



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact: Joanna Brody, 310-430-0292, joanna@brody-pr.com

Susan Gordon, 310-871-0621, sgordon823@gmail.com

Photos: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/laciclavia/sets/with/72157656013962875>

CicLAvia – Heart of LA

Presented by Metro

7 Miles of Car-Free Open Streets to Enjoy as Temporary Park Space Including Echo Park, Downtown LA, Chinatown, New 6th St. Bridge, Boyle Heights

Be sure to visit *NASA JPL*, *LA28*, *LA Phil*, and *Grand Park's 10th Anniversary Celebration* (Hub adjacent), when making your way through the CicLAvia Hubs

Sunday, October 9, 2022; 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

WHAT: *CicLAvia-Heart of LA*

On **Sunday, October 9, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.**, Metro presents ***CicLAvia-Heart of LA***, 7 miles of car-free open streets for all to enjoy as a temporary park space – free of charge. Participants of all ages and abilities can play, explore local gems, and sightsee, while experiencing the joy of safe, people-powered transportation on car-free open streets. The CicLAvia – Heart of LA is an opportunity to explore the streets of Echo Park, Downtown LA, Historic Core on Broadway, Civic Center, Chinatown, Little Tokyo, and Arts District. For the first time, CicLAvia – Heart of LA will include the new 6th Street Bridge.

The ***CicLAvia Heart of LA*** is an anchor event that CicLAvia has done every year since its first open streets event in 2010. This route represents the 41st CicLAvia and includes the communities of Echo Park, Grand Park, Civic Center, Historic Core, Chinatown, Arts District, Little Tokyo, and Boyle Heights. As one of CicLAvia's signature anchor events, the Heart of LA experience brings together the diversity of communities that has anchored CicLAvia open streets events with the new iconic 6th Street Bridge.

Show up anywhere along the route at any time and have fun! All Hubs have food trucks, restrooms, free water refilling stations, free basic bike repair, bike parking, and first aid. In addition, free pedicab rides, courtesy of AARP, are available at each information booth.

Hubs are resting and meeting points along the route and offer additional programming and activities. For example, be sure to stop by Grand Park for their 10th Anniversary Family Festival celebration. The public is invited to engage in wellness activities, music, dance, food, and art. The programs will spotlight long-time community partners of Grand Park, non-profits and small businesses with workshops and events that raise awareness and exemplify the power of creative expression. At another Hub, JPL's Universe Public Engagement team will bring a photo booth backdrop with recent imagery from the James Webb Space Telescope, while also distributing English & Spanish astrophysics-related art and NASA logo stickers – perfect for sticking on bike helmets! And stop by the LA28 booth, whose mission is to create an unparalleled Olympic

and Paralympic experience for athletes, fans and local communities, and is making sports more accessible for kids by investing \$160 million in youth sports across Los Angeles ahead of the Olympic Games.

CicLAvia is a nonprofit that catalyzes vibrant public spaces, active transportation, and good health through car-free streets. It has never been more important to improve people's lives and strengthen communities, breaking free from isolation, exploring the connection between our health and our planet's health and to support sustainable systems and materials that sync with nature. Instead of building permanent infrastructure, CicLAvia builds unifying social fabric, joyously connecting culturally diverse neighborhoods and neighbors to each other through open streets. CicLAvia is not just about cycling, it's also about so many more modes of people-powered transportation. Whether one walks, strolls, skate, jogs, scooter, or bikes, CicLAvia creates more incredible moments and experiences enjoying our city streets together.

More than just an open streets movement, CicLAvia helps communities re-imagine a greener and cleaner Los Angeles, while also promoting equitable transportation options, healthier lifestyles, and closer connections to community. Inspired by Bogotá's weekly *ciclovía*, CicLAvia has been temporarily closing streets to car traffic and opening them as public parks in Los Angeles since 2010. With more than 252 miles of open streets, Heart of LA is CicLAvia's 41st event.

Only people-powered vehicles are allowed. No electric scooters, electric skateboards, hoverboards, electric unicycles, motorcycles and other non-people-powered vehicles are allowed at CicLAvia. Class 1 e-bike pedal-assist allowed. Class 2 e-bikes allowed when throttle is powered off. Class 3 e-bikes allowed when pedal-assist is powered off. Motorized wheelchairs are allowed. Learn more [here](#).

There are many local gems near and along the *Heart of LA* route – discover them here: https://www.ciclaviala.org/local_gems_hola22.

