



## Summary Urban Forum 4/1/2026

The meeting took place online (via ZOOM) and was attended by approx. forty (40) participants - thank you all for joining! The meeting was organized with Edna responsible for the Olim in the Ginot Hair community and the presentation was made by Elias - the urban planner of Ginot Hair.

### Topics:

- **Short intro on the website of Ginot Hair and the tools available for the residents**
- **Urban Updates in Ginot Hair**
- **Light Rail updates on Emek Refaim, German Colony and Keren Hayesod, Talbieh**
- **New projects in the Ginot Hair area**
- **Q&A and Comments**
  
- **Useful Q&A**
- **Useful Information and links**
- **Contact**

We thank all the urban forum participants for your time to join the forum, and for your positive feedback during the meeting. We are glad that the forum meetings and summaries contribute to your better understanding of what is happening in the Ginot Hair neighborhoods and in the city in general, and the neighborhood changes and public works that are in the planning, in the committees, and in implementation. **It is important to be informed of what is going on in the neighborhood and to also inform other neighbors on important projects near your home.**

Brief summary of the urban forum discussion:

- **Short intro on the website of Ginot Hair and the tools available for the residents**

Elias gave a brief introduction on the site of Ginot Hair, the geographic organization of the site, the pages with maps of public institutions and the pages that provide information and tools for the residents, whether for subjects such as [retrieving information on plans](#), or [submitting an objection](#), or learning more about aspects of [sustainability in the Ginot Hair](#) neighborhoods. Elias explained the [Bulletin Board](#) feature of the site, where current projects are posted for the objections of citizens. The bulletin board is constantly updated and new projects are posted.

- **Urban Updates in Ginot Hair**

Elias presented in brief the urban updates that are issued every few months, summarizing significant urban issues that are in process or approval in Ginot Hair in both Hebrew and English.

The urban updates can be reached in this link:

<https://www.ginothair.org.il/index.php?dir=site&page=articles&op=item&cs=2090>

- **Light Rail updates on Emek Refaim, German Colony and Keren Hayesod, Talbieh**

For the past several months, both Emek Refaim and Keren Hayesod are closed and blocked for the light rail works. Keren Hayesod is still functioning without major traffic changes, other than the

cancellation of the bus route in the center of the road. Emek Refaimn was more significantly affected by the works: the northern part of the street from Rachel Imenu to Gan Hapaamon, allows one way traffic southbound, and the south part of the street from Rachel Imenu to Oranim junction, allows one way traffic northbound only. The changes have also affected the bus routes that have been diverted to new routes in the area. The map of the new bus routes can be downloaded [here](#). The plans for the Emek Refaim light rail works can be viewed [here](#). The plans for the Keren Hayesod light rail works can be viewed [here](#).

Elias informed the residents of Moshavot that more changes are anticipated after the end of February, as the works in the northern part of the street will intensify. Ginot Hair will inform the residents ahead of any planned changes and will provide all the necessary information in both public meetings and digital and printed announcements.

To report any issues regarding traffic, safety or other with regard to the light rail works on Emek Refaim and Keren Hayesod, please contact Ron Shahar the Community Projektor at: 053-3730824 and 050-7651219.

- **New projects in the Ginot Hair area**

Elias presented a number of projects in the area, in different stages of development. Here is a list of the projects presented with a link to find their plans. In addition, a list of projects in the objections stage with a link to the plans for review, for any residents that are interested to submit an objection:

Plans submitted for objections:

- Neve Shaanan 20, Nayot (deadline: 20/1/26) - [LINK](#)
- Hartman Boys' school on Gdalyahu Alon 11, Moshavot (deadline: 25/2/26) - [LINK](#)
- Empty plot next to Gan Agvanya on Kovshei Katamon, Katamon (deadline: 27/1/26) - [LINK](#)

Active plans in Ginot Hair:

- Housing project on Dov Kimhi corner of Tchernechovsky, Kiryat Shmuel. The project has been in the committees for the past 3-4 years and recently a new developer acquired it. Ginot Hair is aiming to invite the developer to present the project to the neighborhood, so that residents are informed of the new form the project has taken.
- The President Hotel complex on Ehad Haam and Keren Hayesod, Talbieh. The project has been in the committees for the past five years, changing developers from Africa Israel and now a new developer. The complex includes residential, hotel and commercial, public uses and open public space. The project has been delayed as the previous developer was aiming to get a 18-26 stories tower approved in an area limited by zoning to 10 stories only. The new project is aiming for 12-14 stories, still beyond the height limitations.
- A new residential tower is being discussed brought forward by a developer for a 40+ story tower on Paris Square (the square is on King George street, and there the policy is according to the light rail policy of 18-30 stories. The project is not yet discussed in committees.
- A new residential tower of about 40 stories on the Mashtela site in the corner of Emek Refaim and Mesila street on Oranim junction, has been submitted to the committees, and was withdrawn from discussion in one of the recent committees. The City Engineer objects to the project which is exceeding the 10 stories height limit of Oranim junction (set by the light rail new policy).

## English Urban Forum

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- A new complex at the end of Emek Refaim on Hisda and Ben Zakai streets was discussed in the committees with many objections raised by neighbors and Ginot Hair. The project proposes two towers of 38 and 40 stories high, in excess to the local policy height limits of 18-30.

### Parking arrangements in Talbieh

Elias informed the Talbieh residents of the new parking arrangements submitted by Ginot Hair, upon the request of the residents of Talbieh, in order to facilitate more parking for residents on days that the Theater is active and people choose to park in the neighborhood and not at the new theater parking. The changes will be taking effect in the coming months.

### Useful Q&A

Here are some useful replies to your questions:

- **How can I report a problem I see in the street?**  
Call **106** (municipal hotline) and/or download the app '106' of Jerusalem Municipality.
- For traffic violations, call the police **100**.
- **How can I join the Urban Forum Moshavot? Is it in Hebrew?**  
The forum is in Hebrew and meets every second Wednesday at 20:30. For more details and to join, contact Elias by email (contact details below).

### Useful Information and links

The 'Urban' page of the Ginot Hair website is growing and contains helpful information for learning about new planning, new street renovations, and about using the city GIS system (both the maps and three-dimensional model of the city). [LINK](#)

- Link to 'Urban Updates' (Hebrew and English): [LINK](#)
- Get urban updates at the **Urban Bulletin Board** of Ginot Hayir: [LINK](#)
- Link to Urban page with useful links: [LINK](#)
- Link to 'Maps' with public uses in the Ginot Hair areas (occasionally updated): [LINK](#)
- **Whatsapp group for urban forum for English speakers** To join the new group, click on this link: <https://chat.whatsapp.com/IU2JgUJ9mIO7zJ0tPzMfGh>

### Contact for Urban Forum:

Elias Messinas, Urban Planner at Community Council Ginot Hair [elias@ginothair.org.il](mailto:elias@ginothair.org.il)

**Next Hebrew Forum meeting and zoom link:** Meetings take place every fortnight on Wednesdays at 20:30. You can find more information and the meeting summaries [here](#). Contact us for more details or to join.