

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

June 24, 2025
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 6:20 P.M. in the Patio Room at City Hall.

Present: Brenda Williams, Chair
Ehsaan Mesghali, Commissioner

Staff: Sally Unsworth, Cultural Affairs Manager
Sam Lee, Cultural Affairs Analyst

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Consent Calendar Items

Item C-1

Approval of Minutes of the April 8, 2025 Cultural Affairs Commission Public Art Subcommittee Meeting

MOVED BY CHAIR WILLIAMS, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MESGHALI AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION PUBLIC ART SUBCOMMITTEE APPROVE MINUTES FOR THE APRIL 8, 2025 CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION PUBLIC ART SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING.

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Order of the Agenda

No changes were made.

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Action Items

Item A-1

1) Consideration of a Deaccession of a Permanent Public Artwork "Media in Motion" located at 10950 Washington Blvd.; and 2) Make Recommendation to the Cultural Affairs Commission

Sam Lee, Cultural Affairs Analyst, introduced the item noting that the architect and attorneys for the Hudson Pacific Properties development could not be present and requested that staff provide the presentation; he indicated that the entire site would be demolished and that plans had been presented to the City for a redevelopment; he noted that the artwork had incorporated the address; discussed the inability to relocate the artwork; communication with the artists who did not want the artwork back; the artwork as having met requirements; reasons for the deaccession; and developer agreement to cover removal costs.

Discussion ensued between staff and Subcommittee Members regarding the proposed development; the local developer; activation of Washington Boulevard; payment of the fee; the covenants for all artwork regarding damage and deaccession; and valuation of the artwork.

Additional discussion ensued between staff and Subcommittee Members regarding due diligence in the deaccessioning process; examination of the entire collection; notification of the neighborhood and public meeting notice for the August Cultural Affairs Commission meeting; looking at restrictions on public art; public art in an address; ensuring that art produced is original and produced by a qualified artist; gateway art; City branding; Subcommittee advising of the Commission on the nuances; artful signage; commercially manufactured elements; responsibility of the Cultural Affairs Commission vs. Economic Development; the role of the Commission to work on education touchpoints for the public; lack of a Public Art Subcommittee in 1998; procedures that are now in place for consideration of public art; and clarification that since the development is private, the matter would go before the Cultural Affairs Commission rather than the City Council.

MOVED BY CHAIR WILLIAMS, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MESGHALI AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION PUBLIC ART SUBCOMMITTEE: RECOMMEND MEDIA IN MOTION FOR

DEACCESSION TO THE CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION (CAC) FOR FINAL APPROVAL AT THEIR AUGUST 19, 2025 MEETING.

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Items from Members/Staff

Sally Unsworth, Cultural Affairs Manager, noted that this was the only Standing Subcommittee of the Cultural Affairs Commission; there would be a new Member in the future; and she asked Chair Williams to share parting thoughts and advice for the future member.

Chair Williams noted the importance of ensuring that the person serving on the subcommittee has a voice and uses it; discussed the nuances in Public Art; ensuring everyone in Culver City will be happy about the art; art that is meant to challenge; ensuring that Culver City is a safe space; support for the exciting work of the Public Art Subcommittee; the need to have passion; and she expressed appreciation for the work done with the consultants, individual curators, and artists.

Sally Unsworth, Cultural Affairs Manager, noted the large amount of work coming up for the Subcommittee; discussed studio visits; the Long Range Plan; creating an actual public art map; increasing intentionality; mapping out and prioritizing underserved areas in need of public art; and the Temporary Public Art Program.

Discussion ensued between staff and Subcommittee Members regarding conducting an audit; digitization of art files; looking at maintenance plans; determining whether a piece is past its useful life; the deaccessioning process; prioritization; and creating a cohesive database.

Sam Lee, Cultural Affairs Analyst, provided an update regarding the Farragut Connector.

Discussion ensued between staff and Subcommittee Members regarding a potential opening for the project; the well-loved corridor; chalk art; adding signage asking people not to draw around the artwork; the chalk ordinance; community opposition to benches in the corridor to discourage people from lingering; and the appeal of the safe and inviting area.

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Adjournment

There being no further business, the special meeting of the Cultural Affairs Commission Public Art Subcommittee adjourned at 6:49 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 _____

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