



City of Santa Clara

Meeting Agenda

Cultural Commission

Monday, August 3, 2026

7:00 PM

Hybrid Meeting
Santa Clara Senior Center
Room 205
1303 Fremont Street
Santa Clara, CA 95050

The City of Santa Clara is conducting the Cultural Commission meeting in a hybrid manner (in-person and a method for the public to participate remotely).

Via Zoom:

<https://santaclaraca.zoom.us/j/82207705371>

Webinar ID: 822 0770 5371

Or join by phone: 669-900-683

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

CONSENT CALENDAR

- 1.A. 26-703 [Action on the Cultural Commission Regular Minutes of June 1, 2026](#)

Recommendation: Approve the Cultural Commission Regular Meeting Minutes of June 1, 2026

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

[This item is reserved for persons to address the body on any matter not on the agenda that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the body. The law does not permit action on, or extended discussion of, any item not on the agenda except under special circumstances. The governing body, or staff, may briefly respond to statements made or questions posed, and appropriate body may request staff to report back at a subsequent meeting.]

GENERAL BUSINESS

2. 26-794 [Discussion and Potential Action on the Cultural Commission Work Plan and Activities for FY 2026/27](#)

Recommendation: Discuss and potentially take action on the Cultural Commission Work Plan and Activities for FY 2026/27.

STAFF REPORT

COMMISSIONERS REPORT

ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting of the Cultural Commission will be held on Monday, October 5, 2026.

MEETING DISCLOSURES

The time limit within which to commence any lawsuit or legal challenge to any quasi-adjudicative decision made by the City is governed by Section 1094.6 of the Code of Civil Procedure, unless a shorter limitation period is specified by any other provision. Under Section 1094.6, any lawsuit or legal challenge to any quasi-adjudicative decision made by the City must be filed no later than the 90th day following the date on which such decision becomes final. Any lawsuit or legal challenge, which is not filed within that 90-day period, will be barred. If a person wishes to challenge the nature of the above section in court, they may be limited to raising only those issues they or someone else raised at the meeting described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Clara, at or prior to the meeting. In addition, judicial challenge may be limited or barred where the interested party has not sought and exhausted all available administrative remedies.

If a member of the public submits a speaker card for any agenda items, their name will appear in the Minutes. If no speaker card is submitted, the Minutes will reflect "Public Speaker."

In accordance with the requirements of Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 ("ADA"), the City of Santa Clara will not discriminate against qualified individuals with disabilities on the basis of disability in its services, programs, or activities, and will ensure that all existing facilities will be made accessible to the maximum extent feasible. The City of Santa Clara will generally, upon request, provide appropriate aids and services leading to effective communication for qualified persons with disabilities including those with speech, hearing, or vision impairments so they can participate equally in the City's programs, services, and activities. The City of Santa Clara will make all reasonable modifications to policies and programs to ensure that people with disabilities have an equal opportunity to enjoy all of its programs, services, and activities.

Agendas and other written materials distributed during a public meeting that are public record will be made available by the City in an appropriate alternative format. Contact the City Clerk's Office at 1 408-615-2220 with your request for an alternative format copy of the agenda or other written materials.

Individuals who require an auxiliary aid or service for effective communication, or any other disability-related modification of policies or procedures, or other accommodation, in order to participate in a program, service, or activity of the City of Santa Clara, should contact the City's ADA Coordinator at 408-615-3000 as soon as possible but no later than 48 hours before the scheduled event.



City of Santa Clara

1500 Warburton Avenue
Santa Clara, CA 95050
santaclaraca.gov
[@SantaClaraCity](https://twitter.com/SantaClaraCity)

Agenda Report

26-703

Agenda Date: 8/3/2026

REPORT TO CULTURAL COMMISSION

SUBJECT

Action on the Cultural Commission Regular Minutes of June 1, 2026

RECOMMENDATION

Approve the Cultural Commission Regular Meeting Minutes of June 1, 2026

Prepared by: Robin Shaddle, Recreation Supervisor

Reviewed by: Kimberly Castro, Recreation Manager

Approved by: Damon Sparacino, Parks & Recreation Director

ATTACHMENTS

1. Draft Minutes - Cultural Commission Meeting June 1, 2026



City of Santa Clara

Meeting Minutes Cultural Commission

06/01/2026

7:00 PM

Hybrid Meeting
Santa Clara Senior Center
Room 205
1303 Fremont Street
Santa Clara, CA 95050

The City of Santa Clara is conducting the Cultural Commission meeting in a hybrid manner (in-person and a method for the public to participate remotely).

