



City of Santa Clara

Meeting Agenda

Cultural Commission

Monday, November 3, 2025

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>

Meeting ID: 822 0770 5371

Or join by phone: 669-900-6833

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. **25-1578** [Action on the Cultural Commission Regular Minutes of October 6, 2025](#)

Recommendation: Approve the Cultural Commission Regular Meeting Minutes of October 6, 2025

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. **25-1579** [Discussion and Potential Action on 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.

STAFF REPORT

COMMISSIONERS REPORT

ADJOURNMENT

The next scheduled meeting of the Cultural Commission is on Monday, December 1, 2025 at 7:00 PM

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

25-1578

Agenda Date: 11/3/2025

REPORT TO CULTURAL COMMISSION

SUBJECT

Action on the Cultural Commission Regular Minutes of October 6, 2025

RECOMMENDATION

Approve the Cultural Commission Regular Meeting Minutes of October 6, 2025

Prepared by: Kimberly Castro, Recreation Manager

Approved by: Damon Sparacino, Parks & Recreation Director

ATTACHMENTS

1. Draft Minutes - Cultural Commission Meeting October 6, 2025
2. Post Meeting Material _ Public Comment October 6, 2025



City of Santa Clara

Meeting Minutes

Cultural Commission

10/06/2025

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/98272283531>

Meeting ID: 98272283531

Or join by phone: 669-900-6833

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order by Chair von Huene at 7:04 PM.

Present 5 - Commissioner Abinas Roy, Vice Chair Candida Diaz, Chair Debra von Huene, Commissioner Kuku Das, and Commissioner Louis Samara

Absent 2 - Commissioner Charles Pontious, and Commissioner Neetu Garg

A motion was made by Commission Roy and seconded by Commissioner Das to excuse Commissioners Garg and Pontious from the meeting.

Aye: 5 - Commissioner Roy, Vice Chair Diaz, Chair von Huene, Commissioner Das, and Commissioner Samara

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Pontious, and Commissioner Garg

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. [25-933](#) Action on Cultural Commission Regular Minutes of August 4, 2025

Recommendation: Approve the Cultural Commission Regular Meeting Minutes of August 4, 2025

A motion was made by Commissioner Samara and seconded by Vice-Chair Diaz to approve the Commission minutes as presented from August 4, 2025.

Aye: 5 - Commissioner Roy, Vice Chair Diaz, Chair von Huene, Commissioner Das, and Commissioner Samara

Excused: 2 - Commissioner Pontious, and Commissioner Garg

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

Robert Hu addressed the Commission during Public Comment on a non-agenized item.

GENERAL BUSINESS

2. [25-1125](#) Approve Cultural Commission Calendar of Meetings for 2026

Recommendation: Approve the Cultural Commission calendar of meetings for 2026 and recommend same to City Council for approval as regular meetings of the Cultural Commission.

A motion was made by Vice-Chair Diaz and seconded by Commissioner Samara to approve the Cultural Commission Calendar of Meetings for 2026.

Aye: 5 - Commissioner Roy, Vice Chair Diaz, Chair von Huene, Commissioner Das, and Commissioner Samara

Excused: 2 - Commissioner Pontious, and Commissioner Garg

3. [25-1124](#) Discussion and Potential Action on 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 Vice-Chair Diaz to approve the Halloween Home Decorating Contest Rules and Program.

Aye: 5 - Commissioner Roy, Vice Chair Diaz, Chair von Huene, Commissioner Das, and Commissioner Samara

Excused: 2 - Commissioner Pontious, and Commissioner Garg

STAFF REPORT

Recreation Manager Castro shared upcoming events and program with the Commission. The Halloween Home Decorating Contest will go live on Oct. 7 and submissions will be collected through 5pm on Oct. 27. The community is hosting a Diwali event at Live Oak Park on Oct. 23. The City will host a Dia de los Muertos community celebration at Mission City Memorial Cemetery on Oct. 24. The event will include educational talks about the traditions of Dia de los Muertos, a community ofrenda will be offered through Nov. 7 and the movie Coco will be shown on that evening. The Santa Clara SpooktaClara Children's Halloween Party is happening in Central Park on Oct. 25 from 12-4. Staff is working towards plans for the Holiday Tree Lighting on Dec. 5.

