REQUEST THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES SPECIAL EVENT OFFICE CREATE AND MAINTAIN A LIST OF ALL PROJECTS APPROVED UNDER THE 2028 OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC GAMES EXEMPTION ORDINANCE NUMBER 189027 (COUNCIL FILE 15-0989-S47)

WRAC Mobility and Transportation Committee
Passed 10/21/2026 by a vote of 7-0-0

Motion:

"The [name of NC/CC], a member of the Westside Regional Alliance of Councils (WRAC), requests that the Special Event office of the City of Los Angeles create and maintain an up-to-date list of all projects proposed and approved under the 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games Venues, Facilities, Structures and Sites Exemptions and Streamlined Planning Approvals and Zoning Regulations Ordinance Number 189027 (Council File 15-0989-S47)."

Background

1. Overview of the Olympic Exemption Ordinance (CF 15-0989-S47)

In preparation for the 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games, the City of Los Angeles adopted an omnibus planning and zoning exemption ordinance (Ordinance No. 189027) designed to expedite the delivery of venues, temporary structures, security perimeters, transit infrastructure, and fan zones.

While the stated intent of the ordinance is to streamline the timely execution of the Games, it grants sweeping relief from standard municipal review processes:

- **Waiver of Local Land Use Controls:** Eligible projects are exempt from standard zoning regulations, height limits, Specific Plans, Supplemental Districts, and Conditional Use Permits (CUPs).
- **Streamlined Approvals & Bypassed Safeguards:** Traditional discretionary review timelines, Neighborhood Council board notifications, and extensive public comment windows have been heavily compressed or bypassed entirely to accelerate project delivery.

2. Community Concerns and Potential Long-Term Impacts

Neighborhood and Community Councils across the Westside and greater Los Angeles support a successful Olympic Games, but local stakeholders have raised serious concerns regarding accountability and transparency:

- **Absence of Robust Public Feedback:** Because the ordinance fast-tracks approvals to meet tight pre-Games deadlines, local communities are frequently stripped of their traditional opportunities to review, comment on, and shape projects proposed in their neighborhoods.
- **The Risk of "Temporary" Becoming Permanent:** While many approved installations are officially categorized as temporary infrastructure meant to be removed after the Games, history in other host cities shows that unscrutinized street reconfigurations, physical structures, and land-use alterations often linger or transition into permanent fixtures without ever undergoing standard environmental or zoning review.
- **Information Silos:** Without a centralized, transparent registry managed by the City, individual neighborhood councils and residents are left in the dark trying to track which properties, right-of-ways, or public spaces have been granted exemptions under the ordinance.

3. Why This Motion Is Necessary

To prevent unvetted changes from quietly becoming permanent realities in Los Angeles neighborhoods post-2028, communities must have early visibility and tracking mechanisms in place.

The motion asks for a very practical, low-burden administrative safeguard:

- **Centralized Transparency:** Requiring the Special Event Office to maintain a single, up-to-date public list ensures that civic groups and residents do not have to hunt across fragmented department files to see what is happening in their backyards.
- **Post-Games Accountability:** A definitive tracking list provides Councils with the exact data needed to review, evaluate, and where appropriate demand modifications, restorations, or removals of infrastructure **if** these projects attempt to remain in place after the 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games conclude.

Summary

Passing and advancing this motion ensures that the rush to deliver the 2028 Games does not permanently erode local planning oversight, neighborhood voices, and community accountability.