AGENDA

# TRANSPORTATION PROFESSIONALS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday, November 12, 2026
9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

3449 Santa Anita Avenue
3rd Floor Council Conference Room
El Monte, CA 91731

*Webinar - Please see note below

| Time | Item | Item Description | Presenter | Disposition | Pages |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1. | Call to Order/Roll Call | Chair | Action | |
| | 2. | Approve September 10, 2026, Meeting Minutes | Chair | Action | 4-6 |
| | 3. | General Public Comment | Chair/Public | Information | |
| | 4. | Executive Director's Report | Andre Colaiace | Information | |
| | 5. | Joe King Award Presentation | Mayra Noriega | Presentation | |
| | 6. | Facilities Update | F Scott Jewell | Presentation | |
| | 7. | Operations Report | Martin Romero | Presentation | |
| | 8. | TPAC Officer Elections | Matthew Avancena | Action | 7-8 |
| | 9. | New Business Raised Subsequent to the Posting of the Agenda | Members | Possible Action | |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 10. | Adjournment | Chair | Action |

Access Services does not discriminate based on disability. Accordingly, Access Services seeks to ensure that individuals with disabilities will have an equal opportunity to participate in the range of Access Services events and programs by providing appropriate auxiliary aids and services to facilitate communication. In determining the type of auxiliary aids and services for communication that will be provided, primary consideration is given to the request of the individual with disabilities. However, the final decision belongs to Access Services. To help ensure availability of those auxiliary aids and services you require, please make every effort to notify Access Services of your request at least three (3) business days (72 hours) prior to the meeting in which you wish to utilize those aids or services. You may do so by contacting (213) 270-6000.

Note: Access Transportation Professionals Advisory Committee meetings are held pursuant to the Ralph M. Brown Act [Cal. Gov. Code §54950] and are open to the public. The public may view and obtain all written information supporting this agenda provided to the committee both initially and supplementary prior to the meeting at the agency's offices located at 3449 Santa Anita Avenue 3rd Floor, El Monte, California and on its website at http://accessla.org. Documents, including Power Point handouts distributed to the committee by staff or committee members at the meeting will simultaneously be made available to the public. Three opportunities are available for the public to address the committee during a committee meeting: (1) before a specific agenized item is debated and voted upon regarding that item and (2) general public comment. The exercise of the right to address the committee is subject to restriction as to time and appropriate decorum. All persons wishing to make public comment must fill out a yellow Public Comment Form and submit it to Access staff. Public comment is generally limited to three (3) minutes per speaker and the total time available for public comment may be limited to the discretion of the Chair. Persons whose speech is impaired such that they are unable to address the committee at a normal rate of speed may request the accommodation of a limited amount of additional time from the Chair but only by checking the appropriate box on the Public Comment Form. Granting such an accommodation is in the discretion of the Chair. The committee will not and cannot respond during the meeting to matters raised under general public comment. Pursuant to provisions of the Brown Act governing these proceedings, no discussion or action may be taken on these matters unless they are listed on the agenda, or unless certain emergency or special circumstances exist. However, the committee may direct staff to investigate and/or schedule certain matters for consideration at a future committee meeting and the staff will respond to all public comment in writing prior to the next meeting.

*NOTE

NOTICE OF ALTERNATIVE PUBLIC COMMENT PROCEDURES

Pursuant to temporary revised Brown Act requirements, TPAC committee members will be participating via webinar. The public may submit written comments on any item on the agenda - 1) through email by addressing it to - tpac@accessla.org or 2) via US Postal mail by addressing it to - Access Services TPAC Comments, PO Box 5728, El Monte CA 91734. Please include your name, item number and comments in the correspondence. Comments must be submitted/received no later than 8:00 am on Thursday, November 12, 2026, so they can be read into the record as appropriate.

The public may also participate via the Zoom webinar link, or by teleconference. Please review the procedures to do so as follows –

How to Provide Public Comment in a Board Meeting via Zoom

Online

1. Click the Zoom link for the meeting you wish to join. Meeting information can be found at: https://accessla.org/news_and_events/agendas.html. Make sure to use a current, up-to-date browser: Chrome 30+, Firefox 27+, Microsoft Edge 12+, Safari 7+. Certain

functionality may be disabled in older browsers including Internet Explorer. You may also use this direct link - https://us06web.zoom.us/j/ 86061304832

2. Enter an email address and your name. Your name will be visible online while you are speaking.
3. When the TPAC Chair calls for the item on which you wish to speak, click on "raise hand." Speakers will be notified shortly before they are called to speak. Mute all other audio before speaking. Using multiple devices can cause audio feedback.
4. Please note that the "Chat" feature is not enabled during the meeting for general public attendees. If you cannot use the "raise hand" feature, the please submit a written comment as outlined above.
5. When called, please limit your remarks to three minutes. An audio signal will sound at the three-minute mark and the Chair will have the discretion to mute you at any point after that. After the comment has been given, the microphone for the speaker's Zoom profile will be muted.

