



**CITY OF GILROY**

**ARTS AND CULTURE  
COMMISSION**



**REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 13, 2026 | 6:30 PM**

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

**Chair:** Vacant

**Vice Chair:** Vacant

**Commissioners:** Camille McCormack, Steven Porter, Ruben Dario Villa, & Wendy Zamora

**Staff Liaison:** Bryce Atkins, Assistant to the City Administrator  
Kylie Katsuyoshi, Management Analyst  
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](http://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. PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA**
- 6. NEW BUSINESS**
  - 6.1. Appointment of Chair and Vice-Chair of the Arts and Culture Commission**
  - 6.2. 2025 Annual Report from the Gilroy Center for the Arts/Art Alliance**
- 7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
  - 7.1. Approval of the Minutes from the October 14, 2025, and December 9, 2025 Regular Meetings**
- 8. OLD BUSINESS**
  - 8.1. For the Love of Gilroy Public Art Campaign and Unveiling Event**
    1. Staff Report:
    2. Public Comment
    3. Possible Action:  
Commission discussion and planning for the February 20, 2026, unveiling event.
- 9. GILROY ART-RELATED COMMUNITY EVENT UPDATES**
- 10. COMMISSION COMMENTS**
- 11. STAFF COMMENTS**
- 12. FUTURE AGENDA ITEM REQUESTS**
- 13. ADJOURNMENT**

#### **FUTURE MEETING DATES**

February 10, 2026 – Gilroy City Council Chambers – 6:30 PM

March 10, 2026 – Gilroy City Council Chambers – 6:30 PM

April 14, 2026 – Gilroy City Council Chambers – 6:30 PM



# City of Gilroy Arts and Culture Commission

## STAFF REPORT

**Agenda Item Title:** Appointment of Chair and Vice-Chair of the Arts and Culture Commission

Meeting Date: January 13, 2026

From: Bryce Atkins, Assistant to the City Administrator

Department: Administration

Prepared by: Bryce Atkins, Deputy Director of Community Development

### RECOMMENDATION

The Commission appoints one of its members to each of the Chair and Vice-Chair positions.

### BACKGROUND

Per City Charter Section 904 entitled “Meetings: Chairmen”, the Commission is required to re-appoint the positions of Chair and Vice-Chair each year. Below is the language that establishes the requirement:

*As soon as practicable following their original appointment, and following the first day of January of each year thereafter each of such boards and commissions shall organize by election one of its members to serve as presiding officer at the pleasure of such board or commission.*

This agenda item is to receive nominations and for the Commission to elect from among its members a Chair and Vice-Chair for the next year. There are no term limits or restrictions for those who have already served in this role from serving in those positions again, should the Commission elect to do so.



# City of Gilroy Arts and Culture Commission

## STAFF REPORT

**Agenda Item Title:** 2025 Annual Report from the Gilroy Center for the Arts/Art Alliance

Meeting Date: January 13, 2026

From: Bryce Atkins, Assistant to the City Administrator

Department: Administration

Prepared by: Bryce Atkins, Deputy Director of Community Development

### RECOMMENDATION

Receive the report.

### BACKGROUND

The Arts Alliance, which leases the Gilroy Center for the Arts, has provided its report for the activities held in 2025. The report is attached to this staff report. The Arts Alliance is required to provide such reports to the Arts and Culture Commission as a condition of the building lease.

### FISCAL IMPACT/FUNDING SOURCE

None.

### Attachments:

1. Gilroy Center for the Arts 2025 Report

REPORT TO THE GILROY ART COMMISSION  
2025 Events at the Center for the Arts  
January 3, 2026

January 2025:

As a gesture of friendship and goodwill between the artist community, we collaborated with Keith Criss of San Francisco to display his beautiful exhibit at the Center. This exhibit was well received and it brought about 60 people at various times to the reception and during the weekends to view the artwork. The Artist was in attendance for the reception.

We also maintained art classes and drama classes on a weekly basis for children in our community. We had art classes for Hope Services clients which are on a continued basis.

January was also the month in which we needed to start working on the pillar project for which we received a grant from Valley Transit Authority.

