



TO: Mayor and Council

FROM: JEREMY BUBNICK, DIRECTOR OF PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES
CLAUDIA TORRES, SPECIAL EVENTS & FACILITIES DIVISION MANAGER
COUNCIL LIAISON ULISES CABRERA, MAYOR

AGENDA DATE: August 19, 2025

TITLE: PUBLIC ARTS COMMISSION 2024-2025 FISCAL YEAR ANNUAL REPORT

TITLE SUMMARY: PUBLIC ARTS COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT

SUMMARY

The Public Arts Commission shall act in an advisory capacity to the City Council to encourage, stimulate, promote, and foster programs for the cultural enrichment of the city and thereby contribute to the quality of life in Moreno Valley and develop an awareness of the value of the arts in Moreno Valley in the business community, in local government, and in the general public. In addition, the commission shall advise the city council with respect to the following:

- Planning for the arts in Moreno Valley;
- Facilitating interaction among artists;
- Promoting arts activities and education;
- Recognizing achievement in arts;
- Providing a mechanism for public participation in the arts;
- Serving as an advisory group on the arts to the City Council;
- Advising the City council on the involvement of arts in economic development;
- Supporting and assisting existing organizations involved in arts and/or culture in Moreno Valley;
- Reinforcing the city's identity and civic pride through arts and culture;
- Recognizing the importance of arts to the city's quality of life;

- Researching grants for arts and culture and making recommendations to the City council;
- Encouraging service organizations and/or other governmental agencies to propose, finance, and give public arts projects to the city;
- Reviewing and considering proposed gifts as to their artistic quality, authenticity, appropriate site, and maintenance and installation costs; and
- Performing any other functions that may be designated by resolution or motion of the city council.

The commission shall research and provide reports and recommendations to the City Council of possible sources of funding, in addition to public funds for potential city public art projects, recognizing that any proposed annual public art plan may well include a variety of funding strategies including, but not limited to:

- Private contributions;
- Grants;
- Corporate sponsorships;
- Matching gifts;
- Development fees (if allowable and adequate);
- Outright gifts of actual public art.

COMPOSITION

The following persons serve as voting members:

1. Samantha Contreras, Chairperson, Term Ending 6/30/2025
2. Evangelina Weiss, Vice-Chairperson, Term Ending 6/30/2026
3. Nia Des Verney, Commissioner, Term Ending 6/30/2025
4. Lizbeth Orellana, Commissioner, Term Ending 6/30/2025
5. Andrea Austin, Commissioner, Term Ending 6/30/2025
6. Arzill Beason, Commissioner, Term Ending 6/30/2027

The current Chair is Samantha Contreras, and the current Vice Chair is Evangelina Weiss.

RECOMMENDATIONS SUBMITTED TO COUNCIL/DISPOSITION

EL Potrero Park Mural – On September 20, 2024, the City Council approved Chris Poupore’s Public Art Application which was placed on hold on May 2024. The project included a two-day community workshop, coloring book with explanation of artwork, and was completed June 21, 2025.

Arts in California Parks Grant – The Public Arts Commission assisted in the call to artist and entertainment for the Multicultural and Art Festival which was held on March 8, 2025. With the support of the Public Arts Commission 24 artists showcased their talent and celebrated diversity through their mediums.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Call to Artists Utility Box Program - The Public Arts Commission approved a budget of \$500.00 for each box artwork and \$1,200.00 to the utility box wrap vendor. The funds will be allocated from the Public Arts Program budget. Staff presented a map of the 32 utility boxes that are available for artist submission for the Utility Box Wrap program. Call to Artists will begin August 2025 and will remain open until filled.

Public Art Program Budget - The Public Arts Commission recommended a \$250,000.00 budget to be approved by City Council that will be in effect 7/1/25.

Immersive Museum – The Public Arts Commission shared input on ways to create a space for the community to be part of the immersive Museum. Due to this recommendation, a space where local artists and/or classes can take place has been added to the museum’s plans.

Chairperson Contreras, Vice-Chairperson Weiss, and Commission Austin volunteered to serve as judges for the Moreno Valley Unified School District Art Show on May 16th.

FUTURE ITEMS

Demonstration Garden Sculpture – The Public Arts Commission recommends that the Council review and consider the Art Commission’s approval of the Public Art Program Request for Funding Application for Silly Sunflower at the Community Demonstration Garden. The amount of funding being requested by the applicant is \$7,670.00. The Staff Report is scheduled for September 2, 2025, Council meeting.

ATTENDANCE

The attendance sheet is attached with this staff report.

The Commission held 6 regular meetings and 3 special meetings.

Name	Regular Meeting Absences	Special Meeting Absences	Percent Absent
Beason	2/6	1/3	33%
Des Verney	3/6	1/3	44%
Weiss	0/6	0/3	0%
Orellana	0/6	0/3	0%
Contreras	0/6	0/3	0%
Austin	1/6	1/3	22%

PREPARATION OF STAFF REPORT

Prepared by:
Claudia Torres
Special Events & Facilities Division Manager

Reviewed and Approved by:
Jeremy Bubnick
Director of Parks & Community Services

ARTS COMMISSION – ATTENDANCE FOR FY 2024/2025

Commission Member/Council Participants	DATE OF MEETING																	
	7/24	8/28	9/25	10/23	11/20 (SM)	12/18 (SM)	12/23 (SM)	1/22	2/26	3/26	4/23	5/28	6/25					
Arzill Beason	C	C	C	X	X	X	E	L	X	NQ	X	A	A					
Hermie Natividad	C	C	C															
Nia Des Verney	C	C	C	X	L	X	A	X	A	NQ	X	A	A					
Evangelina Weiss	C	C	C	X	X	X	X	X	X	NQ	X	X	X					
Lizbeth Orellana	C	C	C	X	X	X	X	X	X	NQ	X	X	X					
Samantha Contreras	C	C	C	X	X	X	X	X	X	NQ	X	X	X					
Andrea Austin	C	C	C	X	X	E	X	X	X	NQ	A	X	X					
Genevieve Aleman	C	C	C	X	E	A	A	E	A	NQ	A							
Rosana Anguiano Cortez	C	C	C	X	X	X	X	X	X	NQ	X							
Ulises Cabrera-Mayor	C	C	C	A	X	X	X	A	L	NQ	A	A	A					
Cheylynda Barnard-Council Member	C	C	C	A	A	A	A	A	A	NQ	A	A	A					

X – Present E – Excused A – Absent L – Late C – Cancelled
 NQ – No Quorum SM – Special Meeting NM – No Meeting * - Joint Meeting

 -NA/Resigned