



CITY OF GILROY
ARTS AND CULTURE
COMMISSION



REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

TUESDAY, AUGUST 11, 2026 | 6:30 PM

COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL
7351 ROSANNA STREET, GILROY, CA 95020

Chair: Ruben Dario Villa

Vice Chair: Makhan Gupta

Commissioners: Camille McCormack, Meena Vijaykar, Rabia Shahid, Subul Siddiqui, & Wendy Zamora

Executive Sponsor: Harjot Sangha, Assistant City Administrator

Staff Liaisons: Kylie Katsuyoshi, Management Analyst Trainee and Stefan Mercer, Management Assistant



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Materials related to an item on this agenda submitted to the City of Gilroy Arts and Culture Commission after distribution of the agenda packet are available with the agenda packet on the City website at www.cityofgilroy.org subject to the Staff's ability to post the documents before the meeting.

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PUBLIC COMMENT GUIDELINES:

During the **PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA** portion of the meeting, each person wishing to speak should prepare a presentation of not more than three (3) minutes. Persons wishing to address the Commission are requested, but not required, to complete a Speaker's Card located at the entrances. Completion of this speaker's card is voluntary. All persons may attend this meeting and speak, regardless if a card is completed or not. Speaker's slips should be submitted to the Secretary **BEFORE** this portion of the

meeting begins. Anyone wishing to address the Commission on any other item on this **AGENDA** is requested, but not required, to fill out a speaker's slip as well and submit it to the Secretary **BEFORE** the Commission takes action on the item.

The agenda for this regular meeting is as follows:

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
2. **ROLL CALL**
3. **SECRETARY'S REPORT**
4. **ORDERS OF THE DAY**
5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - 5.1. **Approval of the Minutes from the July 14, 2026 Regular Meeting of the Arts and Culture Commission**
6. **PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA**
7. **OLD BUSINESS**
 - 7.1. **Review of Fiscal Year 2026 and 2027 Work Plan**
 - 7.2. **Discussion on Arts and Culture Commission Annual Presentation**
 - 7.3. **Discussion on Past Tabling Events and Preparation for Future Tabling Events**
8. **NEW BUSINESS**
 - 8.1. **Discussion Regarding the Placement and Use of City-Owned Art within City Hall, Including Council Chambers**
 - 8.2. **Information Regarding City's Recreation Division Assessment**
9. **GILROY ART-RELATED COMMUNITY EVENT UPDATES**
10. **COMMISSION COMMENTS**
11. **STAFF COMMENTS**
12. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEM REQUESTS**
13. **ADJOURNMENT**

FUTURE MEETING DATES

September 8, 2026 – Gilroy City Council Chambers – 6:30 PM

October 13, 2026 – Gilroy City Council Chambers – 6:30 PM

November 10, 2026 – Gilroy City Council Chambers – 6:30 PM
December 8, 2026 – Gilroy City Council Chambers – 6:30 PM

City of Gilroy
Arts and Culture Commission
Draft Minutes
Tuesday, July 14, 2026 | 6:30 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Villa at 6:30 PM.

2. ROLL CALL

Attendance	Attendee Name
Present	Commissioner Ruben Dario Villa Commissioner Subul Siddiqui Commissioner Camille McCormack Commissioner Makhan Gupta Commissioner Meena Vijaykar Commissioner Rabia Shahid Commissioner Wendy Zamora

3. SECRETARY'S REPORT

Staff Member Mercer reported that the agenda was posted on Friday, July 10th, 2026 at 5:08 PM.

4. ORDERS OF THE DAY

None.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approval of the Minutes from the June 9, 2026, Regular Meeting of the Arts and Culture Commission

Motion

Approve

RESULT: **Passed**

MOVER: Vice Chair Gupta

SECONDER: Commissioner Siddiqui

AYES: Chair Villa, Commissioner Vijaykar, Commissioner McCormack,
Commissioner Shahid

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Commissioner Zamora

6. PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Chair Villa opened public comment at 6:32 P.M.

Greg Felios - Spoke on Tie Dye making a comeback. In addition, he encouraged the Commission to attend the Downtown Live Music Series on Thursday evenings, as well as other community events to show their support.

With no further speakers, Chair Villa closed public comment.