Via Zoom:

<https://santaclaraca.zoom.us/j/82207705371>

Webinar ID: 822 0770 5371

Or join by phone: 669-900-683

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chair von Huene called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Present 6 - Commissioner Abinas Roy, Vice Chair Candida Diaz, Chair Debra von Huene, Commissioner Kuku Das, Commissioner Louis Samara, and Commissioner Neetu Garg

Absent 1 - Commissioner Charles Pontious

Commissioner Roy made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Samara, to excuse Commissioner Pontious from the June 1, 2026 Cultural Commission meeting. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Commissioner Roy, Vice Chair Diaz, Chair von Huene, Commissioner Das, Commissioner Samara, and Commissioner Garg

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Pontious

CONSENT CALENDAR

- 1.A. [26-595](#) Action on the Cultural Commission Regular Minutes of May 4, 2026

Recommendation: Approve the Cultural Commission Regular Meeting Minutes of May 4, 2026

Commissioner Garg made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Das, to recommend approval of the May 4, 2026, Cultural Commission Minutes. The motion carried by the following votes:

Aye: 6 - Commissioner Roy, Vice Chair Diaz, Chair von Huene, Commissioner Das, Commissioner Samara, and Commissioner Garg

Excused: 1 - Commissioner Pontious

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

The Chair opened the public presentation. No speakers came forward. The Chair closed the public presentation.

GENERAL BUSINESS

2. [26-605](#) Discussion and Potential Action on the Cultural Commission Work Plan and Activities for FY 2025/26

Recommendation: Discuss and potentially take action on the Cultural Commission Work Plan and Activities for FY 2025/26.

Vice Chair Diaz made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Samara, to close out the Cultural Commission Work Plan and Activities for FY 2025/26 and dissolve all subcommittees. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Commissioner Roy, Vice Chair Diaz, Chair von Huene, Commissioner Das, Commissioner Samara, and Commissioner Garg

Excused: 1 - Commissioner Pontious

3. [26-598](#) Discuss and Develop Cultural Commission Work Plan Goals and Activities for FY 2026/27

Recommendation: Discuss and Develop Cultural Commission Work Plan Goals and Objectives for FY 2026/27.

Commissioner Garg made a motion, seconded by Vice Chair Diaz, to allocate \$3,000 to host the Friday Night Live event on October 16, 2026. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Commissioner Roy, Vice Chair Diaz, Chair von Huene, Commissioner Das, Commissioner Samara, and Commissioner Garg

Excused: 1 - Commissioner Pontious

Vice Chair Diaz made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Samara, to allocate \$6,000 towards the Traffic Box Art Program in FY 2026/27. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Commissioner Roy, Vice Chair Diaz, Chair von Huene, Commissioner Das, Commissioner Samara, and Commissioner Garg

Excused: 1 - Commissioner Pontious

Commissioner Roy made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Samara, to adopt the Cultural Commission Work Plan and Activities for FY 2026/27. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Commissioner Roy, Vice Chair Diaz, Chair von Huene, Commissioner Das, Commissioner Samara, and Commissioner Garg

Excused: 1 - Commissioner Pontious

4. [26-604](#) Elect a Chair and Vice Chair of the Cultural Commission for FY 2026/27

Recommendation: Nominate and elect a Chair and Vice Chair for the Cultural Commission for the FY 2026/27 term.

Commissioner Roy made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Garg, to elect Chair von Huene as Chair and Vice Chair Diaz as Vice Chair of the Cultural Commission for FY 2026/27. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Commissioner Roy, Vice Chair Diaz, Chair von Huene, Commissioner Das, Commissioner Samara, and Commissioner Garg

Excused: 1 - Commissioner Pontious

STAFF REPORT**Recreation Supervisor Shaddle**

Mark calendars for July 7 Special Order of Business at City Council Meeting and August 25 is the joint City Council and Cultural Commission Dinner, Mission College concert, Wednesday, June 3, Mazacote

Recreation Manager Castro

Celebrate Santa Clara Night Market, June dates. July Night Market includes Cultural Commission Summer Concert, added art mural, and additional day on Sunday for a FIFA Watch Party. Ideally we would be launching the Art Master Plan at the event as well. New Cultural Commissioner would be selected the end of June, sworn in July, and ready to go for our Monday, August 3, meeting. Audrey Wang joining the team as intern "Artist in Residence."

