

Culver City Equity and Human Relations Advisory Committee
Report for January 23, 2024 ERAC Meeting
Diversity and Awareness Projects (DAP) Ad Hoc Subcommittee

Members of the Diversity Awareness Ad Hoc Subcommittee are: Chair Carlos Valverde, Member Haiffa Moammar, Member Nweke Ifunanyachukwu, and Member Rebecca Rona.

Original Vision:

We have envisioned four small DAP kiosks representing four ethnicities and races, each represented by people who resided in Culver City and the area long ago as well as some who continue to live here today. These include Japanese Americans; African Americans; Latinos, and the Tongva People. These small kiosks would be placed in four locations appropriate to their content.

The body of information will refer to

1. **The Kunisawa family and farm**, located on the land where Farragut Elementary, Culver City Middle School and Culver City High School currently stand;
2. **Sebastian's Cotton Club**, with a rich musical history that included performances by prominent African American artists
3. **Pacific Electric Labor Camp**, which was located in the area of the Warner Media building, where countless Latinos resided for decades;
4. **The Tongva People** Because they lived and worked throughout the area, their ancestral land, any location would appropriate.

We envision the detailed information to describe and explain the four ethnicities as well, represented by families and locations.

Small individual EHRAC kiosks The ad hoc subcommittee's original intent was to have individual kiosks at significant locations that correspond to each of the four groups. Each kiosk would include a QR code that would enable any visitor to access a (single) microsite about each of our subjects. The material on the microsite would include documents, photos, videos and music. On each kiosk there would be one or a few photos, brief text and the QR code.

Electronic kiosks Because staff has informed us that our city government may decide to place electronic kiosks throughout the city, the Diversity Awareness Ad Hoc Subcommittee will explore the possibility of housing this content on a microsite accessible through these kiosks.

Microsite:

The ad hoc subcommittee is now discussing and exploring creation of the microsite that would be located prominently on Culver City's official website. It would house the items listed above and would be accessed via the QR code or touch screen button included on each kiosk.

Budget:

The ad hoc subcommittee currently does not have enough information about the city electronic kiosks to determine total budgetary needs. However, we are exploring the creation of the microsite and making it part of the existing City website. Another possibility we are considering is having the Diversity Awareness Projects microsite become a stand-alone website, similar to the Fiesta La Ballona website. The cost of a separate microsite would be approximately \$3,000 for design and setup (one-time fee) and \$2,000 annually for hosting.

Programming:

Members of the Diversity Awareness Ad Hoc Subcommittee have discussed the possibility that programs will be held at or near the relevant locations, regardless of whether the EHRAC kiosks originally envisioned become a reality.

Potential Policy Impact:

The Culver City Equity and Human Relations Advisory Committee was created as a result of the City's commitment to improving intergroup relations along with the City's promotion and celebration of diversity and inclusion. The microsite serves as an on-going commitment to enhance the recognition and knowledge of the modern day presence and rich cultural heritage of the various groups in Culver City. This type of educational and informational recognition could help inform future public policy related to the education of current citizens and visitors, as well as future generations, of the City's unique cultural and ethnic makeup. New public policies could conceivably address the need to reach out to ethnic communities, make Culver City more welcoming, and encourage and assist these communities to become more involved in the life of Culver City.

Next Steps

The DAP ad hoc subcommittee is currently working on:

- Creating a timeline for completion of the microsite content, possibly completed in April.
- Writing the narrative for each group.
- Obtaining media, photos, documents, etc. that will be included for each group.
- Exploring media release forms for the photos and art included for each group.
- Obtaining an update from staff about the city's proposed electronic kiosks.
- Exploring the design elements of the microsite (Who will design it? Who will maintain it? Any associated costs?) In addition, we are exploring other websites that may help us to refine our vision and conceivably to use as models.