



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

May 15, 2025

5:30 PM

Council Chambers & 801 NE 7th St., Oklahoma City, OK 73104

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Christian Ornelas called the Cultural Arts Commission meeting to order at 5:30 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. Soseith
Commissioner Jovani Esparza
Commissioner Venita Rodman
Commissioner Dianna Batts

Absent: Commissioner Venita Rodman
Commissioner Joshua Swodeck

Staff Present: Ata Khan, Deputy Director of Development Services
Jocelyn Ayala, Arts Coordinator

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

COMMISSIONER COMMUNICATION

Commissioner Esparza – LA County Fair (Alley Gallery booth and shows)

Chairperson Ornelas – Architecture design presentations in City Hall had interesting inclusion of art in their designs.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Approval of Action Minutes from the Cultural Arts Commission meeting of March 24, 2025.

A motion by Chairperson Ornelas, seconded by Commissioner Esparza, 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 March 24, 2025.

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

IN OPPOSITION: None

IN SUPPORT: None

Chairperson Ornelas moved Discussion item G-1 and opened the item as public hearing.

PUBLIC HEARING

1. Mural Permit (MURAL-000370-2025) – 255 W. Mission Blvd.

Applicant Frank Guzman was present for the hearing. He stated that the Pomona Valley Pride Center hosted listening sessions and collected important aspects of the community for the imagery chosen. Depicted are three figures—Marsha P. Johnson, Dolores Huerta, and Tina Calderon. In the right-hand corner, there are color squares to represent pride colors, Trans colors and ethnicities. This project was funded through the Office of Violence Prevention.

A motion by Chairperson Ornelas, seconded by Commissioner Soiseth, carried by a unanimous vote of the members present (5-0-0-2) to approve the Mural Permit (MURAL-000370-2025).

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

IN OPPOSITION: None

IN SUPPORT: Frank Guzman

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Public Art Restoration Request for Metrolink North Pomona Station Faux Water Tower Public Art.

A motion by Chairperson Ornelas, seconded by Commissioner Esparza, carried by a unanimous vote of the members present (5-0-0-2) to approve Art in Public Places Funding to be utilized for the restoration of the Metrolink North Pomona Station Faux Water Tower Public Art with acknowledgement that this funding will be reimbursed by Metro.

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

IN OPPOSITION: None

IN SUPPORT: None

2. Amendment to Existing Agreement with Raoul Ghymel for Garey Underpass (Area 1) Call for Art for Artist Traffic Safety

A motion by Chairperson Ornelas, seconded by Commissioner Soiseth, carried by a unanimous vote of the members present (5-0-0-2) to approve the amendment existing Arts Agreement with Raoul Ghymel for Garey Underpass (Area 1) Art to facilitate artist traffic safety.

Commissioner requested to agendize discussion on the mural unveiling for the Garey Underpass. Commissioner Esparza is interested in being part of the celebration.

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

IN OPPOSITION: None

IN SUPPORT: None

3. Preservation of Artwork through recognition of the Public Art Registry

A motion by Commissioner Esparza, seconded by Commissioner Ornelas, carried by a unanimous vote of the members present (5-0-0-2) to approve the City's Public Art Registry that recognize specific artworks on this registry may be funded for preservation/restoration if they are (1) City-Owned (2) funded or partially funded by the

City (pre-dating the AIPP Ordinance) or have been (3) funded by the Art in Public Places Fund.

***Artworks outside of these qualifications may be presented on a case-by-case basis to the City pending status of AIPP Ordinance relation (i.e. related to Private Development requirements from the AIPP Ordinance or Private Property murals that will require further evaluation.**

STAFF COMMUNICATION

1. Arts Mont Recap
2. 2022 Call for Art Update
3. 2024 Call for Art Update
4. Hamilton Park Update
5. Garey Underpass Update
6. Preservation Update

ADJOURNMENT

The Cultural Arts Commission meeting was adjourned by Chairperson Ornelas at 6:37 p.m. to the next regular meeting of June 23, 2025 at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Prepared by,

Ata Khan
Deputy Director

Miroslava PourSanae
Administrative Assistant