COMMISSIONERS REPORT**Commissioner Garg**

Representative from Interntional Peace Organization would like to partner with the Cultural Commission and attend some of the meetings. Will connect them with staff.

Commissioner Das

Attended and served as a judge at the Central Library for the integration of the Teen Library Card.

Chair von Huene

Thanked Commissioners for excusing her last month for a family trip. On May 16, the Santa Clara Chorale performed at Mission Santa Clara with 120 voices and full orchestra. Saw "In the Heights," a community theater production in Los Gatos.

ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chair Diaz made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Das, to adjourn the Cultural Commission meeting on May 4, 2026, at 8:12 p.m.

Aye: 6 - Commissioner Roy, Vice Chair Diaz, Chair von Huene, Commissioner Das, Commissioner Samara, and Commissioner Garg

Excused: 1 - Commissioner Pontious

The next regular meeting for the Cultural Commission is on Monday, August 3, 2026.

MEETING DISCLOSURES

The time limit within which to commence any lawsuit or legal challenge to any quasi-adjudicative decision made by the City is governed by Section 1094.6 of the Code of Civil Procedure, unless a shorter limitation period is specified by any other provision. Under Section 1094.6, any lawsuit or legal challenge to any quasi-adjudicative decision made by the City must be filed no later than the 90th day following the date on which such decision becomes final. Any lawsuit or legal challenge, which is not filed within that 90-day period, will be barred. If a person wishes to challenge the nature of the above section in court, they may be limited to raising only those issues they or someone else raised at the meeting described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Clara, at or prior to the meeting. In addition, judicial challenge may be limited or barred where the interested party has not sought and exhausted all available administrative remedies.

If a member of the public submits a speaker card for any agenda items, their name will appear in the Minutes. If no speaker card is submitted, the Minutes will reflect "Public Speaker."

In accordance with the requirements of Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 ("ADA"), the City of Santa Clara will not discriminate against qualified individuals with disabilities on the basis of disability in its services, programs, or activities, and will ensure that all existing facilities will be made accessible to the maximum extent feasible. The City of Santa Clara will generally, upon request, provide appropriate aids and services leading to effective communication for qualified persons with disabilities including those with speech, hearing, or vision impairments so they can participate equally in the City's programs, services, and activities. The City of Santa Clara will make all reasonable modifications to policies and programs to ensure that people with disabilities have an equal opportunity to enjoy all of its programs, services, and activities.

Agendas and other written materials distributed during a public meeting that are public record will be made available by the City in an appropriate alternative format. Contact the City Clerk's Office at 1 408-615-2220 with your request for an alternative format copy of the agenda or other written materials.

Individuals who require an auxiliary aid or service for effective communication, or any other disability-related modification of policies or procedures, or other accommodation, in order to participate in a program, service, or activity of the City of Santa Clara, should contact the City's ADA Coordinator at 408-615-3000 as soon as possible but no later than 48 hours before the scheduled event.



Agenda Report

26-794

Agenda Date: 8/3/2026

REPORT TO CULTURAL COMMISSION

SUBJECT

Discussion and Potential Action on the Cultural Commission Work Plan and Activities for FY 2026/27

BACKGROUND

Annually, the Cultural Commission ("Commission") identifies three to five specific, measurable, attainable, realistic, and time-bound goals and related activities to guide its work. The annual Work Plan is intended to focus the Commission's efforts, align with City Council priorities, and operate within the existing budget direction and resource limitations.

At the June 1, 2026 regular meeting, the Commission adopted the FY 2026/27 Work Plan goals and associated activities. Throughout the fiscal year, the Commission may review progress, adjust priorities, establish subcommittees, and provide direction to ensure implementation remains aligned with adopted goals and respond to emerging opportunities or constraints.

The adopted goals and current status of related activities are summarized below:

GOAL #1: Host and enhance multicultural events to encourage and acquaint Santa Clara residents with cultural diversity.

- A. Plan and implement Summer Concerts in FY 2026/27
- B. Street Dance
- C. Plan and host Friday Night Live Events
- D. Secure sponsors for Cultural Commission special events in FY 2026/27

GOAL #2: Develop and encourage interactive art opportunities to provide temporary, performing, cultural, and public art in the City.

