



City of Santa Clara

Meeting Agenda

Cultural Commission

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

Recommendation: Approve the Cultural Commission Regular Meeting Minutes of May 4, 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. 26-605 [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.

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.

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.

STAFF REPORT

COMMISSIONERS REPORT

ADJOURNMENT

The next regular meeting of the Cultural Commission will be held on Monday, July 6, 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

Agenda Report

26-595

Agenda Date: 6/1/2026

REPORT TO CULTURAL COMMISSION

SUBJECT

Action on the Cultural Commission Regular Minutes of May 4, 2026

RECOMMENDATION

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



City of Santa Clara

Meeting Minutes

Cultural Commission

05/04/2026

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: 669-900-6833

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Diaz at 7:07 p.m.

Present 6 - Commissioner Abinas Roy, Vice Chair Candida Diaz, Commissioner Charles Pontious, Commissioner Kuku Das, Commissioner Louis Samara, and Commissioner Neetu Garg

Absent 1 - Chair Debra von Huene

A motion was made by Commissioner Samara and seconded by Commissioner Garg to excuse Chair von Huene from the meeting.

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

Absent: 1 - Chair von Huene

CONSENT CALENDAR

- 1.A [26-471](#) Action on the Cultural Commission Regular Minutes of April 6, 2026

Recommendation: Approve the Cultural Commission Regular Meeting Minutes of April 6, 2026

A motion was made by Commissioner Samara and seconded by Commissioner Roy to approve the minutes from the April 6, 2026 meeting.

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

Excused: 1 - Chair von Huene

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

None.

GENERAL BUSINESS

2. [26-478](#) 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.

A motion was made by Commissioner Samara and seconded by Commissioner Pontious to approve the allocation of \$2,800 to promote Cultural Commission activities, upcoming dates and events on a utility bill insert.

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

Excused: 1 - Chair von Huene

A motion was made by Commissioner Samara and seconded by Commissioner Pontious to allocate \$1,000 to Mission College to cosponsor a concert on June 3, 2026.

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

Excused: 1 - Chair von Huene

3. [26-479](#) 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.

A motion was made by Commissioner Pontious and seconded by Commissioner Das to allocate \$250 towards lawn signage to promote Street Dance and its new location.

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

Excused: 1 - Chair von Huene

A motion was made by Commissioner Pontious and seconded by Commissioner Garg to allocate \$1,200 in FY26/27 for the Halloween and Holiday Home Decorating Contests.

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

Excused: 1 - Chair von Huene

STAFF REPORT

Supervisor Shaddle shared dates for upcoming events that the Commission would be interested in or is involved in. Nebula Rider, the outdoor temporary art piece, would be removed on May 27. The FIFA flag raising would be at City Hall on May 12. The Asian American Stories Video Contest was being held at the Mission City Center for Performing Arts on Saturday, May 9, and was a partnership between the Santa Clara City Library, Ding Ding TV, and the Silicon Valley Community Media. The City Council Special Order of Business, where the Commission will present their accomplishments for the previous year and what is upcoming, to Mayor and City Council is scheduled for Tuesday, July 7. The Cultural Commission dinner with City Council is scheduled for Tuesday, Aug. 25. The Juneteenth Concert, partnered with the Santa Clara Library, Parks & Recreation and Cultural Commission will be held Friday, June 19 behind the Library. The first Mission College concert, cosponsored by the Cultural Commission will be held Wednesday, June 3. Lastly, the June Celebrate Santa Clara: Night Market will be held on June 6 and 7 at 900-1000 Lafayette Street.

COMMISSIONERS REPORT

Commissioner Garg visited New Delhi, India.

Commissioner Das shared the success of the 26th Anniversary iGurukul Cultural Extravaganza event, which included over 250 artists and dancers from all different countries.

Commissioner Roy attended the Celebrate Santa Clara: Night Market, held the weekend of May 1 and 2.

Commissioner Pontious shared that he would be performing at a benefit for The Santa Clara Library Foundation & Friends at the Triton Museum of Art on Saturday, May 16.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Samara and seconded by Commissioner Roy to adjourn the meeting at 8:14 p.m.

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

Excused: 1 - Chair von Huene

The next regular meeting of the Cultural Commission will be held on Monday, June 1, 2026.