COMMISSIONERS REPORT

Chair von Huene attended the Santa Clara Unified School District Strategic Arts Plan Breakfast last month. She gave an update on the Economic Development and Marketing Committee meetings and plans for 2026 special events. She also shared that she visited Nashville and saw a replica of the Parthenon and an art installation in San Francisco.

Commissioner Samara attended the Economic Development and Marketing Committee meeting.

Commissioner Roy attended the State of the City.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Samara and seconded by Vice-Chair Diaz to adjourn the meeting at 9:09 PM.

Aye: 5 - Commissioner Roy, Vice Chair Diaz, Chair von Huene, Commissioner Das, and Commissioner Samara

Excused: 2 - Commissioner Pontious, and Commissioner Garg

The next meeting of the Cultural Commission meeting will be held on December 7, 2025 at 7:00 PM.

MEETING DISCLOSURES

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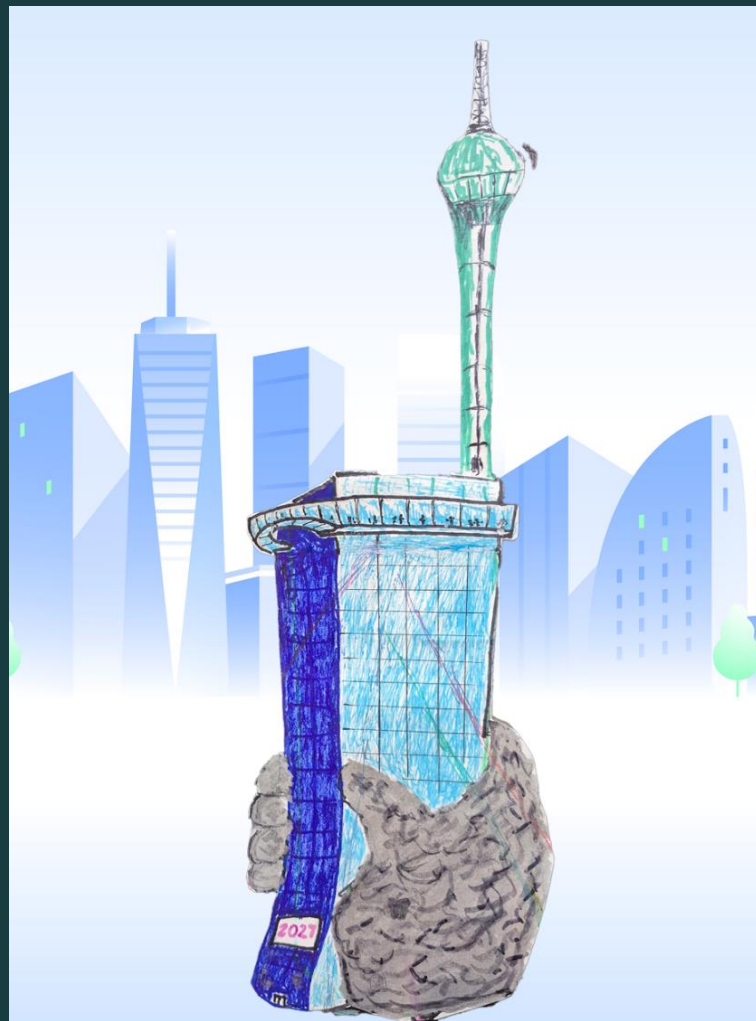
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Building Plan