The first meeting with students and parents took place in January to talk about the pillar project. Also in the first quarter of the year Ruben Villa and several others started preparing for the upcoming event which included children from several Gilroy schools and from our community to design the pillar project for which we received a grant from VTA.

February 2025:

We again celebrated Black History Month with an incredible exhibit of paintings and photography by black artists. Our curator, Louise Shields, arranged entertainment for the reception which was attended by approximately 80 people on a rotating basis. It was an amazing and informative exhibit.

Once per month students met to discuss the pillar project and submit their ideas. Students were taken on a Mural-Walk through downtown Gilroy. The students met with artist's who had painted murals in our community.

March 2025:

We once again collaborated with an Artist formerly of Hollister, but moved to San Francisco. The Exhibit was well received by our community, and the reception was well attended. Although the artist was not able to attend the reception, our Board Members and Intern were well informed to communicate with our patrons.

Pillar project Students met with a group of Elders of Gilroy that shared their life stories.

The students presented their ideas to the parents and Ruben Villa. Ruben worked on taking the ideas into a cohesive and workable design. This project was to resemble our community's industries and uniqueness. The pillars represent the agricultural, the future, ranching, and commerce aspects of our community.

April & May 2025:

In April and May we installed an exhibit by the up and coming artist Santiago Moreno. The exhibit was well received and both receptions were attended with great enthusiasm by our patrons.

June 2025:

Members of the Center for the Arts exhibited their artwork at the Center. It was well attended. Artists were in attendance and it brought many community member into the Center.

The students of the pillar project finalized their designs and started painting under the supervision of Ruben Villa.

Artist Eric Vasquez presented a design for painting a mural on the back wall of the Center. The design was presented to the Art Commission and approved. The students of County Annex School started the painting project.

July & September 2025:

These 2 months were filled with a very exciting exhibit by artist Steven Patti. This Exhibit included sculptures, photography, and paintings. Both receptions brought 75-100 people to the Center on a rotating basis. We made sure that there were never more than 48-49 people in the Center at one time.

The pillar project was completed and unveiled to the community on September 19, 2025. Students were given a certificate signed by the president of the Center for the Arts, and Mayor Bozzo of Gilroy.

October 2025:

The end of September the annual Ofrenda altars were installed by Ruben Villa and the community members of Gilroy. Many members of the community brought images of their departed family members, and the reception that followed was well attended.

November 2025:

Our Board Member, Louise Shields installed the Veteran's Exhibit to honor our brave men and women of the military. We had speakers, music, and many people that spoke of their service to our country. It was a very well attended event and reception.

December 2025 & January 2026:

The Bika Exhibit by artist Paul Steinhauser was installed. The exhibit brought many people of the community to the Center. There were 2 receptions and each one was well attended.

The mural on the back wall was finished and unveiled on December 16, 2025. All the Students that worked on the mural were given a Certificate signed by the President of the Center and by Mayor Bozzo together with a gift card.

Respectfully submitted,  
Marianne Eichenbaum  
President, Gilroy Center for the Arts



**City of Gilroy  
Arts and Culture Commission  
Minutes  
Tuesday, October 14, 2025 | 6:30 PM**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Reynisson at 6:33 PM.

**2. ROLL CALL**

<b>Attendance</b>	<b>Attendee Name</b>
Present	Commissioner Melanie Reynisson Commissioner Ruben Dario Villa Commissioner Camille McCormack Commissioner Steven Porter
Absent	Commissioner Adilene Moreno Commissioner Steven Taylor Commissioner Wendy Zamora

**3. SECRETARY'S REPORT**

Staff Liaison Atkins reported that the agenda was posted on Thursday, October 9th at 6:01PM.

**4. ORDERS OF THE DAY**

None.

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**1. Approval of the Minutes from the September 9, 2025, Regular Meeting of the Arts and Culture Commission**

**Motion**

Approve

**RESULT:**       **Passed**

**MOVER:**       Commissioner Camille McCormack

**SECONDER:**   Commissioner Steven Porter

**AYES:**       Commissioner Melanie Reynisson, Commissioner Ruben Dario Villa, Commissioner Camille McCormack, Commissioner Steven Porter

**NAYS:**       None

**ABSENT:**     Commissioner Adilene Moreno, Commissioner Steven Taylor, Commissioner Wendy Zamora

**6. PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

None.

