



Commission for Arts and Culture | Creative City Ad hoc Committee Hybrid Meeting Notice and Agenda

Thursday, January 8, 2026

2:30–4:00pm

City Administration Building

202 C Street, 12th Floor

San Diego, CA 92101

Zoom Link: <https://sandiego.zoomgov.com/j/1612652147>

Committee Chair: Kamaal Martin

Committee Vice Chair: Imani Robinson

Commissioners: Chris Chalupsky, Abe Hughes, Jean Walcher

Community Members: Linda Cabellero Sotelo, Justine Murray, Rich Magale

Staff Liaison: Bell Reza

Public Comment on an Agenda Item: If you wish to address the Commission on an item for today's agenda, please complete and submit a speaker form before the Commission hears the agenda item. You will be called at the time the item is heard.

Written Comment through Webform: In lieu of in-person attendance, members of the public may submit their comments using the [webform](#). When using the web form, indicate the agenda item number for which you are submitting a comment. Instructions regarding word limits and submission deadlines are provided on the form. On the web form, members of the public should select Commission for Arts and Culture.

Virtual Public Comment: During Non-Agenda Public Comment, after the Chair opens the comment period, raise your hand by tapping the "Raise Your Hand" button on your computer, tablet, or smartphone, or by dialing *9 on your phone. Speakers will be called in the order hands are raised. Each person may speak only once on a particular item. When staff calls on you, unmute your device by following the on-screen prompt or by dialing *6 on your phone.

Public Comment on Matters Not on the Agenda: You may address the Commission on any matter not listed on today's agenda. Please complete and submit a speaker form. California's open meeting laws do not allow the Commission to discuss or take any action on the matter at today's meeting. At its discretion, the Commission may add the item to a future agenda or refer it to staff or a committee. Individual comments are limited to three minutes per speaker. If a large number of people wish to speak on the same item, the Chair may limit the time for each speaker or for the item.

Requests for Accessibility Modifications or Accommodations:

This information will be made available in alternative formats upon request, as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Requests for disability-related modifications or accommodations required to facilitate meeting participation, including requests for alternatives to observing meetings and offering public comment as noted above, as well as requests for auxiliary aids, services, interpreters, or translation services to offer public comment, may be made by contacting Bell Reza at 619-559-7776 or Breza@sandiego.gov. Requests for disability-related modifications or accommodations required to facilitate meeting participation require different lead times, ranging from five business days to two weeks. Please keep this in mind and provide as much advance notice as possible in order to ensure availability. The City is committed to resolving accessibility requests swiftly in order to maximize accessibility and public participation.

Agenda:

- Item 1: Call to Order | Kamaal Martin, Chair
- Item 2: Non-Agenda Public Comment | Kamaal Martin, Chair
- Item 3: Chair's Reports | Kamaal Martin, Chair
 - a. **ACTION** – November 13, 2025 Commission Meeting Minutes
 - b. Other Reports
- Item 4: Creative City Ad hoc Committee 2026 Outreach Activities | Kamaal Martin, Chair
- Item 5: Year One Workplan Update | Christine Jones, Cultural Affairs Staff, Economic Development Department
- Item 6: Staff Reports | Rachel Laing, Cultural Affairs Staff, Economic Development Department
- Item 7: Adjourn



Commission for Arts and Culture

City of San Diego Commission for Arts and Culture

Creative City Ad hoc Committee

MINUTES

November 13, 2025

Commissioners Present

Kamaal Martin
Imani Robinson
Chris Chalupsky
Jean Walcher
Abe Hughes

Commissioners Absent

Committee Members
Absent
Justine Murray

Staff Present

Rachel Laing
Bell Reza
Christine Jones

Committee Members

Present
Rich Magale
Linda Caballero Sotelo

I

Call to Order | [View Here](#)

Chair Kamaal Martin called the City of San Diego Commission for Arts and Culture Creative City Ad hoc meeting to order 2:17 p.m.

II.

Non-agenda Public Comment | [View Here](#)

Chair Martin invited Project Manager Bell Reza to read any public comments submitted. It was noted that there were no public comments received, and there were no members of the public in attendance.

III.

Chairs Report's | [View Here](#)

- A. ACTION – August 14 2025 Committee Meeting Minutes
Commissioner Imani Robinson moved to approve the motion, and Commissioner Jean Walcher seconded the motion. The motion carried.
- B. Introduction of Rachel Laing | Assistant Deputy Director, Cultural Affairs
- C. Other Reports

IV.

Staff Reports | [View Here](#)

- A. Community Update Discussion
- B. Year one work plan

V.

Adjourn | Chair Kamaal Martin adjourned the meeting at 3:16 p.m.