Note: Members of the public will not be shown on video.

By phone

1. Call the Zoom phone number and enter the webinar ID for the meeting you wish to join. Meeting information can be found at: https://accessla.org/news_and_events/agendas.html
2. You can also call in using the following information –
3. Dial (for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):
   US: +1 669 900 6833 or +1 346 248 7799 or +1 253 215 8782 or +1 301 715 8592 or +1 312 626 6799 or +1 929 205 6099 or 833 548 0282 (Toll Free) or 877 853 5247 (Toll Free) or 888 788 0099 (Toll Free) or 833 548 0276 (Toll Free)
   Webinar ID: 860 6130 4832
4. When the TPAC Chair calls for the item on which you wish to speak, press *9 to raise your hand. Speakers will be notified shortly before they are called to speak. Speakers will be called by the last four digits of their phone number. Please note that phone numbers in their entirety will be visible online while speakers are speaking.
5. If you cannot use the "raise hand" feature, the please submit a written comment as outlined above.
6. When called, please state your name and limit your remarks to three minutes. An audio signal will sound at the three-minute mark and the Chair will have the discretion to mute you at any point after that. After the comment has been given, the microphone for the speaker's Zoom profile.

# TRANSPORTATION PROFESSIONALS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES FOR THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 10, 2026

## CALL TO ORDER

TPAC Chair David Feinberg called the meeting to order at 9:33 a.m.

## INTRODUCTIONS

**TPAC Members and alternates in attendance:** Chair – David Feinberg (Santa Monica Big Blue Bus), Fayma Ishaq (METRO), Ryan Plumb (Torrance Transit), Martha Graciano (LADOT), Silva Baghdanian (City of Glendale), Chaka Garbutt (Long Beach Transit), Britt Card (City of Pasadena), Liliana Huerta (East Los Angeles Regional Center), Tisha Lane (AVTA), Vanessa Nalbandian (Pomona Valley Transportation Authority)

**TPAC Members absent:** Lamicia Butler (Montebello Bus Lines), Denise Donovan (Orange County Transportation Authority), LaShawn Gillespie (Foothill Transit), Tyron Gunn (City of Redondo Beach)

**Access staff in attendance:** Matthew Avancena, Veronica Guzman-Vanmarcke, Mike Greenwood, Alex Chrisman, Jessica Volanos

## APPROVE SEPTEMBER 10, 2026, MEETING MINUTES

Motion: David Feinberg entertained a motion to approve the September 10, 2026 minutes.
First: Fayma Ishaq
Second: Silva Baghdanian
Abstain: None
Motion: Passed

## GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

None

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Matthew Avancena gave the Director's report on behalf of Andre Colaiace. He reported that Access Services applied for the ICAM grant. The application requested

eight vehicles to support the Parents with Disabilities program. Around the same time, the FTA also released a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for research and innovation. This grant is more limited, and they will only select two applicants for this NOFO. Staff is working on an application in conjunction with the vehicle manufacturer, Sunset Vans. The application would request funding for Sunset Vans and Access Services to develop a flat-floor ProMaster ADA accessible van. The step in the back will be completely removed, and hence the term flat floor. Access has two new Board members: Myrna Cabanban and Armand Bujanda. Staff is also planning the Access annual meeting in November.

## PUBLIC COMMENT

None

## OPERATIONS REPORT

Jessica Volanos provided the Operations statistics for the various regions. She shared an update on the Avalon Yard satellite operating facility. She stated that GPI is operating from the Avalon yard with 76 vehicles as of August 21st. Access completed various outreach efforts by visiting locations such as the Whittier Adulte Healthcare Center and the Brainstorm Productions Academy in Torrance. Access also attended the Patient Family Advisory Council meeting in Santa Clarita on August 12th. Lastly, six new Access stand signs have been installed at the Long Beach City College across two campuses. Four signs were installed at the main campus on Carson Street and two at the Pacific Coast Highway Campus. Information about the stands is available at accessla.org.

## PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

## OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC GAMES PLANNING UPDATE

Mike Greenwood stated that they have had a successful World Cup and Access is now actively planning for the 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games. The Olympic and Paralympic Games are separate events scheduled approximately two weeks apart in summer 2028. The Olympic Games are scheduled for Wednesday, July 12, through Sunday, July 30, 2028. There are 25 venue zones: approximately 16 in Los Angeles County and two in Orange County. Some events will take place in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, and soccer matches will be held in several U.S. cities before the finals at the Rose Bowl. The Exposition Park Zone, where the Coliseum is, has three different venues that will host Olympic events. The LA Memorial Coliseum for Track and Field and

Exposition Park, which will host flag football and lacrosse, and the Galen Center, which is the home to USC Sports. One planning assumption is that Access will operate its regular paratransit service for eligible riders traveling to and from venues. Another assumption is that Metro may ask Access to assist with specific shuttle routes, as Access did during the World Cup. They have a meeting tomorrow with Metro's games planners, their operations planning team.

## SUPER EL NINO PREPARATION

Alex Chrisman presented an update on Access's preparation for the upcoming El Nino event. According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, there is nearly a 70% chance that this year's El Niño will be a super El Niño and a 90% chance that it will be a strong event. Governments and organizations are taking action, although they must balance preparedness with the possibility of directing contractor resources toward an event that may have limited impacts. However, given the seriousness of the potential situation, they need to act. There can be heavy rainfall, flooding, tornadoes, mudslides, large waves, and very high tides. They have been preparing for this storm season since mid-August. They always prepare, but this year, there is extra emphasis placed. They first assessed the risk and then passed their assessment to their contractors. Access is supporting its contractors, which directly operate paratransit service, as they manage day-to-day operations and prepare for severe weather. Access is supporting these efforts by maintaining situational awareness and sharing actionable information. The Emergency Operations Center will activate as needed to manage and monitor events. They will have staff in the field, including their road safety inspectors, to directly monitor the operation from the street level.

## NEW BUSINESS RAISED SUBSEQUENT TO THE POSTING OF THE AGENDA

Matthew Avancena wanted to remind TPAC members that nominations are open for the Chair and Vice Chair position. If anyone is interested, reach out to him or Veronica.

## ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Fayma Ishaq made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Tisha Lane seconded the motion.

Vote: Meeting adjourned at 10:08 a.m.

ITEM 8

NOVEMBER 12, 2026

TO: TPAC

FROM: MATTHEW AVANCENA, DIRECTOR, PLANNING AND COORDINATION

RE: TPAC OFFICER ELECTIONS, FY 2026–2027

---

## ISSUE:

In accordance with the Transportation Professionals Advisory Committee Bylaws, TPAC must elect officers for Fiscal Year 2026–2027.

## RECOMMENDATION:

Elect Ryan Plumb of Torrance Transit as Chairperson. The Vice-Chairperson position remains vacant because staff received no expressions of interest from members.

## BACKGROUND:

The TPAC Bylaws require elections for the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson, who serve 12-month terms from September 2026 through October 2027. Staff notified TPAC members at the July 2026 meeting that elections were required and requested volunteers for the nominating subcommittee. Silva Baghdanian (Glendale Beeline) and David Feinberg (Santa Monica Big Blue Bus) volunteered to serve on the subcommittee.

Attached are the relevant portions of the TPAC Bylaws that address officer elections:

### Article 5 - Officers

Committee members will recommend a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson for consideration by the Board Chair. If ratified by the Board Chair, the term is one year from September through October.

Officers will be elected every year at the August meeting by a ROLL CALL VOICE VOTE of the majority of the members present. Officer seats will be limited to two consecutive terms served by any one individual, subject to Board chair ratification.

Duties of the Chairperson

The Chairperson will preside at the meetings and will represent the Committee at meetings of the Access Services Board of Directors and Board committees, when appropriate.

Duties of the Vice Chairperson

The Vice-Chairperson shall perform the duties of the Chairperson in the absence of the Chairperson.

Vacancies of Officer Positions

A vacancy for an officer position shall exist in the following circumstances:

(a) the resignation or death of an officer;

(b) the removal of an officer by a ROLL CALL VOICE VOTE of the majority of the Committee;

(c) the removal of an officer as a member of the Committee by the Board of Directors as provided in Article 3 of these bylaws.

Filling Vacancies of Officer Positions

Except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws, vacancies of an Officer position shall be filled by approval of the affirmative ROLL CALL VOICE VOTE of the members present at a regularly scheduled or special meeting held pursuant to Article 7 of these bylaws. Access staff will provide nominations to the Board of Directors. One (1) or more individuals may be nominated for any Committee vacancy.

In the event of a vacancy of the officer position of Chair, the presiding Vice-Chair officer will automatically assume the role of Chair for the remaining term. There will then be an election conducted for the Vice-Chair position by approval of the affirmative ROLL CALL VOICE VOTE of members present at a regularly scheduled or special meeting held pursuant to Article 7 of these bylaws.