7. OLD BUSINESS

1. Review of Fiscal Year 2026 and 2027 Work Plan

The Commission reviewed marketing materials for the For the Love of Gilroy Public Art Campaign and provided feedback to Chair Villa. Chair Villa shared examples of community engagement activities from a previous For the Love of Gilroy campaign. The Commission agreed to close the online art submission period on December 4, 2026, at midnight. The Commission also provided staff with input on the content they would like included on the For the Love of Gilroy project webpage.

Commissioner Shahid provided an update on the Multicultural Community Days work plan item. The subcommittee agreed to begin creating a fundraising proposal.

2. Discussion on Arts and Culture Commission Annual Presentation

Commissioner Zamora provided background information on the Commission's tabling participation at the Great Garlic Halloween Fun Run last year. The Commission discussed other items to include in the presentation. Chair Villa plans to provide the draft PowerPoint presentation for the Commission to review at the next meeting on August 11.

8. NEW BUSINESS

1. Ratification of Donation Fund Expenditures for the Party in the Park Tabling Event

Staff member Katsuyoshi provided a report.

The Commission received the report.

2. Discussion on Past Tabling Events and Preparation for Future Tabling Events

The Commission discussed the Party in the Park event, including what went well and areas for improvement for future tabling events. The Commission discussed and coordinated tabling at the National Night Out event, including identifying staffing assignments, coverage times, planned activities, and handouts.

9. GILROY ART-RELATED COMMUNITY EVENT UPDATES

Chair Villa mentioned a Cumbia and Country event at La Casa de Cultura y Arte on Friday, July 17. He also mentioned the Third Friday Art Walk and a band performance at the Gilroy Center for the Arts, both on Friday, July 17. Commissioner Vijaykar encouraged the Commission to attend the upcoming Downtown Live event on Thursday, July 16th.

10. COMMISSION COMMENTS

None.

11. STAFF COMMENTS

None.

12. FUTURE AGENDA ITEM REQUESTS

None.

13. ADJOURNMENT

With no additional business before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 7:58 P.M.

DRAFT



City of Gilroy Arts and Culture Commission

STAFF REPORT

Agenda Item Title: Review of Fiscal Year 2026 and 2027 Work Plan

Meeting Date: August 11, 2026

From: Kylie Katsuyoshi, Management Analyst Trainee

Department: Administration

Submitted by:

Prepared by: Kylie Katsuyoshi, Management Analyst Trainee

RECOMMENDATION

Commission discussion on work plan items.

BACKGROUND

At the February 11, 2025, Regular Meeting of the Arts and Culture Commission, the Commission adopted a work plan for FY26 and FY27. This will be an ongoing agenda item to discuss the work plan items, and to receive updates from any commissioner or committee.

Prior Updates

For the Love of Gilroy Event

The Arts and Culture Commission (ACC) has, with Council approval, an item on their work plan titled "For the Love of Gilroy Event", to continue the successful pilot program into an annual event each year. For this project, the Commission solicits two-dimensional art designs from local artists to be printed on banners and posted on streetlight poles along Monterey Road in Downtown Gilroy. At the January 5, 2026, City Council Regular Meeting, the Council instructed the ACC to create, in the next program cycle, two award categories: one for adults and the other for minors.

At the May 12, 2026, Special Meeting of the Arts and Culture Commission, the Commission decided to create a submission group for youth ages 0 to 18 and a group for adults ages 19 and over.

At the June 9, 2026, Regular Meeting of the Arts and Culture Commission, the Commission decided to award 4 of the 14 selected artists to youth participants. A

framework containing this information, along with additional project details, is included as an attachment to this staff report.

Multicultural Community Days

At the July 14, 2026, Regular Meeting of the Arts and Culture Commission, the Commission decided to begin working on a fundraising proposal.

ANALYSIS**For the Love of Gilroy Event**

The Commission may wish to discuss any outstanding project items.

Multicultural Community Days

The Commission may wish to discuss the drafting of the fundraising proposal.

ALTERNATIVES

None.

FISCAL IMPACT/FUNDING SOURCE

None.

