



For Immediate Release

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Beverly Hills City Council to Consider Extension of North Cañon Drive Closure and Review OpenBH Program

The Virtual City Council Meeting Will Take Place September 21

Beverly Hills, CA – On Tuesday, September 21, 2021, the Beverly Hills City Council will consider an extension of the North Cañon Drive closure and will review the City's OpenBH program. While City Council will consider these items at the same meeting, each item will be presented separately.

In July 2018, the City Council initially approved the closure of North Cañon Drive and the installation of a cul-de-sac and soundwall at Wilshire Boulevard for two to six years to mitigate construction noise and provide a safe, consistent traffic pattern while the Metro Purple Line (D Line) Extension rail project is underway. The rail project will provide a transportation alternative from downtown Los Angeles to Westwood and includes two stops in Beverly Hills: Wilshire/La Cienega and Wilshire/Rodeo.

City Staff will be recommending extending the closure and maintaining the soundwall until September 2022. If approved, the closure, soundwall, and cul-de-sac will remain in place for another year to support station construction activities such as deliveries and concrete pours along Wilshire Boulevard. City Staff will then revisit the project with City Council in Summer/Fall 2022 to consider whether or not to maintain the closure beyond September 2022.

OpenBH is a City program that has been supporting outdoor operations to allow businesses to temporarily expand their services outside during the COVID-19 pandemic. Local businesses participating in the program have been able to utilize adjacent areas such as sidewalks, parking lots, parking meter spaces, and street closures by applying for a permit. The current no-cost OpenBH program is approved through December 31, 2021. At the September 21 meeting, City Council will consider:

- The process for approval and review for the OpenBH program beyond December 31, 2021;
- Evaluating the cost/fees for businesses that could continue in the OpenBH program after December 31, 2021;
- Whether the outdoor dining tents at the North Cañon Drive cul-de-sac will be permitted to continue in the OpenBH program and for how long.

When available, the September 21 City Council Meeting agenda and log-in details will be available at beverlyhills.org/councilmeetings.