MEETING DISCLOSURES

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Agenda Report

26-605

Agenda Date: 6/1/2026

REPORT TO CULTURAL COMMISSION

SUBJECT

Discussion and Potential Action on the Cultural Commission Work Plan and Activities for FY 2025/26

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 April 7, 2025 regular meeting, the Commission adopted its FY 2025/26 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 2025/26 - Completed
- B. Street Dance 2025 - Completed
- C. Plan and host Friday Night Live Events - On Hold
- D. Explore the feasibility of hosting a Group Wedding - Canceled
- E. Secure sponsors for Cultural Commission special events in FY 2025/26 - Ongoing

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

- A. Advise and recommend public art to City Council for public benefit - In Progress
- B. Support Traffic Box Program - In Progress
- C. Host Indoor Sculpture Exhibition - On Hold
- D. Host Halloween Home & Holiday Home Decorating Contest and recognition: 1 winner per Council District, 1 group entry winner, 1 Best of the Best - Completed
- E. Update and maintain City interactive web-based public art map - In Progress

GOAL #3: Raise the visibility of commemorative months.

- A. Identify a space, format, and cultural holidays to curate and facilitate the celebration of commemorative month - In Progress

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

- A. Present accomplishments to City Council annually - July 7
- B. Develop, maintain, and grow partnerships and collaborations with external organizations

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

- A. Develop public/private partnerships to invest and promote the Arts in Santa Clara
- B. Develop, promote, and implement Citywide Arts Master Plan alongside the City Council

DISCUSSION

At the June 1, 2026, meeting, the Commission will review the FY2025/26 Work Plan (Attachment 1), discuss progress to date, and consider edits, reprioritization of activities, or adjustments based on available funding and staff capacity.

The Commission may also identify subcommittees to advance specific projects and provide direction to staff 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 2025/26.

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 2025/26 Commission activities is \$57,541. 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 2025/26.

Prepared by: Robin Shaddle, Recreation Supervisor

Reviewed by: Kimberly Castro, Recreation Manager

Approved by: Damon Sparacino, Director, Parks & Recreation

ATTACHMENTS

1. Cultural Commission Work Plan and Activities FY2025/26



**City of
Santa Clara**

Cultural Commission

Work Plan Fiscal Year 2025/26

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).

COUNCIL PRIORITIES

Excellent City Government: Valued City Services; Reliable Funding; Well-Managed Stadium; Trusted and Engaged City Government

Reliable Infrastructure: Resilient and Well-Maintained Infrastructure; Accessible Transportation Options

Outstanding Quality of Life: Affordable Housing and Supportive Services; Safe Community; Quality Parks Programming and Cultural Amenities

Thriving Community: Vibrant Local Community

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 2025/26. The annual budget projected for Commission activities for FY 2025/26 is \$57,541. 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 2025/26 6:30 – 8 p.m.	Samara/Diaz/Roy	Concerts in 2025 Central Park July 11 - Sona July 25 – Orchestra Borinquen Live Oak Aug. 15 – Hitmen	Priorities 4 & 6 Summer 2025- \$32,648 (GFI- \$30,148 + \$2,500-1 stage)	Attendance Budget Feedback Complete
		Concerts 2026: 7/10- Megatonnes; 7/17 – Pop Rocks; 7/24 – Patron Latin Rhythms; 7/31- Houserockers, 8/14 – Aja Vu @ Live Oak.	Put concert info in bill insert. (\$3k expense) Stage Live Oak (\$3,000)	

Street Dance	Samara/Diaz/Roy	August 1, 2025 Neon Velvet August 7, 2026. David Martin's House Party	2025 Complete	Attendance: 3,000 Complete
Plan and Host Friday Night Live Events	Garg/Diaz/Samara	Hold until FY 2026/27 MCCPA dates reserved tentatively 9/25, 10/9, 10/16	In Progress	
Explore the feasibility of hosting a Group Wedding		Hold until FY 2026/27	Priority 1	

Secure sponsors for Cultural Commission special events in FY 2025/26		2025: Concerts in the Park: \$12,500 2025: Street Dance: \$11,750	Priority 6 Release package February Packet Released 3/2	Complete
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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
Advise and recommend public art to City Council for public benefit	von Huene/Garg	Reception for Nebula Rider 7/17 at 11am. Exhibition 7/16 – 11/14/2025 Extended through 5/22/26 Reallocate up to \$500 for vinyl banners to advertise exhibition.	Priority 4 Outdoor Temporary Art Installation, allocate \$12,500 City Hall Plaza \$1000 reception	Outdoor Temporary Exhibit