Attachments:

1. Arts and Culture Commission Workplan - FY26 and FY27
2. 2027 For The Love of Gilroy Framework - Revised 2026-08-07

2026 and 2027 Arts and Culture Commission Work Plan

Project Name	Work	Lead Commissioner	Sub-Committee Members	City Council Priority	Status
For the Love of Gilroy Event	Continue the successful pilot program into an annual event each year.	Chair Villa	Commissioner McCormack Commissioner Siddiqui	N/A	In the planning process.
Multicultural Community Days	Explore hosting an event series featuring arts and culture presentations and displays of various cultures in the community, consisting of up to two events per fiscal year as a pilot program.	Commissioner Shahid	Commissioner Siddiqui Commissioner Zamora	<i>Neighborhood Equity</i>	Under discussion.
Fundraising Gala	Explore the opportunity to host a fundraising gala, aiming at one event during the workplan period.			<i>Financial Resilience</i>	Under discussion.
Update the Arts and Culture Strategic Plan	Update the strategic plan to identify strategies and goals for Gilroy's arts and culture into the future.			<i>Neighborhood Equity</i>	Under discussion.
Public Art Resource Document	Explore the viability of creating a public art resource document for future development, in conjunction with the Community Development Department.			<i>Neighborhood Equity</i>	Under discussion.

Updated June 2, 2026



CITY OF GILROY
ARTS AND CULTURE
COMMISSION



**2027 FOR THE LOVE OF GILROY
FRAMEWORK**

The City of Gilroy (City) is seeking designs from local artists, with a priority for Gilroy residents and Gilroy Unified School District (GUSD) students, to design two-dimensional artwork with the thematic concept of “For the Love of Gilroy”. Additionally, anyone who works physically within the Gilroy City Limits may also submit a design for consideration. A total of fourteen art pieces will be chosen from two separate age groups of 0-18 (four) and 19+ (ten). The City will purchase selected designs for \$500 in exchange for the rights to reproduce and use the artwork.

Local visual artists may submit a completed design for a light post banner that embodies the theme “For the Love of Gilroy” promoting arts, culture, and community in Gilroy and the surrounding South County region. This banner shall feature the artists’ original artwork in whichever 2D medium the artist feels most comfortable with. Final design submissions must meet design guidelines and be recommended for approval by the ACC to the City Council.

Approved designs will be printed and hung on existing light posts along Monterey Road, starting at the Sixth Street intersection and expanding north to Fourth Street and south to Seventh Street in Downtown Gilroy, on an ongoing, seasonal basis at the discretion of the City of Gilroy

The Arts and Culture Commission and the Administration Department anticipates the following general timeline for the campaign.

July 2026 – April 2027	Marketing and outreach
Monday August 31, 2026	Open for submissions
Friday December 4 th , 2026	Close for submissions
January 2027 ACC Meeting	Art pieces go to the ACC
February 2027 City Council Meeting	Recommendation presented at the City Council meeting
March 2027	Purchase the rights to the artwork and produce the banners
April 2027	Unveiling Event



City of Gilroy Arts and Culture Commission

STAFF REPORT

Agenda Item Title: Discussion on Arts and Culture Commission Annual Presentation

Meeting Date: August 11, 2026

From: Kylie Katsuyoshi, Management Analyst Trainee

Department: Administration

Submitted by:

Prepared by: Kylie Katsuyoshi, Management Analyst Trainee

RECOMMENDATION

Commission discussion on the Arts and Culture Commission annual presentation to Council.

BACKGROUND

The Arts and Culture Commission provides an annual presentation to the City Council highlighting the Commission's accomplishments and activities.

Prior Updates

At the May 12, 2026, Special Meeting of the Arts and Culture Commission, the Commission decided they would present their annual presentation at the August 17, 2026, City Council Regular Meeting.

At the June 9, 2026, Regular Meeting of the Arts and Culture Commission, the Commission decided they would have a presentation ready for review at the August 11, Arts and Culture Commission Meeting.

ANALYSIS

This item is intended to provide the Commission with an opportunity to discuss the content of the annual presentation and organize responsibilities.

ALTERNATIVES

None.

FISCAL IMPACT/FUNDING SOURCE

None.

