



505 S. Garey Ave
Pomona, CA 91766

City of Pomona

Cultural Arts Commission

Draft Action Minutes

Chairperson Christian Ornelas
Vice-Chairperson Lisa P. Soseith
Commissioner Jovani Esparza
Commissioner Venita Rodman
Commissioner Dianna Batts
Commissioner Nancy A. Tessier
Commissioner Joshua Swodeck

June 23, 2025

5:30 PM

Council Chambers

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Christian Ornelas called the Cultural Arts Commission meeting to order at 5:32 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairperson Christian Ornelas led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Present: Chairperson Christian Ornelas
Vice-Chairperson Lisa P. Soiseth
Commissioner Jovani Esparza
Commissioner Venita Rodman
Commissioner Joshua Swodeck

Absent: Commissioner Dianna Batts
Commissioner Nancy A. Tessier

Staff Present: Ata Khan, Office & Economic of Business Affairs Deputy Director
Jocelyn Ayala, Arts in Public Places Program Manager

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

COMMISSIONER COMMUNICATION

Vice-Chairperson Soseith – shared her condolences for the passing of former Planning Commissioner and arts supporter Ron VanderMolen.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Approval of Action Minutes from the Cultural Arts Commission meeting of June 23, 2025.

A motion by Commissioner Swodeck, seconded by Vice-Chairperson Soiseth, carried by a unanimous vote of the members present (5-0-0-2) to approve the Action Minutes from the Cultural Arts Commission meeting of June 23, 2025.

Chairperson Christian Ornelas – yes; Vice-Chairperson Lisa P. Soiseth – yes; Commissioner Jovani Esparza – yes; Commissioner Venita Rodman – yes; Commissioner Dianna Batts – absent; Commissioner Nancy Tessier – absent; Commissioner Joshua Swodeck – yes.

IN OPPOSITION: None

IN SUPPORT: None

DISCUSSION TIME: 1 minute (5:40 p.m. to 5:41 p.m.)

PUBLIC HEARING

None

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Action Plan – Discussion of next steps as we close out the current Action Plan 2020-2025.

Program Manager Ayala presented the item.

The Action Plan was discussed based on six categories: (1) People, (2) Promotion, (3) Programs, (4) Places, (5) Preservation, and (6) Partnerships. Below are the main points that Commissioners shared with Staff:

(1) People

- a. Partner with Art Walk Artists
- b. Ambassador for AIPP/CAC
- c. Identifying other populations (ie. Vietnamese, Islamic, Special Needs, etc.)
- d. Incentivize Art Gallery Creation/ exposure/ sustainability

- e. Non-AIPP Commission / Community Cohesion
- (2) Promotion
 - a. Passport to AIPP / Pomona
 - b. Self-Guided Walking Tour of AIPP
 - c. Promote Cultural Arts Commission
 - d. GIS Map—share it, educate, showcase
 - e. Cultural Arts Instagram – focus on AIPP, not mixed with regular City events
 - f. Information Hub
- (3) Programs
 - a. Student-Specific Teaching
 - b. Project Based Internship with Stipends (Learning Business Side of Art)
 - c. Art in Residency
- (4) Places
 - a. Urban Gardens (Walls, Sculptures)
 - b. VPD Lot Panels
 - c. Gardens/Sculptures in Vacant Lots
 - d. Wayfinding/Walkability (e.g. East Holt Walkable Art Experiences)
- (5) Preservation
 - a. VPD Lot Panels
 - b. Look at data—proactively preserve aging murals—put them in regular cycles
- (6) Partnerships
 - a. Art Walk
 - b. Secret Walls (Competition, Teams, etc.)
 - c. Colleges, Fairplex, PUSD/SAE, CBOs, Artsca.gov, LA County, DCA, AMOCA (North of RR Tracks attention)

Deputy Director Khan ended the items discussion.

Discussion only, no action taken.

IN OPPOSITION: None

IN SUPPORT: None

DISCUSSION TIME: 1 hour 23 minutes (5:42 p.m. to 7:05 p.m.)

STAFF COMMUNICATION

Program Manager Ayala presented updates on the following items:

1. 2022 Call for Art
2. 2024 Call for Art
3. Hamilton Park Art
4. Garey Underpass Art

Deputy Director Khan informed the Commission that his office has changed to Office & Economic of Business Affairs, and it includes Arts and Public Places Program Manager Ayala and a part-time position to assist with administration.

ADJOURNMENT

The Cultural Arts Commission meeting was adjourned by Chairperson Ornelas at 7:11 p.m. to the next regular meeting of August 25, 2025, at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Prepared by,

Ata Khan
Deputy Director

Jocelyn Ayala
AIPP Manager