- A. Support Traffic Box Program
- B. Host Public Art Exhibition (indoor or outdoor)
- C. Host Halloween Home & Holiday Home Decorating Contest and recognition: 1 winner per Council District, 1 group entry winner, 1 Best of the Best
- D. Update and maintain City interactive web-based public art map
- E. Implement Make Music Day 2027

GOAL #3: Raise the visibility of commemorative months.

- A. Identify a space to curate and facilitate the celebration of Commemorative Months and which cultural holidays to celebrate and via what medium

GOAL #4: Enhance communication and media strategy to increase community awareness of the Cultural Commission.

- A. Present accomplishments to City Council annually

- B. Develop, maintain, and grow partnerships and collaborations with external organizations
- C. Select and provide a representative to the Station Area Task Force

GOAL #5: Prepare for Citywide Arts Master Plan Process.

- A. Develop, promote, and implement Citywide Arts Master Plan alongside the City Council

DISCUSSION

At the August 3, 2026, meeting, the Commission will review the FY2026/27 Work Plan (Attachment 1), discuss progress to date, consider edits, reprioritization of activities, or adjustments based on available funding and staff capacity.

The Commission may also identify subcommittees to advance specific projects regarding implementation strategies. Any modifications to the Work Plan will ensure continue alignment with Commission goals, City priorities, and budget constraints.

Through this agenda item, the Commission may provide updates and take actions to refine the Work Plan for the remainder of FY 2026/27.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

The action being considered does not constitute a “project” within the meaning of the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15378(b)(5) in that it is a governmental organizational or administrative activity that will not result in direct or indirect changes in the environment.

FISCAL IMPACT

The adopted budget for FY 2026/27 Commission activities is \$58,693. Funding allocations for individual projects are identified in the Work Plan and voted on by the Commission.

Any adjustments to project priorities or scope will be managed within the Commission’s existing adopted budget and available resources. No adjustment request is being made as part of this action.

PUBLIC CONTACT

Public contact was made by posting the Cultural Commission agenda on the City’s official-notice bulletin board outside City Hall Council Chambers. A complete agenda packet is available on the City’s website and in the City Clerk’s Office at least 72 hours prior to a Regular Meeting and 24 hours prior to a Special Meeting. A hard copy of any agenda report may be requested by contacting the City Clerk’s Office at (408) 615-2220, email clerk@santaclaraca.gov or at the public information desk at any City of Santa Clara public library.

RECOMMENDATION

Discuss and potentially take action on the Cultural Commission Work Plan and Activities for FY 2026/27.

Prepared by: Robin Shaddle, Recreation Supervisor

Reviewed by: Kimberly Castro, Recreation Manager

Approved by: Damon Sparacino, Director, Parks & Recreation

ATTACHMENTS

1. Work Plan and Activities FY2026/27



**City of
Santa Clara**

Cultural Commission

Work Plan Fiscal Year 2026/27

CITY CHARTER SECTION 2.120.140

The Cultural Commission shall consist of seven members, who shall not hold any paid office or employment in the City government and shall have the following powers, functions and duties:

- (a) Act in an advisory capacity to the City Council in all matters pertaining to cultural enrichment and beautification of the City, sister city relationships and international exchanges.
- (b) Encourage the beautification of the City and programs for the cultural enrichment of the City.
- (c) Foster cultural events, activities and displays that celebrate the City's native and historic cultures and present diversity.
- (d) Assist in the planning and supervision of international exchange activities with our sister communities, sharing friendship, skills and concerns.
- (e) Develop individual contacts designed to enhance international communication and understanding.
- (f) Encourage educational, cultural, sports, technical and governmental exchanges to help acquaint citizens of Santa Clara with cultural and political diversity abroad.
- (g) Perform other such duties and exercise such powers as the City Council may impose or require. (Ord. 1908 § 4, 7-16-13).

COMMISSION PRIORITIES

1. Provide inclusive, diverse, multicultural programs for the Community.
2. Increase collaboration and outreach with the community, other civic and corporate Santa Clara organizations, and interdepartmentally to further the mission of the Commission and build on our knowledge base for future leadership.
3. Develop and preserve a variety of art forms and interactive, expressive programming events that complement each other.