Support Traffic Box Program	Diaz	Held Zoom meeting with artists Oct. 22, 2025 2-are complete; 2 ready to go; 2 in insurance stage	Priority 4 Allocation to \$6,000 6 boxes \$1,000 4/6 – 3 are complete, 2 in process One to get started by summer.	6 Boxes get painted
Host Indoor Sculpture Exhibition		Hold Until FY 2026/27	Priorities 4 & 6	Amount of entries Feedback Engagement
Host Halloween Home & Holiday Home Decorating Contest and Recognition	Garg – Halloween Pontious – Halloween Roy – Halloween	Release Contest Oct.7 Oct. 27 Deadline for submissions. Oct. 30 Judging due; Announcements & Signs out. Holiday – 11/24 Release Contest 12/19 Deadline for submissions 12/21 Judging due 12/22 Announcements made 12/22-12/23 Signs out	Priority 6	# of Entries Feedback & Engagement Visits to homes were successful. Schedule worked and having weekend to view homes was ideal. Complete
Update and maintain City interactive web-based public art map	Diaz/von Huene/Samara	In progress/On-going. See Art Map.	Priority 4	
Make Music Day	Pontious/ Roy/ Das	Observe 2026 – prepare for 2027		

GOAL #3: Raise the visibility of commemorative months.

Activities	Ad Hoc Sub-Committee	Timeline	Notes/Budget	Measurable Outcomes
<p>Identify a space to curate and facilitate the celebration of Commemorative Months and which cultural holidays to celebrate and via what medium</p>	<p>Das/von Huene/ Garg</p>	<p>Plan approved November meeting</p> <p>December 16 – Special Order of Business at Council – Human Rights Month – 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>MLK Event 1/14 @ Library</p> <p>Lunar New Year 1/31-2/1</p>	<p>Priority 4</p> <p>Photo booth props for Tree Lighting.</p> <p>Black History Month-Proclamation at 2/10 mtg. Milan Balinton, ED of the African American Community Service Agency to receive.</p> <p>Public presentation to add Japanese American Day of Remembrance 2/19. Recommend including it in the list.</p> <p>Seeking information on whether council will be presenting a proclamation</p>	<p>Library and School District will circulate the coloring pages in the month of December.</p>

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	von Huene	July 7, 2026	Priority 6	
Develop, maintain, and grow partnerships and collaborations with external organizations.	von Huene/Pontious/Das		<p>Priority 6</p> <p>Mission College for Summer Concerts.</p> <p>Wednesdays, Jazz genre, offered commission collaboration for 6/3 concert. \$1500 – 2025</p> <p>Collaboration with Ding Ding TV for Lunar New Year event. Successful. Participate again in 2027.</p> <p>Korean Federation contacts/collaboration</p> <p>Developing partnership/relationship with library for MLK Choral reading and additional events TBD.</p>	

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

Activities	Ad Hoc Sub-Committee	Timeline	Notes/Budget	Measurable Outcomes
Develop private/public partnerships to invest and promote the Arts in Santa Clara	von Huene		Priorities 4 & 6	
Develop, promote, and implement Citywide Arts Master Plan alongside the City Council	von Huene/Pontious Garg		Priorities 4 & 6 Parks Master Plan presented to P&R commission in March and City Council May. Arts Master Plan in Purchasing to be released April 9, 2026	Work with Parks & Recreation Department on community engagement and delivery projects.

June Agenda:

- Work Plan update FY 2025/26
- Work Plan discussion FY 2026/27
- Chair and Vice Chair Election



Agenda Report

26-598

Agenda Date: 6/1/2026

REPORT TO CULTURAL COMMISSION

SUBJECT

Discuss and Develop Cultural Commission Work Plan Goals and Activities for FY 2026/27

BACKGROUND

Annually, the Cultural Commission has considered three to five specific, measurable, attainable, realistic, and time-bound work plan goals and/or activities for the Fiscal Year (FY). These goals are intended to focus the Commission's efforts and respond to City Council priorities within the existing budget direction and resource limitations.

The City now aims to align the Boards, Commissions, and Committees (BCC) work plan goals to the City Council goals on an annual cycle. The new process aims to provide:

Clear Prioritization

Each board and commission will have a defined set of objectives, making it easier for Council to assess progress and allocate staff resources efficiently.

Enhanced Transparency

Work plans will provide greater visibility into the activities and goals of advisory bodies, fostering stronger communication and accountability.

Improved Coordination

By aligning the efforts of staff and the BCC, the work plan is intended to effectively promote enhanced collaboration on citywide initiatives.

Informed Decision-Making

With a clear roadmap of each group's priorities, the City Council will be better equipped to make decisions that support both short-term needs and long-term strategic goals.

The timeline for this work is to develop the goals and objectives at the May meeting, review the work plan in June, develop a presentation for Council in June, and present to the Council in July. It is expected that the new work plan goals and objectives will be implemented in July 2026.

DISCUSSION

At the May 4, 2026, Regular Meeting, commissioners began brainstorming possible Goals and Activities for the FY 2026/27 Work Plan. During the June 1, 2026, meeting, the Commission will continue discussions to identify and refine the FY 2026/27 Work Plan, which may include considering alternative goals and activities, making suggestions for budget allocations to support program goals, requesting and making commissioner work assignments for the subcommittees working on each of

the goals, and identifying support activities.