**7. NEW BUSINESS**

**1. Public Art Request at Monterey Family Apartments**

Senior Planner Erin Freitas introduced Scott Ryan and Francisco Vasquez to discuss the design plans for the Monterey Family Apartment project.

**Motion**

Approve

**RESULT:** Passed

**MOVER:** Commissioner Melanie Reynisson

**SECONDER:** Commissioner Ruben Dario Villa

**AYES:** Commissioner Melanie Reynisson, Commissioner Ruben Dario Villa, Commissioner Camille McCormack, Commissioner Steven Porter

**NAYS:** None

**ABSENT:** Commissioner Adilene Moreno, Commissioner Steven Taylor, Commissioner Wendy Zamora

**2. Bench Plaque Inscription for Jim Rogers**

The Commission voted to approve the bench plaque inscription in memory of Jim Rogers.

**Motion**

Approve

**RESULT:** Passed

**MOVER:** Commissioner Melanie Reynisson

**SECONDER:** Commissioner Camille McCormack

**AYES:** Commissioner Melanie Reynisson, Commissioner Ruben Dario Villa, Commissioner Camille McCormack, Commissioner Steven Porter

**NAYS:** None

**ABSENT:** Commissioner Adilene Moreno, Commissioner Steven Taylor, Commissioner Wendy Zamora

**3. Request from the Gilroy Museum to Approve a List of Items for Deaccession**

Susan Voss spoke to the Commission on behalf of the Gilroy Museum asking to approve a list of items for deaccession.

**Motion**

Approve

**RESULT:** Passed

**MOVER:** Commissioner Melanie Reynisson

**SECONDER:** Commissioner Ruben Dario Villa

**AYES:** Commissioner Melanie Reynisson, Commissioner Ruben Dario Villa, Commissioner Camille McCormack, Commissioner Steven

Porter  
**NAYS:** None  
**ABSENT:** Commissioner Adilene Moreno, Commissioner Steven Taylor,  
Commissioner Wendy Zamora

**4. Discussion of the Commission Booth at the Great Garlic Halloween 5K Fun Run on October 18, 2025**

The Commission discussed details on how they will proceed with decorating their booth for the Great Garlic Halloween 5K Fun Run.

**5. Approval of the 2026 Meeting Schedule**

**Motion**

Approve

**RESULT:** **Passed**

**MOVER:** Commissioner Melanie Reynisson

**SECONDER:** Commissioner Steven Porter

**AYES:** Commissioner Melanie Reynisson, Commissioner Ruben Dario Villa, Commissioner Camille McCormack, Commissioner Steven Porter

**NAYS:** None

**ABSENT:** Commissioner Adilene Moreno, Commissioner Steven Taylor, Commissioner Wendy Zamora

**8. OLD BUSINESS**

**1. For the Love of Gilroy Public Art Program**

Staff Liaison Atkins provided an update on the For the Love of Gilroy Art Campaign.

**2. Continuing Fundraising Discussion**

The Commission continued to brainstorm various opportunities for fundraising.

**9. GILROY ART-RELATED COMMUNITY EVENT UPDATES**

Vice Chair Villa shared information on the 3rd Friday Art-Walk.

**10. COMMISSION COMMENTS**

Chair Reynisson provided the commissioners with a piece of art and shared that the art pieces could be produced as a means for funding.

**11. STAFF COMMENTS**

Staff Liaison Atkins provided an update on recommendations that were approved at the previous Commission meeting and invited the commissioners to the Annual Boards and Commissions Appreciation Dinner taking place on Thursday, November 20th, at 6:00PM at the Gilroy Senior Center.

**12. FUTURE AGENDA ITEM REQUESTS**

None.

**13. ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:51 PM.

**City of Gilroy**  
**Arts and Culture Commission**  
**DRAFT Minutes**  
**Tuesday, December 9, 2025 | 6:30 PM**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Reynisson at 6:41 PM.