GOALS

The Santa Clara Cultural Commission has defined its goals for the FY 2026/27. The annual budget allocated for Commission activities is \$58,693. These goals incorporate the combined theme of civic leadership, multicultural diversity, visible public art, and improved communication with the community as the fundamental platform upon which more cultural and arts activities can take place in Santa Clara. The goals are as follows:

GOAL #1: Host and enhance multicultural events to encourage and acquaint Santa Clara residents with cultural diversity.				
Activities	Ad Hoc Sub-Committee	Timeline	Notes/Budget	Measurable Outcomes
Plan and implement Summer Concerts in FY 2026/27	Diaz/	6/19- Faye Carol w/Library 7/10- Megatones; 7/17 Pop Rocks; 7/24 Patron Latin Rhythms; 7/31- Houserockers, 8/14 – Aja Vu @ Live Oak.	\$32,258 + 3,000 Stage – Live Oak Flyer complete. 6/19 and 7/10, 7/24, & 7/31 concerts Central Park, behind Library	
Street Dance	Garg/Diaz	Aug. 7, 2026 David Martin's House Party	1000 Lafayette \$9,831 + 3,000 Stage Flyer complete, banners are up, Marketing started Banner at Marsalli Park Lawn signs along Lafayette \$250 allocated	
Plan and Host Friday Night Live Events	Das/ Garg	MCCPA dates reserved tentatively 10/16 Save 10/9 JIC	10/16- hold Ashley Lopez - contact \$3k, 1.5 hour show, 8 musicians, 16 dancers	Check dates in November

Secure sponsors for Cultural Commission special events in FY 2026/27			\$11,500 Street Dance (6k paid) \$15k Concerts (all paid) + 300 VTA	
GOAL #2: Develop and encourage interactive, art opportunities to provide temporary, performing, cultural, and public art in the City.				
Activities	Ad Hoc Sub-Committee	Timeline	Notes/Budget	Measurable Outcomes
Support Traffic Box Program	Diaz/Pontious		Research vinyl wrap as an option. 2 still to finish from 25/26 Allocate \$6k for 26/27- 6 boxes	6 Boxes get painted
Host Public Art Exhibition (indoor or outdoor)	von Huene/Garg	FY 2026/27		Amount of entries Feedback Engagement
Host Halloween Home & Holiday Home Decorating Contest and Recognition 6 winner/Council District, 1 group entry winner, 1 best of the best	Roy/Garg	Release Contest Oct.7 Oct. 26 Deadline for submissions. Oct. 30 Judging due; Announcements & Signs out. Holiday – 11/23 Release Contest 12/18 Deadline for submissions 12/21 Judging due 12/22 Announcements	\$70 Approx for signs 8 total signs needed per contest allocating \$1200	# of Entries Feedback & Engagement

		made 12/22-12/23 Signs out		
Update and maintain City interactive web-based public art map		On-going		
Make Music Day June 21, 2027	Pontious/Roy/Das			Make Music Day June 21, 2027
GOAL #3: Raise the visibility of commemorative months.				
Activities	Ad Hoc Sub-Committee	Timeline	Notes/Budget	Measurable Outcomes
Identify a space to curate and facilitate the celebration of Commemorative Months and which cultural holidays to celebrate and via what medium	Garg/Das/von Huene		Coloring pages reposted Share with school district 26/27 school year	
GOAL #4: Enhance communication and media strategy to increase community awareness of the Cultural Commission.				
Activities	Ad Hoc Sub-Committee	Timeline	Notes/Budget	Measurable Outcomes
Present accomplishments to City Council annually		Brief accomplishments and promote concerts & street dance Date? Council Dinner	July 7, 2026 Council Presentation Accomplishments (Canceled)	

Develop, maintain, and grow partnerships and collaborations with external organizations.		June – August 2026	Mission College Concert Series \$1,000 Allocated	
Representative to Station Area Task Force meetings	Garg			
GOAL #5: Prepare for Citywide Arts Master Plan Process.				
Activities	Ad Hoc Sub-Committee	Timeline	Notes/Budget	Measurable Outcomes
Develop, promote, and implement Citywide Arts Master Plan alongside the City Council	von Huene/Pontious/Garg		3 Proposals Submitted	Work with staff on community engagement.

FUTURE PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES FOR CONSIDERATION

August Agenda:

Work Plan update FY26/27

Subcommittees

Arts Master Plan Update

September Agenda:

Halloween Home Decorating