Participants assume all known and unknown risks of participation in CicLAvia. More information regarding participants rights can be found here: https://www.ciclaviala.org/heart_of_la22

The final 2022 CicLAvia event will take place on **December 4** with a different *CicLAvia-South LA* route.

WHO:

Free for all, CicLAvia is a nonprofit organization working to connect neighborhoods to each other across a sprawling city, creating a safe place to walk, skate, roll, bike, play and dance through Los Angeles County. CicLAvia engages with people to transform our relationship with our communities and with each other. Participants of all ages and abilities will enjoy a day to sightsee, play and explore local gems, while experiencing the joy of safe, people-powered transportation on car-free open streets.

WHERE & WHEN:

CicLAvia – Heart of LA; Sunday, October 9, 2022; 9:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m. – 7 miles of car-free open streets for all to enjoy as a temporary park space – free of charge. Participants of all ages and abilities can play, explore local gems, and sightsee, while experiencing the joy of safe, people-powered transportation on car-free open streets. As one of CicLAvia's signature anchor events, the Heart of LA experience brings together the diversity of communities that has anchored CicLAvia open streets events including the new iconic 6th Street Bridge. This route represents the 41st CicLAvia and includes the communities of Echo Park, Grand Park, Civic Center, Historic Core, Chinatown, Arts District, Little Tokyo, and Boyle Heights.

HOW & MORE INFORMATION:

• Visit https://www.ciclaviala.org/heart_of_la22 for more detailed information

- <https://www.ciclaviala.org/>; info@ciclaviala.org; 213-355-8500
- Join us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ciclaviala>
- Follow us on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/ciclaviala> & Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/ciclaviala/>
- YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/c/CicLAviaLA>



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Fact Sheet: CicLAvia, 12 years of catalyzing vibrant public spaces, active transportation and good health through car-free streets

The first CicLAvia event took place on October 10, 2010, with a stretch of open streets from East Hollywood through downtown L.A. into Boyle Heights. More than 100,000 Angelenos turned out with people-powered transportation (bicycles, walking, skateboarding, scooters, running, pedicabs, etc.), exceeding expectations. Through CicLAvia open streets events, people feel joy and belonging through safe, people centered and community-oriented streets.

Inspired by the Bogotá, Colombia's Ciclovía events that started 45 years ago, CicLAvia began as a grassroots initiative by individuals who recognized that Open Streets events could address active transportation, urban land use, and public health needs in L.A.

- **Twelve years and 40 CicLAvia Sundays later, 2 million people** (averaging 53,000 participants at each event) have explored more than **252 miles** of open streets in L.A. County. Each CicLAvia route is 6-8 times larger than the median size of L.A.'s existing public parks.
- Attendees come from both the host neighborhoods – and all over L.A. and beyond – to share and enjoy the day. CicLAvia builds a unifying social fabric connecting neighborhoods and neighbors to each other through a spirit of play and exploration.
- CicLAvia is free, fun, and inclusive. Neighbors, families, and new friends can more intimately explore neighborhoods, historic sites, and hidden gems along with food, shopping, and educational resources available along each route.

- For those participating with children, CicLAvia is an opportunity to get exercise, explore the city, have fun, to bike and walk in a safe environment without traffic, and to simply get their children outside, as well as enjoying the activities our many sponsors offer.
- CicLAvia has allowed L.A. to imagine what air quality, mobility and public health would be like via car-free Open Streets events. CicLAvia routes change every other month creating greater equity for L.A.'s most park-poor communities – extending its reach and impact beyond any one community.
- By locating routes near public transportation, a broad range of local communities can easily participate. CicLAvia entices people to go places they never visited or always wanted to. Metro ridership increases 30% during CicLAvia, with some riders taking trains and buses for the first time. CicLAvia happens *with* communities not *to* communities. All routes, whether unique or recurring, are designed, planned, and implemented in partnership with local communities.
- CicLAvia's participants mirror L.A.'s demographics. They come from 75% of City of L.A. zip codes, and 50% of LA County zip codes. In a region that has at times struggled for harmony, CicLAvia creates a joyous, shared urban forum. Everyone is welcome... even dogs. Attendees start wherever they want along the route and enjoy as long as they like.
- These well-coordinated days are due to the hundreds of volunteers who work alongside public safety workers to close streets to cars and open them to celebratory fun. By design, CicLAvia routes traverse the centerpiece boulevards that distinguish LA's many unique neighborhoods.

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