

## Los Angeles Wheelmen VP Report - May 27, 2025

Hello All:

Sunday's ride was "East Side, West Side, All Around Downtown" which, on the half century route, passes through Downtown LA twice. Since I was riding alone, I thought the first line of this song was particularly apt.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z\\_m4Qb0iW-o](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z_m4Qb0iW-o)

**Sunday:** "East Road, West Road, All Around Downtown" was our century, metric century and half century of the month and started from Culver City. We only had 4 riders and **Phil Whitworth** took the usual selfie of the group at the start:



That's **Edwin Dair, Me, Rafi Karpinski and Phil**, The other three rode the full century while I did the half century. Phil commented that they passed through West Covina which is **Mario Solano's** home town, so where was he? They also passed this replica of the original In-N-Out Burger which is in Baldwin Park. I didn't know this place existed. Check out the original prices:







While the century only passes through Downtown once, the half century returns back through downtown for a second pass. This return took me past the flower district which is always nice and then the garment district which is always very colorful. I saw this one line of mannequins, but it was too long to get in one photo:







I had a nice day even though I spent the day riding alone. I was struck a few times by how much downtown is starting to gentrify. It may take a while, but if they keep building those high rise apartment buildings, the atmosphere of downtown is definitely going to change.

**This Week:** This Sunday we will be riding "Valley Venture" which starts out at Reseda Park. The three routes offer quite a range of riding. The long starts with a climb up to Mulholland Dr. via a very difficult climb on Escalon/Encino Hills plus

some other hills. The medium also goes up to Mulholland but by a somewhat easier climb on Coldwater Cyn. Both routes come back down to join the short (which skips all the climbing) for an easy ride to the west Valley for lunch and then a return along the famous Wells Drive Medley. I will once again be riding the short. Will I be riding alone again?

**Minutes of the Meeting:** Attached are the minutes of the meeting held last week. Happy reading

**Echo Park Video:** Last week I mentioned that someone had contacted the club requesting photos of the Fargo Street Hill Climb for a video on Echo Park which he was creating. He got back to me that he had found what he needed and didn't need our photos any longer, but he also included a link to the video on YouTube. The video is almost half an hour long but interesting. If you are only interested in the Fargo Hill Climb reference, it is about half way through the video. Here's the link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9LYZqWQJNZk>

**Topanga Is Open:** I thought it was going to be months before Topanga was finally opened, but apparently it has been reopened this week. It is only open during the day and I believe there is a section which is only one lane and traffic going both directions has to alternate using the lane. Now if they would just reopen the Palos Verdes closure.

**Parting Shot:** On Sunday I stopped for a rest on a bench along the Rio Hondo and there was this big decorative rock by the bench. I noticed someone had carved an inscription into the rock, but of course I can't read it. I'm wondering if anyone knows what this says. I suppose it could just be a name







See You On The Road

Rod Doty, VP

3 Attachments

- Scanned by Gmail

Preview YouTube video Petula Clark ~ Downtown (1964)





Preview YouTube video Echo Park in Focus

