from HWRP back to the river channel and the residential area on Whitsett and to the east and west?

Not feasible

Update where possible, the status of the existing tenants, Coffee Bean, Staples, Pins, Carney's etc., with estimated closure dates. Encourage existing tenants to update the SCNC so we can keep the public informed but without the SCNC getting involved in any potential landlord tenant disputes. Will Bed Bath and Beyond remain closed or are there potential short term tenants?

We have no updates at this time as far as the intentions of each individual tenant. Will be receiving contact info and relay relevant information.

Read statement from Bill Wolf Carney's.

https://drive.google.com/file/d/12d9rlqcqNfkb4VYqLN7_ZM06c-2ePvVr/view?usp=sharing

Inform the process for tenant application and acceptance of the 46 very low income units. 223 studio, studios ranging from 407 square feet to 475 square feet. 373 one bedroom ranging from 625 to 689 square feet. 218 two bedrooms ranging from 946 to 1,047 square feet.
https://drive.google.com/file/d/13KL-hQxhFljwHo361Dv_XiG6x7Rxrdf8/view?usp=drive_link

Send all inquiries directly to the developer.
nicole@nicolekuklok.com

Advocate for the timely installation of the improvements at Moorpark Street and Whitsett Avenue to include a protected/permissive left-turn signal phasing for north and southbound traffic long before construction begins.

Need CD4 input on this.

Advocate with the SCNC and the appropriate county agencies for timely removal of the trash inside the LA River channel. The Riverwalk can help be a leader in working with the county to regularly clean up the trash inside the channel as a community benefit. In addition to being unsightly and degrading the quality of life for the community, there are obvious environmental concerns.

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ZCrDgxJShOBfm5tJcUJ7xYA2VMgJJxY/view?usp=drive_link

No objection from developer

Per the letter of determination,

o. The rich history of Studio City and the Cahuenga Pass should be displayed in a series of "story pavers" describing bits of this area's history using images and/or words. See letter for complete section.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1qmTQlf7PQ7ulujuv320ZmvdS4AcP4q9U/view?usp=sharing>

SCNC Cultural Affairs committee has been made aware of this opportunity.

Additional documentation

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1HINw2cXCCPK5HAyV_sLVLS8jzx8snofA/view?usp=drive_link

DOT Review Condition 10,

DWP Review Condition 12

Recreation and Parks Review Condition 16

Fire Department Review Condition 11

Community Room Not currently conditioned. Need further discussion

Glare and glass issues.

<https://www.homes.com/learn/low-e-glass-windows-benefits-comparisons-installation-tips/>

See letter from CD4 in support of the project here, with key points listed below.

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1SJ5FFaqT_1N6UNzxVQatfKfLDzyAWPSR/view?usp=sharing

The proposed project will include new signalized intersections and crosswalk enhancements to support safer vehicular and pedestrian crossings along Ventura Boulevard, as well as broader pedestrian improvements throughout the project site.

Other public benefits include:

- Improved parking access to the Los Angeles River for cyclists and pedestrians
- A retail plaza designed to serve both retail and restaurant visitors and residents
- Two 28-foot-wide mid-block connections accommodating pedestrians and emergency vehicle access, linking Ventura Boulevard to Valleyheart Drive South and the Los Angeles River
- Preservation of the existing 1950s Bowl sign

The Council Office is aware of several requests for additional public benefits from community stakeholders and is requesting the following.

- Landscaping and maintenance of portions of the LARiverWay that directly border the project, including a “Welcome Plaza” at the northwest corner of Valleyheart Drive South and Whitsett Avenue, which is the existing entrance to the LARiverWay. Additional access points along Valleyheart Drive to the RiverWay that could include ramps or stairs as well as raised crosswalks to connect those access points to the public mid-block connections or retail plaza as feasible.
- The Department of Transportation (DOT) has recommended funding three signal improvements as voluntary measures. We have asked the applicant to prioritize the funding of improvements at Moorpark Street and Whitsett Avenue to include a protected/permissive left-turn signal phasing for north and southbound traffic which would enhance community safety and improve traffic circulation along surrounding arterial corridors.
- Additional Chinese pistache shade trees along Ventura Boulevard directly in front of the project to extend the palette of Studio City’s main village area west.

The local area also stands to benefit from Ventura-Cahuenga Specific Plan Project Impact Assessment (PIA) fees and Park Fees that can be used to invest in infrastructure improvements near the site. This includes the existing Rec and Parks-controlled section of LA River Greenway east of Whitsett Avenue as well as the intersection of Ventura Boulevard and Whitsett Avenue. Council District 4 has been working on identifying funding for improvements in these areas, most notably recently working with Representative Brad Sherman to obtain \$250,000 in FY26 Community Projects federal funding for the LA River Greenway area.

Since July 2025, the applicant has conducted extensive community outreach, including presentations at neighborhood council meetings and on-site engagement at the project location.

The Council Office is in support of this project and looks forward to hearing feedback from the planning commission and the public as the review process moves forward.