**2. ROLL CALL**

<b>Attendance</b>	<b>Attendee Name</b>
Present	Commissioner Melanie Reynisson Commissioner Ruben Dario Villa Commissioner Camille McCormack Commissioner Steven Porter
Absent	Commissioner Adilene Moreno Commissioner Steven Taylor Commissioner Wendy Zamora

**3. SECRETARY'S REPORT**

Staff Liaison Atkins reported that the agenda was posted on Friday, December 5th, 2025, at 8:10AM.

**4. ORDERS OF THE DAY**

None.

**5. PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

None.

**6. NEW BUSINESS**

**1. Mural Request at Santa Clara Family Health Plan**

City of Gilroy Planner Vanessa Sanchez introduced Chelsea Byom from Santa Clara Family Health Plan and Gilroy artist Sheryl Cathers to discuss the design plans for a mural that will be illustrated on Santa Clara Family Health Plans' building.

**Motion**

Approve

**RESULT:** **Passed**

**MOVER:** Commissioner Melanie Reynisson

**SECONDER:** Commissioner Camille McCormack

**AYES:** Commissioner Melanie Reynisson. Commissioner Ruben Dario Villa, Commissioner Camille McCormack, Commissioner Steven Porter

**NAYS:** None

**ABSENT:** Commissioner Adilene Moreno, Commissioner Steven Taylor,  
Commissioner Wendy Zamora

## 7. OLD BUSINESS

### 1. Review and Recommendations of Artist Submittals to the Public Art Campaign: For the Love of Gilroy 2026

The Commission reviewed artist submittals for Gilroy's Public Art Campaign: For the Love of Gilroy and made their recommendations to City Council.

**Motion**

Approve

**RESULT:** Passed

**MOVER:** Commissioner Melanie Reynisson

**SECONDER:** Commissioner Steven Porter

**AYES:** Commissioner Melanie Reynisson. Commissioner Ruben Dario Villa, Commissioner Camille McCormack, Commissioner Steven Porter

**NAYS:** None

**ABSENT:** Commissioner Adilene Moreno, Commissioner Steven Taylor,  
Commissioner Wendy Zamora

## 8. GILROY ART-RELATED COMMUNITY EVENT UPDATES

Vice Chair Villa spoke about an art event being held at the Willey House on Sunday, December 14th, 2025, starting at 5:30pm.

## 9. COMMISSION COMMENTS

The Commission thanked and congratulated Chair Reynisson on her many years of service to the city as her term is up, and she is not planning on reapplying for a seat on the Commission next year.

## 10. STAFF COMMENTS

Staff awarded Chair Reynisson with a certificate of recognition for completing her term on the commission.

## 11. FUTURE AGENDA ITEM REQUESTS

The Commission will vote on a new Chair and welcome newly appointed commissioners at the next meeting.

## 12. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:26 PM.



# City of Gilroy Arts and Culture Commission

## STAFF REPORT

**Agenda Item Title:** For the Love of Gilroy Public Art Campaign and Unveiling Event

Meeting Date: January 13, 2026

From: Bryce Atkins, Assistant to the City Administrator

Department: Administration

Submitted by:

Prepared by: Bryce Atkins, Deputy Director of Community Development

### RECOMMENDATION

Commission discussion and planning for the February 20, 2026, unveiling event.

### BACKGROUND

The Arts and Culture Commission (ACC) has, with Council approval, put together a campaign entitled “For the Love of Gilroy” to solicit two-dimensional art designs from local artists to be printed on banners and posted on streetlight poles along Monterey Road in Downtown Gilroy. The campaign commenced, and Council approved the recommended award list at its January 5, 2026, regular meeting.

### ANALYSIS

The ACC recommended, and the Council approved, an award order list of 32 total designs. At the writing of this report, 11 of the top 14 have signed the intellectual property agreements for the banners. Staff has made contact with the banner company, which will produce the banners to display. The banners will be raised on either February 19 or 20, 2026, for the planned unveiling event on February 20th.

This agenda item is to review the programming and logistics for the unveiling event, so that announcements and information can be made available to the City Council and the public.

Additionally, as part of the approval, the City Council instructed the ACC to create, in the next program cycle, two award categories: one for adults and the other for minors.

### ALTERNATIVES

N/A

**FISCAL IMPACT/FUNDING SOURCE**

N/A

**Attachments:**

None