

MOTION BY SUPERVISORS HILDA L. SOLIS

May 2, 2023

AND JANICE HAHN

**Uplifting Arts, Culture, and Recreation during the 2023, 2026, and 2027 World
Cups and 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games**

In 2028, Los Angeles will host the Paralympic Games for the first time and the Summer Olympic Games for the third time. The Paralympic Games, set for Tuesday, August 22, 2028, through Sunday, September 3, 2028, and the Summer Olympic Games, set for Friday, July 21, 2028, through Sunday, August 6, 2028, present a unique opportunity to welcome the world and expose a global audience to Los Angeles’ arts, culture, and recreation. The Olympic Movement has a rich history of engaging and working with Los Angeles’ arts community. For ten weeks prior to the 1984 Olympics, Los Angeles hosted the Olympics Arts Festival. Reports show that over 1.25 million people attended the festival which included dance, music, and theater performances as well as visual arts commissions, exhibits, and events. The legacy of the festival can still be seen today, including along key transportation arteries like the 101 Freeway in Downtown LA which remain decorated with murals commissioned for the festival.

MOTION

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To ensure that all residents of LA County can participate in and enjoy Olympic and Paralympic-inspired arts and cultural events, the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority's (Metro) Board of Directors approved a motion authored by Supervisor Hilda L. Solis, acting as a Metro Board Member and Chair of Metro's Ad Hoc 2028 Olympics Committee, at its September 2022 meeting directing the agency to develop a new open streets grant program.

The motion directed Metro to work with various partners, including Los Angeles County's Department of Arts and Culture and Department of Parks and Recreation, the City of Los Angeles, LA28, the 2028 games' organizing committee, and many community-based organizations. Metro staff reported on the progress of developing the grant program on March 15, 2023. The report suggested two types of events—neighborhood-scale events throughout LA County and regionally significant events with a greater potential to impact transportation choices—and proposed to start the new grant program in FY25, to accommodate the potential overlap with the Men's World Cup from June 8 to July 3, 2026. Los Angeles was chosen as one of the 16 host cities for the 2026 tournament and may even host the final match. Moreover, the soccer federations of the United States and Mexico recently declared their joint bid to host the 2027 Women's World Cup. The United States has hosted the women's tournament twice before – in 1999 and 2003. Los Angeles played a major role in both tournaments, hosting the finals both times. The upcoming edition of the tournament will be this summer, hosted by Australia and New Zealand.

The Olympics, Paralympics, and World Cup are more than just sporting events. They are occasions for the world to come together, celebrate global cultures, and

appreciate the value of play and fair competition. They have inspired many people to pursue new sports and practice teamwork. As Los Angeles hosts these games, the County should seize the opportunity to create opportunities for everyone to participate in the festivities. The games will also generate economic opportunities and social progress and with that, there can be unintended consequences of gentrification and displacement. It is vital that the County takes proactive and protective measures to ensure that positive impacts are distributed fairly and inclusively across the County, especially to those who are historically marginalized and underserved.

Metro staff explored various state and federal grant opportunities to fund the recommended \$10 million program. However, Metro faces many restrictions as a transit agency and cannot apply for many arts, culture and recreation grants. The County, on the other hand, is a suitable lead sponsor for the program because it already collaborates with Metro on this initiative and covers the whole region. Moreover, the County can leverage its regional parks, street closures, and other assets to support larger events.

WE, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors:

1. Direct the Chief Executive Officer, in collaboration with the Department of Parks and Recreation and the Department of Arts and Culture, to support LA Metro to apply for funds and/or leverage County resources for LA Metro's special grant program that transforms streets, transportation facilities, and public spaces into temporary art, culture, and recreation hubs for local communities, with an emphasis on underserved communities, to celebrate the 2026 Men's' World Cup, 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games, and, if hosted in Los Angeles, the 2027

Women's Games.

2. Direct the Department of Parks and Recreation, in collaboration with the Department of Arts and Culture, to identify opportunities to host viewing parties and other events for this summer's upcoming Women's World Cup that celebrates and promotes women in sports and report back, in writing, in 120 days with a funding plan that includes potential funding sources.
3. Direct the Department of Arts and Culture to convene a committee made up of representatives from the Los Angeles City/County Native American Indian Commission, the Human Relations Commission, the County Library, the Department of Parks and Recreation, the Department of Public Works, the Department of Regional Planning, the Aging & Disabilities Department, and the Internal Services Department, and report back, in writing, in 120 days on cross-sector opportunities to celebrate the 2026 Men's' World Cup, 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games, and, if hosted in Los Angeles, the 2027 Women's World Cup.

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