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BID INFO

Board of Directors:

Denis Weintraub, President
Sylvia Weintraub, Secretary
Julian Chicha, Treasurer
Pierson Blaetz, Board Member
Warren Blum, Board Member
Isack Fadlon, Board Member
Daniel Farasat, Board Member
David Hay, Board Member

Staff:

Executive Director: Donald Duckworth
Marketing Director: Kim Sudhalter
Cleaning: Streetscape Services
Safety: Critical Solutions (CSPSG)

Meetings:

BID Board Meetings: 2nd Friday of
the month, 10am. **Crime Prevention:**
1st Wednesday of the month, 7pm.
Check BID website for Zoom links.

Resources:

LAPD: De'Antraye Dantzler,
(213) 793-0708, 40675@lapd.online

BID Security Ambassador:

Please call (213) 423-8108 or email
MelroseBIDAmbassador@gmail.com

Graffiti Removal/Sidewalk Cleaning:

Contact Don Duckworth,
duckworth.donald@gmail.com

Website & Social Media:

www.melroseartsdistrict.com

FB: melroseartsdistrict

IG: melroseartsdistrict

TW: melroseartsdist



MTA GRANT OVERVIEW

In 2015, the MBID & CD5 applied for an MTA grant to enhance pedestrian safety and comfort in the first and last mile of public transit routes. An MTA grant of \$3.9 million was received for administration through StreetsLA, providing much needed improvements to the pedestrian and transit spaces on Melrose Ave. between Highland and Fairfax. The Melrose Pedestrian Improvement Project funds were scheduled for use starting in 2020, with construction finishing in mid-2023. The awarded grant included funding for lighting and access improvements at bus stops, sidewalk widening, and shade trees.

Under the conditions of the grant, the following pedestrian improvements were outlined:

- Widen sidewalks near Fairfax High
- Plant shade trees or other landscaping
- Add pedestrian lighting at bus stops
- Create ADA-compliant curb cuts
- Construct two new crosswalks

The previous 7-foot sidewalks adjacent and across from Fairfax High School were inadequate to accommodate pedestrian volumes, especially during peak times for the High School at the beginning and end of the school day. In addition, several bus lines have stops at Melrose/Fairfax where large numbers of Fairfax High School students gather to board Metro buses and the LADOT Dash.

As part of a \$4 million Streetscape Improvement grant, MBID and StreetsLA, recently successfully widened the sidewalks from 7 feet to 12 feet on both the north and south sides of Melrose between Orange Grove and Ogden, by Fairfax High School. This creates a safer, more comfortable, environment by providing more room for students waiting on pickup and public transportation. Funds were also used to enhance curb cuts and fix and widen sidewalks throughout the BID area. (cont.)

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MTA GRANT OVERVIEW (cont)

Much of the pedestrian environment on Melrose offered no protection from the sun. Shade increases pedestrian comfort and therefore encourages walking. More than a hundred (100) new shade trees have been planted as part of this project. The BID and Streets LA reached out to property owners in the proposed locations to ensure that the drought tolerant trees wouldn't cause problems for signage or display window visibility.

Types of trees that were planted included Chinese Pistache (*Pistacia chinensis*), Brisbane Box (*Lophostemon confertus*), and London Plane Tree (a hybrid of *Platanus orientalis*—oriental plane—and *Platanus occidentalis*—American sycamore).

In addition, thirty-three (33) new light posts have been installed at bus stops throughout the BID. The new street lighting fixtures approved by Bureau of Street Lighting for use on Melrose were 14' AV Steel Poles with Cree EDGE series round luminaire (spider) lights. This additional lighting at bus stops is intended to encourage people to walk along Melrose and use transit. It is also meant to improve pedestrian comfort, security, and safety more generally.



Wider sidewalks and new light fixtures



Tree planting, before & after



CHINESE PISTACHE



BRISBANE BOX



LONDON PLANE TREE