Invented and Organized
by
Robert Hu
7/4/2025



SILICON VALLEY

TECH ME TO THE MOON



Location Selection



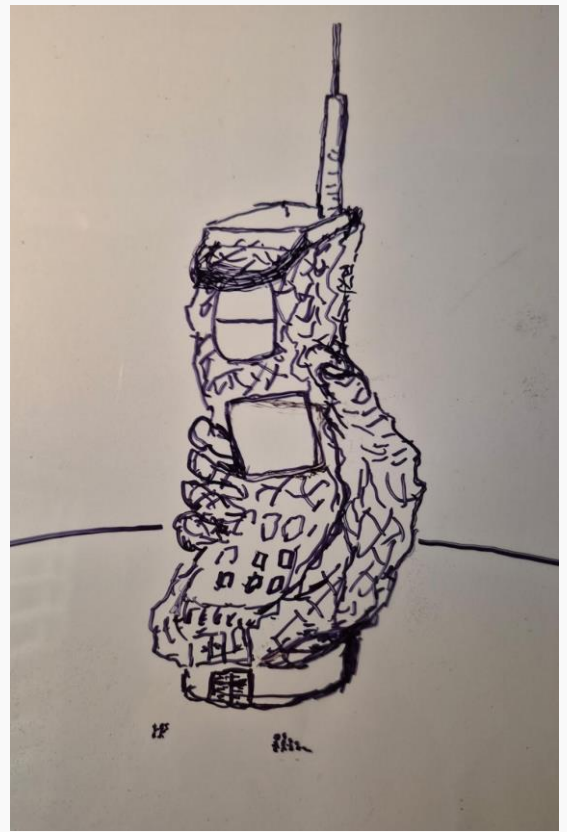
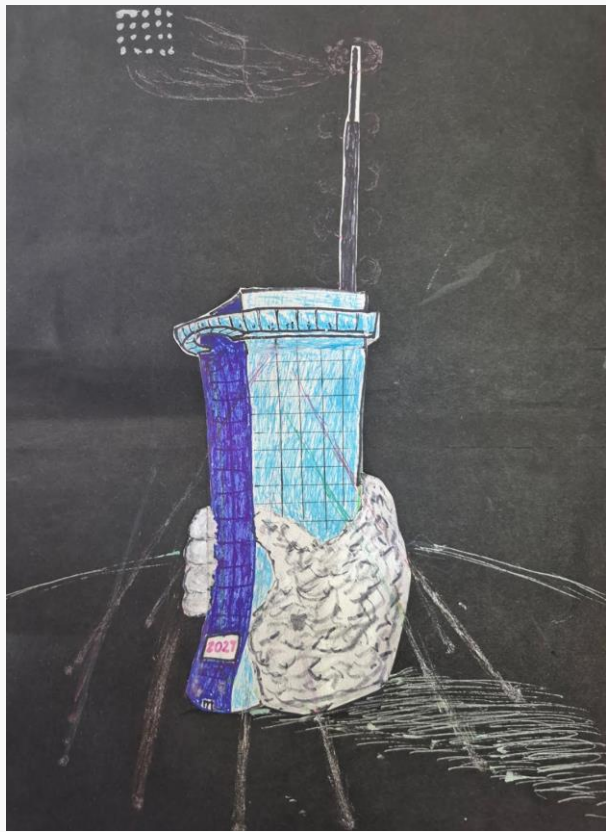
Building References:

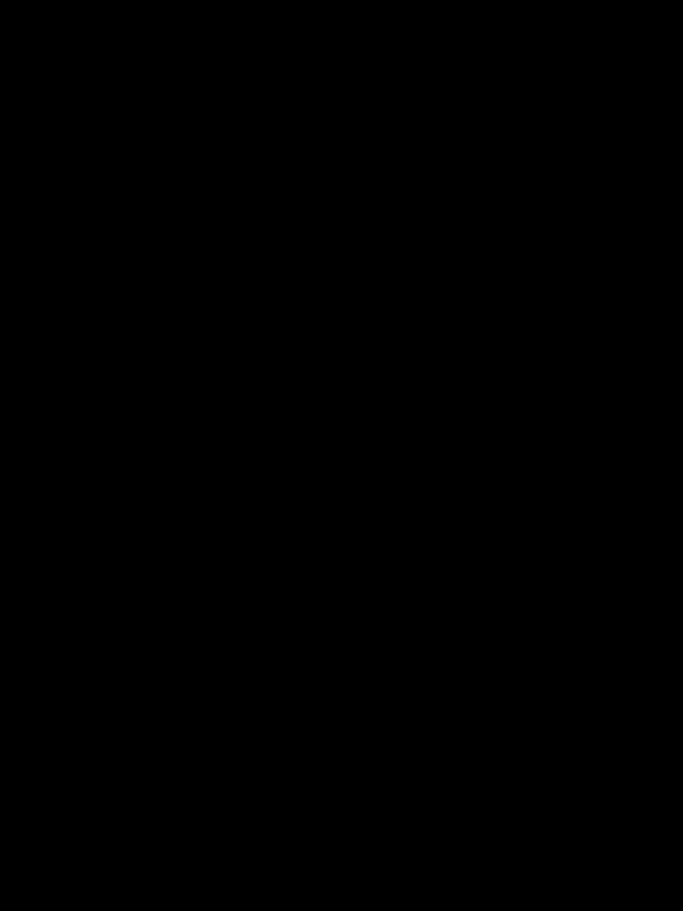
Promote to:

