

Los Angeles Community Eruv

LA ERUV

TOGETHER
AGAIN!



By the Community,
For the Community.

Tax ID: 95-3287926

By the Community, For the Community.

ABOUT THE ERUV

The Los Angeles Community Eruv (LA ERUV) was built to enhance the experience of Shabbos in Los Angeles. It facilitates broader access to shul, community, and to extended family. Our eruv facilitates inclusion of the young and elderly in Shabbos programming, simchas, meals and the overall community. Our LA ERUV is one of the few institutions that serves our city's entire Shabbos-observant community, and makes our neighborhoods an option for young families. We are grateful to have support from a wide spectrum of shuls throughout the city.



The LA ERUV extends to the east to include Hancock Park and its neighboring communities of Fairfax, Miracle Mile, and West Hollywood. It also expands westward to include Beverly Hills, Pico, Beverlywood, Westwood, Beverly Glen, Bel Air, and all neighborhoods east of the 405 from the 10 Freeway to the Ventura/Hollywood Freeways. It also reaches north to the 101 Freeway to include the Hollywood Hills, Studio City, and part of Sherman Oaks.

The LA ERUV is the largest eruv in the United States at over 100 square miles and may be the largest in the world. Despite the size of the eruv, it has only been down twice since it was erected in 2002.

The Rabbinical Council of California and the RCC Eruv Vaad Halacha certifies the validity and maintenance of the LA ERUV. The eruv incorporates the highest standards possible in a large metropolitan eruv, and has been recognized as one of best constructed and maintained eruvim in the world.

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<https://rccvaad.org/la-eruv/>

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WhatsApp: Text *firstname lastname ERUV* to 424-772-3499



www.laeruv.com

info@laeruv.com

FUNDING THE ERUV

The LA ERUV relies upon a cooperative effort of the community to fund its operations. Family dues cover about half of the annual budget of the LA ERUV. Each shul chooses the way that works best for them to partner with the LA ERUV. Eruv Dues this year are \$54 per member family, and others make a contribution from their discretionary funds.

We are counting on you, the community, to raise the balance of our annual budget as part of our Annual ERUV SHABBOS APPEAL.

Please make a commitment to support the LA ERUV. If you are having a Simcha, or want to honor a loved one, sponsor a week of the LA ERUV for just \$250. We accept payment via check, credit card, or PayPal. You can login to LAERUV.com to make a donation today.

The City of Los Angeles, due to its large population and the traffic patterns of major streets, requires a much more complex and exacting design and construction management than most other eruvim. The LA ERUV is based on a set of halachic principles which raise our eruv to a much higher standard, requiring a considerable amount of actual construction and physical infrastructure throughout the city. Our eruv uses miles of solid walls and installed fences, adapters, lines and poles.

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The LA ERUV annual operating budget is about \$120,000 per year. The largest share of the budget is used to pay our team including our repair crew who spend hours every Thursday night and often Friday making repairs, as well as our crew of rabbinical inspectors with drivers who check the eruv every week. About a third of the budget is used to pay for materials (such as poles, fencing, connectors, etc.), outside labor (such as construction workers, fence installers, sign companies, tree removal, etc.), and maintenance and repairs for our dedicated lift truck.

The remainder of the budget is used to pay for insurance (for CalTrans, D&O liability insurance, auto insurance, etc.) and administrative expenses.

PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR COMMUNITY ERUV!



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USING AN ERUV

Many people make the mistake of assuming that an eruv creates permission to carry any object on Shabbos. An eruv is not a legal fiction, nor is it a workaround to allow the performance of the otherwise forbidden malacha of "Carrying". The concept of eruv is part and parcel of the halachos of Shabbos, and permits carrying only within narrow constraints.

Common articles that are permitted to be used or carried within an eruv on Shabbos include:

- Baby carriages and strollers.
- Canes, walkers and wheelchairs.
- Food, medicine.
- Handkerchiefs, gloves and rain hats, house keys.
- Siddur or sefer.

You should never assume that the eruv is "UP" for Shabbos.

You are required to take personal responsibility to check the eruv status before each Shabbos.

An eruv does not lend permission to carry any "muktzah" article. Some of the more common items that are **not permitted** to be carried include:

- Any item which has no Shabbos functional use such as stones & credit cards.
- Any item of great value which you would be very careful to protect such as passports, checks and other expensive items.
- Any item which cannot be used on Shabbos or whose intended use is for after Shabbos such as car keys or an umbrella.
- Bicycles and roller skates.

The eruv was built to enhance the experience of Shabbos, offering more togetherness, better access to shul, and additional options for the young and elderly. In order to use the eruv properly, we should remind ourselves as to what the Shabbos experience means.

You should never assume that the eruv is "UP" for Shabbos. You are required to take personal responsibility to check the eruv status before each Shabbos. You can check the **LAERUV.com** website, call **877-Eruv-Info**, signup for the **email blast**, join our **WhatsApp** group, check **Facebook** or **Twitter**, or call a friend.

An eruv is a true blessing, and even a necessity for a community, but it shouldn't be treated lightly or lead you to forget that it is Shabbos. You should discuss with your own Rav the parameters of when and how to use the eruv.



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WITHOUT AN ERUV - LOCKDOWN IS FOREVER

This year we all discovered how difficult it was to be compelled to stay home. Even when we were able to return to socially distanced minyanim in these past weeks, the loss of connection was palpable. For those of us working to keep our city's eruv functioning, the stay at home orders were a tangible reminder of what a community without an eruv feels like for those who can't travel without one.

ESSENTIAL

Throughout these past months, our crews have worked every week to keep the eruv functioning and available for you. During the height of the lockdowns, we were given written authorizations from the city identifying the Eruv as an *Essential Function* for the community, and our crews were permitted to inspect and repair – even during the curfews this past summer. We have had repeated contacts from city officials and agencies, checking in to make sure that we had the resources and access we needed to keep the eruv functioning.

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Building and maintaining an Eruv is a delicate balance between permanence and flexibility. On the one hand, we need a perimeter with enough "give" that it can be adjusted on minimal notice week by week in response to the changing environment. On the other hand, the eruv has to be constructed to last for decades.

Many of the 45 miles of perimeter of our Eruv consists of walls and fences owned and managed by others. We use and help maintain freeway fences and sound walls, concrete barriers along storm channels, "wildlife fences" in the canyons, and even the backside of an occasional building.



This year we are in the process of a systematic replacement of all of the miles of lines across streets, overpasses and other points where traffic or pedestrians can cross into or out of the Eruv.

In addition to our ongoing weekly repairs and maintenance, one of our crews is out at dawn every Sunday morning cutting down and replacing all of the lines. The goal is to refresh the whole system and maximize the reliability of Eruv.



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Adas Torah *

Beis Knesses of Los Angeles

B'nai David-Judea Cong. *

Chabad of Beverlywood

Community Shul *

Kehillat & Yeshivat Yavneh*

LINK Kollet & Shul *

Beth Am *

Westwood Kehilla *

Young Israel of Century City *

Young Israel of North Beverly Hills *

Anshe Emes Synagogue *

Beth Jacob Cong.*

Chabad of SOI A

Sinai

Cong. Kehilas Yaakov *

Kollel Merkaz HaTorah

Pico Shul – Tiferes Shlomo

The Westside Shul

Westwood Village Synagogue *

Young Israel of Hancock Park *



* Contributes through dues or direct funding

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