

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE  
CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION  
PUBLIC ART SUBCOMMITTEE  
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

July 6, 2023  
6:00 P.M.

### **Call to Order & Roll Call**

The special meeting of the Cultural Affairs Commission Public Art Subcommittee was called to order at 6:17 P.M. in the Patio Room at City Hall.

Present: Brenda Williams, Commissioner  
Ehsaan Mesghali, Commissioner

Staff: Christine Byers, Cultural Affairs Manager  
Lee Lawlor, Cultural Affairs Analyst

Other individuals present: Marla Koosed, Hope Parrish with the Culver City Historical Society, and Management Analyst, Alicia Ide.

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### **Pledge of Allegiance**

None.

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### **Action Items**

Item A-1

#### **Continuation of Review and Discussion of Municipal Code Section 15.06.100 et seq. Relating to the Art in Public Places Program**

Christine Byers, Cultural Affairs Manager, introduced the item; reported distributing the ten year summary of annual revenue collected through the percent for art program; discussed the

Mitigation Fee Act; lawsuits from developers wanting their impact fees returned if they are not spent within five years; whether to change the percentage required that has been the same since 1988; fund balance; AB 1600; Public Works; restrictions to how the funds can be used; work at the previous subcommittee meeting; items that still need to be updated; adding in language about paying the artists an honorarium; streamlining processes; and the need to update review criteria for new art concepts.

Discussion ensued between meeting participants, staff, and Subcommittee Members regarding ensuring that art concepts meet a certain level of artistic quality; recommendations from former Commissioner Zoltan Pali; submission of plans to the Planning and Development Director; desired recommendations; review by the City Attorney; an item removed for redundancy; DEI (Diversity and Equity Inclusion) language in the code; identification of the staff responsible for maintenance; the covenant; different maintenance requirements included in exhibits; appraisals; the application package from the developer; properties that change hands; the gap between property owners knowing about the covenants; educating property owners about their responsibilities; updates to the red walking tours book; annual inspections of each site; the importance of relationships in effectively maintaining the permanent public art collection; proper maintenance; follow up; level of City involvement in the agreement between the owner and the artist; the determination of whether a project meets requirements; the need to tighten up the guidelines; recommendations of things to consider; the Los Angeles County Percent for Art ordinance; subjectivity; balancing a range of tastes; exceptions to the rule; language taken from other public agencies; compliance with general requirements; tightening up vague language; site specific artwork; underlying concepts; scale; materials; workmanship; defining artistic quality and artist; concern with one-size-fits-all language; adding language to indicate "non-commercial"; ensuring that artwork is of a certain caliber; commercialization of art; lines that are being blurred; AI (Artificial Intelligence); people in other countries; aesthetics; art vs. design; landscaping; commercial vs. non-commercial art; artist transitions; innovation; originality; language regarding reflecting the city and the minds of its citizens; striving for the highest quality; conceptual

compatibility of the design with the immediate environment of the site; physical dimensions; social dynamics; local character and surrounding context of the site; elimination of redundant language; the importance of artwork that is well-sited; ensuring that the artwork stands alone within the context of the site and does not compete with surroundings; artwork that becomes obscured; artwork that relates to the city; appropriateness of the design to the function of the site; historic preservation; site specific art; providing flexibility; defining the number of criteria that need to be met; the job of the subcommittee to say no before it gets too far in the process; making it clear what the City expects; uniqueness; site specific vs. city specific; open ended language vs. specific language; use of the word "activate"; making a contribution to a balanced inventory of artworks; projects that meet requirements; requirements vs. considerations; providing specificity with the type of art; art that promotes public dialogue; disqualifying characteristics of artwork; and Subcommittee agreement to review items that require further consideration.

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**Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda**

None.

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**Adjournment**

There being no further business, the special meeting of the Cultural Affairs Commission Public Art Subcommittee adjourned at 7:29 p.m.

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Jeremy Bocchino  
CITY CLERK of Culver City, California  
EX-OFFICIO CITY CLERK of the City Council of Culver City,  
California

**APPROVED** \_\_\_\_\_

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Brenda Williams  
**CHAIR of the Culver City Cultural Affairs Commission**  
**Public Art Subcommittee**

Minutes Preparation: Kristi Callan