1. Surrounding cities and worldwide visitors
2. Education Institutes and school field trips

Project Includes
Museum
Conference Halls
Entertainment Center
Restaurants
Hotel Rooms
Silicon Sky Walk
Observation Tower
AI robot
Drone Shows
NYE countdown
3D TV show on building
wall











Agenda Report

25-1579

Agenda Date: 11/3/2025

REPORT TO CULTURAL COMMISSION

SUBJECT

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

BACKGROUND

Annually, the Cultural Commission (“Commission”) considers three to five specific, measurable, attainable, realistic, and time-bound 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. During the FY the Commission may regularly discuss, provide updates, assign subcommittees, and prioritize projects related to these goals.

At the April 7, 2025, regular meeting, Commissioners adopted work plan priorities and activities for FY 2025/26 related to the Commission’s goals.

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
- B. Street Dance 2025
- C. Plan and host Friday Night Live Events
- D. Explore the feasibility of hosting a Group Wedding
- E. Secure sponsors for Cultural Commission special events in FY 2025/26

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
- B. Support Traffic Box Program
- C. Host Indoor Sculpture Exhibition
- D. Host Halloween Home & Holiday Home Decorating Contest and recognition:
- E. 1 winner per Council District, 1 group entry winner, 1 Best of the Best
- F. Update and maintain City interactive web-based public art map

GOAL #3: Raise the visibility of commemorative months.

- A. Identify a space to curate and facilitate the celebration of commemorative month, 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

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 November 3, 2025, meeting, the Commission may discuss, edit, and prioritize projects and activities noted in the attached Work Plan (Attachment 1). The Commission may also identify subcommittees to work on the items. Through this item, the Commission may provide updates to the attached Work Plan.

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 annual budget allocated for Commission activities is \$57,541 in FY 2025/26. Project allocations are identified in the work plan (Attachment 1) and voted on by the Commission.

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: 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 Concerts 2026 TBD	Priorities 4 & 6 Summer 2025- \$32,648 (GFI- \$30,148 + \$2,500-1 stage)	Attendance Budget Feedback
Street Dance	Samara/Diaz/Roy	August 1, 2025 Neon Velvet	2025 Complete	Attendance: 3,000

Plan and Host Friday Night Live Events	Garg/Samara/Pontious		In Progress	
Explore the feasibility of hosting a Group Wedding		Table for 2025	Priority 1	

Secure sponsors for Cultural Commission special events in FY 2025/26		Concerts in the Park: \$12,500 Street Dance: \$11,750	Priority 6	Packet is available
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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 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		Priority 4 Allocation to \$6,000 6 boxes \$1,000	6 Boxes get painted

Host Indoor Sculpture Exhibition		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
Update and maintain City interactive web-based public art map	Diaz/von Huene/Samara		Priority 4	

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	Das/von Huene/ Garg		Priority 4	

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
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Present accomplishments to City Council annually	von Huene		Priority 6	
Develop, maintain, and grow partnerships and collaborations with external organizations.	von Huene/Pontious		Priority 6	

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		Priorities 4 & 6	Work with Parks & Recreation Department on community engagement and delivery of project.
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