The Cultural Commission may choose to use these goals to guide their activities or may develop new goals and activities for FY 2026/27.

1. Host and enhance multicultural events to encourage and acquaint Santa Clara residents with cultural diversity.
2. Develop and encourage interactive art opportunities to provide temporary, performing, cultural, and public art in the City.
3. Raise visibility of commemorative months.
4. Enhance communication and media strategy to increase community awareness of the Cultural Commission.
5. Prepare for Citywide Master Plan process.

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 Proposed Operating Budget for FY 2026/27 Cultural Commission activities is \$58,693. Any work plan goals, programs, events, or activities recommended by the Cultural Commission for FY 2026/27 will be implemented within available appropriations and staffing resources, subject to future City Council budget adoption and direction. No additional fiscal impact is associated with the recommended action at this time.

PUBLIC CONTACT

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RECOMMENDATION

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

Prepared by: Robin Shaddle, Recreation Supervisor

Reviewed by: Kimberly Castro, Recreation Manager

Approved by: Damon Sparacino, Director of Parks & Recreation

ATTACHMENT

1. Draft - Work Plan FY 2026-27



**City of
Santa Clara**

Cultural Commission

Work Plan Fiscal Year 2026/27

CITY CHARTER SECTION 2.120.140

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- (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).

COUNCIL PRIORITIES – MAY 27, 2026 MEETING

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		7/10- Megatonnes; 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.	
Street Dance		Aug. 7, 2026 David Martin’s House Party	900 Lafayette \$9,831 + 3,000 Stage Flyer in the works. Lawn signs along Lafayette \$250 allocated	
Plan and Host Friday Night Live Events	Das/ Garg	MCCPA dates reserved tentatively 9/25, 10/9, 10/16		
Secure sponsors for Cultural Commission special events in FY 2026/27			\$11,500 Street Dance \$17,500 Concerts Tentatively- Invoiced but not paid	
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
Advise and recommend public art to City Council for public benefit				
Support Traffic Box Program	Diaz/Pontious		Research vinyl wrap as an option. 3 still to finish from 25/26	6 Boxes get painted
Host Art Exhibition	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		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 made 12/22-12/23 Signs out	\$70 Approx for signs 8 total signs needed per contest allocating \$1200	# of Entries Feedback & Engagement

Update and maintain City interactive web-based public art map		On-going		
Make Music Day June 21, 2027	Pontious/Roy/			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/		Coloring pages reposted	
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		July 7, 2026 Council Presentation Accomplishments Aug. 25 Council Dinner		
Develop, maintain, and grow partnerships and collaborations with external organizations.				

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 private/public partnerships to invest and promote the Arts in Santa Clara		June – August 2026	Mission College Concert Series \$1,000 Allocated	
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

June Agenda:

Work Plan discussion FY 2026/27

Chair and Vice Chair Election

Subcommittees

Budget allocation

July Agenda:

Work Plan update FY26/27

City Council Special Order of Business



Agenda Report

26-604

Agenda Date: 6/1/2026

REPORT TO CULTURAL COMMISSION

SUBJECT

Elect a Chair and Vice Chair of the Cultural Commission for FY 2026/27

COUNCIL PILLAR

Enhance Community Engagement and Transparency

BACKGROUND

At the beginning of each fiscal year (FY), the Cultural Commission (Commission) elects a Chair to facilitate the monthly meetings and a Vice Chair that presides over the meeting in the event the Chair is unavailable. The role of the Chair is to facilitate monthly meetings, speak at City Council meetings when necessary to convey the work of the Commission, and to work with the Staff Liaison on preparation of the Commission meeting agendas. The role of the Vice Chair is to fulfill the role and responsibilities of the Chair when the Chair is not available.

DISCUSSION

A new Chair and Vice Chair will be elected at the June 2026 Regular Meeting of the Commission. Commissioners may nominate any individual commissioner to serve in each position (Chair, Vice Chair). Nominated commissioners can either accept or decline. If they accept the nomination, then the Chair will allow for discussion, public comment, and then call for a vote. Commissioners will vote for one candidate to serve in each role. The commissioner who receives the most votes for each position will assume the responsibilities of the role for which they were elected, starting in July 2026.

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

There is no fiscal impact to 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 <<mailto:clerk@santaclaraca.gov>> or at the public information desk at any City of Santa Clara public library.

RECOMMENDATION

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

Prepared by: Robin Shaddle, Recreation Supervisor

Reviewed by: Kimberly Castro, Recreation Manager

Approved by: Damon Sparacino, Parks & Recreation Director