



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

Thursday, October 8, 2026
12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.
City Administration Building
202 C Street, 12th Floor
San Diego, CA 92101

Zoom Link: <https://sandiego.zoomgov.com/j/1656674049>

Committee Chair: Kamaal Martin

Committee Vice Chair: Imani Robinson

Commissioners: Chris Chalupsky, Abe Hughes, Jean Walcher, Yolanda Franklin

Community Members: Linda Caballero 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@sanidiego.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

Item 2: Non-Agenda Public Comment

Item 3: Chair's Reports

- a. **ACTION** – August 13, 2026 Committee Meeting Minutes
- b. Creative City Ad Hoc Committee Composition
- c. Other Reports

Item 4: Creative City Workplan – Committee Priorities and Staff Recommendations

Item 5: Staff Reports

Item 6: Adjourn



Commission for Arts and Culture

City of San Diego Commission for Arts and Culture
Creative City Ad hoc Committee

MINUTES

August 13, 2026

Commissioners Present

Kamaal Martin
Chris Chalupsky
Abe Hughes

Commissioners Absent

Imani Robinson
Jean Walcher

Staff Present

Bell Reza
Rachel Laing
Christie Marcella
Sean Kerafin

Committee Members Present

Rich Magale
Linda Caballero Sotelo

Committee Members Absent

Justine Murray

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- 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 2:36 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 –June 11, 2026 Committee Meeting Minutes
Commissioner Abe Hughes moved to approve the motion, and Commissioner Chris Chalupsky seconded the motion. The motion carried.
B.Other Reports
- IV. Creative City Workplan – Committee Priorities Review | [View Here](#)
The Committee reviewed the Creative City workplan and discussed priorities, areas of focus, and next steps for supporting implementation of the Creative City Cultural Plan.
- V. Staff Reports | Rachel Laing, Economic Development Department | [View Here](#)
- VI. Adjourn | Chair Kamaal Martin adjourned the meeting at 4:01 p.m.