Creative City Ad hoc Committee

2026 Key Committee Outreach Activities



creative**city**

Overview

The City of San Diego (City) is gearing up for an exciting 2026 for Creative City, with a focus on engaging San Diegans, increasing visibility, and advancing the implementation of the cultural plan's actions. Throughout the year, the Commission for Arts and Culture's Creative City Ad hoc Committee (Committee) will advise the Commission for Arts and Culture on the rollout of the 10-year Creative City cultural plan. The committee will also engage with external stakeholders and community members to raise awareness of the plan and support the public implementation update event, which marks the plan's first year.

This document highlights the planned activities of the Creative City Ad hoc Committee.

1. Key Committee Outreach Activities

1.1 Roadshows

Three “roadshow” activities in Spring 2026 will be planned by the Committee, in consultation with City staff, to increase awareness of the Creative City cultural plan and foster connections with targeted external stakeholder groups. Through the roadshows, the Committee will seek to identify partner organizations and engage local artists, arts participants, businesses, and the broader innovation sector. Committee members may also act as facilitators or ambassadors for the Creative City plan and implementation regimen, helping to build relationships and act as a liaison with the broader Commission and Cultural Affairs/Economic Development. Feedback from the initial roadshows will help inform future roadshows and engagement strategies.

1.2 Storytelling and Outreach Campaign

Throughout 2026, the Committee will support the City's ongoing storytelling efforts to highlight the impact of the Creative City cultural plan. This will include collecting and sharing stories from across San Diego and the broader

creative sector to showcase *Creative City in Action*, real-life examples of how the plan is shaping the city's creative landscape.

This campaign will complement the roadshows, reinforcing awareness of the plan and encouraging broader community participation. Committee members may assist by identifying stories, facilitating engagement with participants, and helping to amplify these narratives through their respective communication channels.

1.2 Public Implementation Update Event

A public gathering or special Commission for Arts and Culture meeting will take place in July 2026 to mark the year-one accomplishments, unveil the City's Creative City dashboard, and highlight City staff work. The event will also feature Creative City stories collected during the City's storytelling campaign in the spring. The event will be open to the public and is designed to foster connection and dialogue and refine future engagement efforts. Committee members will serve as ambassadors and assist with the event, supporting its success and helping to showcase the impact of the plan.

2. Key City Outreach Activities

2.1 Collateral

The City will produce collateral for Creative City, including rack cards, stickers, and other branded materials. These items are expected to be available by the end of the first quarter of 2026 for roadshow activities organized by the Committee. All materials will adhere to the Creative City brand identity and messaging.

2.2 Communications

The City will develop a Creative City communications strategy to launch in 2026 leading up to the public implementation update event, including the Creative City website updates, newsletter highlights, and social media content highlighting ongoing projects and implementation insights showing the tangible impact of Creative City actions in the city. The plan also will include targeted media engagement and the launch of a citywide, month-long

storytelling campaign in May/June inviting San Diegans to share how they are putting Creative City into action to advance arts, culture and creativity in shaping the city's future and support the vision for the creative life of all San Diegans.

2.3 Dashboard

The City will develop a Creative City dashboard embedded in the Creative City website to visualize progress on the goals, strategies, and actions outlined in the Creative City plan. This user-friendly dashboard will provide an easy-to-understand overview of the plan's implementation tasks and progress. It is set to launch in July, coinciding with the public update event on the implementation.

3. Implementation Timeline

Month	Key Committee Outreach Activities
Jan	Identify targeted audiences for three roadshows and plan roadshow activities
Feb	Roadshow prep
Mar	Roadshow prep; public implementation update event prep
Apr	Implement spring roadshow 1; public implementation update event prep
May	Implement spring roadshow 2; public implementation update event prep and support launch of City's Creative City storytelling campaign
Jun	Implement spring roadshow 3; public implementation update event prep
Jul	Assist with public implementation update

4. Public Implementation Update | Event Planning

Event: Public Creative City Implementation Update to Mark Year One of the Plan

Purpose: Share progress, highlight accomplishments, showcase ongoing projects, and engage San Diegans

Audience: San Diegans, including residents, business leaders, community partners, and the broader creative sector

Event: Public Creative City Implementation Update to mark Year One of the Plan

Purpose:

Provide a public update on the first full year of Creative City implementation. The event will:

- Highlight key accomplishments from Year One
- Unveil the new Creative City progress dashboard
- Share a look ahead to FY27 implementation priorities
- Increase public awareness and visibility of Creative City
- Strengthen relationships with community partners, creative sector, and other sectors such as innovation and life sciences
- Support the City's Creative City storytelling campaign through live content and public engagement

Audience:

Open to the general public, with targeted outreach to:

- Arts and culture organizations and patrons
- Business community and civic leaders
- Life sciences and innovation sectors
- Creative workers, artists, and cultural leaders
- Community partners and neighborhood stakeholders
- Residents interested in arts, culture, and San Diego's creative future