Attachments:

None



City of Gilroy Arts and Culture Commission

STAFF REPORT

Agenda Item Title: Discussion on Past Tabling Events and Preparation for Future Tabling Events

Meeting Date: August 11, 2026

From: Kylie Katsuyoshi, Management Analyst Trainee

Department: Administration

Submitted by:

Prepared by: Kylie Katsuyoshi, Management Analyst Trainee

RECOMMENDATION

Commission discussion on the August 4 National Night Out event and preparation for future tabling events.

BACKGROUND

This will be an ongoing agenda item for discussion. The Commission participated in the National Night Out event held on August 4, 2026, by hosting a table for the Arts and Culture Commission. Commissioners engaged with attendees and shared information about the Commission's mission and activities. The Commission has also expressed interest in tabling at future community events.

ANALYSIS

The Commission may wish to discuss the National Night Out event, including what worked well, opportunities for improvement, and ideas for future tabling events. The discussion may also include future event-planning procedures and volunteer participation.

ALTERNATIVES

None.

FISCAL IMPACT/FUNDING SOURCE

None.

Attachments:

None



City of Gilroy Arts and Culture Commission

STAFF REPORT

Agenda Item Title: Discussion Regarding the Placement and Use of City-Owned Art within City Hall, Including Council Chambers

Meeting Date: August 11, 2026

From: Kylie Katsuyoshi, Management Analyst Trainee

Department: Administration

Submitted by:

Prepared by: Kylie Katsuyoshi, Management Analyst Trainee

RECOMMENDATION

Discussion regarding the placement and use of City-owned art within City Hall, including the Council Chambers.

BACKGROUND

The City of Gilroy has a permanent art collection that began in 1977, with pieces displayed throughout City Hall. Currently, there are no pieces located in the Council Chambers.

This item is intended to introduce the idea of establishing a more formal process for the placement and potential rotation of City-owned artwork within City Hall, including the Council Chambers. The purpose of this discussion is to determine whether the Commission is interested in adding this project to its work plan.

ANALYSIS

None.

ALTERNATIVES

None.

FISCAL IMPACT/FUNDING SOURCE

None.

Attachments:

None



City of Gilroy Arts and Culture Commission

STAFF REPORT

Agenda Item Title: Information Regarding City's Recreation Division Assessment

Meeting Date: August 11, 2026

From: Harjot Sangha, Assistant City Administrator

Department: Administration

Submitted by:

Prepared by: Kylie Katsuyoshi, Management Analyst Trainee

RECOMMENDATION

Receive report.

BACKGROUND

The City of Gilroy has launched a Recreation Division Assessment, a comprehensive evaluation of the City's recreation programming, activities, and services, and how they are currently funded. The assessment is being conducted in partnership with PROS Consulting, KTUA, and ETC Institute and will run through Spring 2027, when final recommendations and an implementation plan will be presented to the City Council and the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Community input is the foundation of the assessment. The engagement program is bilingual (English and Spanish) and uses multiple methods—community open houses, pop-up events, focus groups, stakeholder meetings, an interactive project website, and a statistically valid household survey—so residents of all ages, backgrounds, and languages can participate.

ANALYSIS

The first round of community engagement launched this summer. The project website went live on July 22, 2026, and in early August the project team hosted a booth at National Night Out, held two community open houses at the Gilroy Senior Center, and conducted targeted outreach with older adults, recreation families, and community members at events across the city.

The online community survey is open to all residents, and it is the single most direct way for community members—including board and commission members—to share which recreation programs and services matter most to them. The website also offers a youth survey and an interactive Vision Board, and can be translated into 14 languages.

Participate at: www.cityofgilroy.org/RecAssessment

Separately, ETC Institute will conduct a statistically valid survey from October through late November. Households that receive the survey are strongly encouraged to complete it.

A second round of in-person engagement is scheduled for October 2026. The fall open houses mirror the August format, so residents who could not attend in August will have a full opportunity to participate. The dates, time and location of the October engagements will be available on the above website and communicated through City's communications and engagement channels, including social media.

Boards and commissions are encouraged to:

- Complete the online survey and explore the project website.
- Attend an October open house or community event.
- Share the project link, QR code materials, and event dates with your networks and the communities you serve.
- Encourage youth, older adults, Spanish-speaking residents, and program participants to take part.

ALTERNATIVES

None.

FISCAL IMPACT/FUNDING SOURCE

None.

Attachments:

None