Goal 1: Centering Artists, Creatives & Spaces			
EDS Goal	EDS Tactic	Notes	
Support Small Businesses	Strengthen the collaborative network across non-profit partners to promote shared opportunities for space, marketing, fundraising, referrals and programming	Already contemplated	
Strengthen Neighborhoods	Invest in revitalized and repurposed public spaces shared by all San Diegans including leveraging city-owned assets to enhance innovative, cultural and creative experiences through revenue generation or community benefit impacts	Already contemplated, added "repurposed" to tactic and "leveraging city-owned assets..."	
Creative City Workplan	Workplan Tactic(s)	Notes	Workplan Items
Repurpose City-Owned Spaces	Develop a Repurpose Plan/Toolkit that identifies appropriate spaces (directory), proposes types of repurposing or use, and ways for the creative community to engage with the City	Support from Real Estate	1.1.1, 1.1.2, 1.1.12, 1.1.13
Facilitate Creative Space in Private Development	Facilitate use of Civic Enhancement Fee for creative space allocation in private development and identify other ways for creative spaces to be incentivized in private development	Downtown Arts & Design District Implementation, Affordable Housing Community Spaces	1.1.15, 1.1.16
Develop Partnership Frameworks	Look at partnership relationships that can scale support and availability of space for the creative community including Business Improvement Districts (BIDs), schools, larger organizations partnering with smaller, etc.	BID Alliance, Affordable Housing Developers, UCSD, etc.	1.1.19, 1.1.26
Goal 2: Arts in Community			
EDS Goal	EDS Tactic	Notes	
Bolster Trade and Innovation	Implement regulatory changes and provide permitting support that can catalyze economic opportunity, reduce barriers to creative solutions and provide consistent funding to sustain improvements and programs	Adapted from "permitting support for businesses and affordable housing projects"	
Strengthen Neighborhoods	Work with partners to cultivate the growth of world-class events (sports, music, experiences) with local community engagement in the region	Adapted from growth of sports events only; also applicable to Global Creative City goal	
Creative City Workplan	Workplan Tactic(s)	Notes	Workplan Items
Develop and Support Infrastructure for Creative Districts	Cultural Districts, Creative Enterprise Zones, Entertainment Zones, and other types of designations that support the creative economy including artist housing and dedicated funding	Look to other examples and recent CA legislation, informality to current cultural district process	2.4.1, 2.4.2, 2.5.2, 2.5.4, 2.5.5
Enable the growth of world-class events and local community engagement	Identify ways to streamline permitting, galvanize local production community to support change, deliver "plug and play" opportunities for community engagement for out-of-town productions	LA28, Mural projects, ComicCon, TED	2.1.3
Support Greater Opportunities for Artists in Community Settings	Look at lessons and successes like Park Social and Far South Border North to develop scalable programs that support community-embedded opportunities for artists	Identify outside/national foundations	2.1.1
Establish an Arts & Culture Foundation	Create a sustainable funding source that can be used to implement initiatives and serve as a basis for matching funds to leverage additional funding for arts & culture programming	In process	2.1.4
Goal 3: Creative Entrepreneurship			
EDS Goal	EDS Tactic (Already Contemplated)	Notes	
Support Families & Workers	Partner with employers, educational institutions and workforce agencies to increase student exposure and develop career pathways to high-quality job opportunities that align with our innovation and creative industries	Already contemplated ; Example is SD Theatres at Youth Career Expo	
Support Small Businesses	Cultivate connections between small businesses & entrepreneurs with EDD's nonprofit grant recipients who provide small business & entrepreneurial support	Already contemplated	
Bolster Trade and Innovation	Promote creative economy by identifying strategic partners, normalizing creative economy as a part of innovation and aligning Creative City work with other regional efforts	Already contemplated; adapted from "Promote creative economy by identifying strategic partners and events planning for WDC 2024"; Key stakeholders Downtown Partnership, Regional EDC, Regional Chamber, IATSE, SBDC	
Creative City Workplan	Workplan Tactic(s)	Notes	Workplan Items
Identify & Recruit Large Creative Industry Businesses to San Diego	Identify what kinds of companies to recruit, where they are located and what San Diego can offer (domestic and international)	Learn About & Promote City Incentive Programs for Businesses	3.6.1, 3.6.3
Develop and Execute Partnership Alignment Strategy	Identify key stakeholders, alignment messaging and outcomes desired with other regional partners in innovation	Downtown Partnership, Regional EDC, Regional Chamber, IATSE, SBDC; Look at crossover btw A&C institution boards and Innovation Community	3.1.3, 3.2.1, 3.2.2, 3.3.1, 3.3.3
Goal 4: Global Creative City			
EDS Goal	EDS Tactic (Already Contemplated)	Notes	
Bolster Trade and Innovation	Support regional efforts to develop new programs to encourage foreign direct investment	Already a tactic; could include international recruitment into creative infrastructure; links to Identify & Recruit Tactic from Goal 3	
Bolster Trade and Innovation	Leverage partners south of the border to increase San Diego's global identity and competitiveness as an innovation and creative megaregion	Already contemplated; adapted to add "as an innovation and creative megaregion"	
Bolster Trade and Innovation	Strengthen the business & cultural tourism sectors to generate longer term economic impact through cultural tourism promotion, global conference connections (BIO, WEST, ComiCon) and promotion of pathways for long-term or foreign direct investment into San Diego	New proposed tactic	
Creative City Workplan	Workplan Tactic(s)	Notes	Workplan Items
Create Cultural & Creative Tourism Strategy	Develop a coordinated cultural and creative tourism strategy with tourism and cultural partners that strengthens promotion, identifies market opportunities, and expands visitor engagement.	SDTA and SDTMD as partners	4.1.1, 4.2.1, 4.2.3, 4.2.4, 4.2.5
Develop and Embed Binational Cultural Strategy	Advance a transborder cultural strategy with regional partners that supports binational artists and cultural exchange (i.e. artist residency), addresses barriers to cross-border creative activity, and explores a San Ysidro-Tijuana cultural district.	Would link to cultural district work for San Ysidro; new San Ysidro BID (SY Community & Economic Development Corporation); Mayoral MOUs btw SD/TJ; Chamber Annual Visit to Mexico City	2.4.6, 4.5.1, 4.5.2, 4.5.7, 4.5.8