

Members

Kenya Shakoor, Chair
Jasmine Brown, Vice Chair
Aleks Aurelion
Connie Behe
Katie Dean
Heide Fernandez-Llamazares
Hannah-Clarke Gilmore
Sarah Jane Hoppe
Michael Kula
Wade Neal
Derek Nunn
Jeanette Sanchez
Jes Takla
Heidi Wygle
Jamika Scott, City Council Liaison
Olgy Diaz, City Council Liaison Alternate

Staff

Daniel Garcia, Community Programs Specialist
Ricky Reyes, Public Art Project Manager
Rebecca Solverson, Public Art Program Manager
Naomi Strom-Avila, Funding & Cultural Programs Manager

Summary Minutes

Tacoma Arts Commission

Arts & Cultural Vitality Division

Community & Economic Development Dept.



Date: September 9, 2024

Time: 5:00 pm

Location: Virtual and in-person

These minutes accompany the recorded meeting of the Tacoma Arts Commission, which is available at

www.cityoftacoma.org/tacagendaminutes

Commission Members in Attendance:

Kenya Shakoor, Chair
Jasmine Brown, Vice Chair
Connie Behe
Katie Dean
Heide Fernandez-Llamazares
Hannah-Clarke Gilmore
Sarah Jane Hoppe
Michael Kula
Wade Neal
Derek Nunn
Jeanette Sanchez
Jes Takla
Heidi Wygle

City Staff Present:

Daniel Garcia
Ricky Reyes
Rebecca Solverson
Naomi Strom-Avila
Lisa Jaret
Carol Wolfe

Guest Presenters:

Councilmember Jamika Scott

Commission Members Unexcused Absence:

Aleks Aurelion

1. Call to Order

5:04 pm (00:04)

Chair Shakoor called the meeting to order. Chair Shakoor recognized that the meeting was held on Indigenous land: the traditional homelands of the Puyallup people.

ʔukʷədiitəb ʔuhigʷətəb čəł txʷəl tiit ʔa čəł ʔal tə swatxʷixʷtxʷəd ʔə tiit puyaləpabš dxʷəsłəłils gʷəl ʔutxʷəlšucidəbs həlgʷəʔ.

“We gratefully acknowledge that we rest on the traditional lands of the Puyallup People where they make their home and speak the Lushootseed language.”

2. Consent Agenda

(00:35)

There were no excused absences.

Chair Shakoor asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda, which included the agenda for the September 9 meeting as well as the minutes from the August 12 meeting.

There was a motion: "I move to approve the agenda for today and the minutes."

Motion: Commissioner Behe

Seconded: Commissioner Hoppe

Motion: Carried

3. Chair's Report/Housekeeping

(01:28)

Chair Shakoor shared that Commissioner Joe Williams has moved and resigned from his seat; she thanked him for his service.

4. Public Comment on Agenda Items

(02:00)

There were no public comments on agenda items.

5. Council Liaison Check-In

(02:17)

Councilmember Jamika Scott provided an overview of the budget timeline for the 2025-26 biennium. Council is aiming to have an adopted budget by beginning of December. She talked about ways that Commission members can tap in most effectively to the budget process. Staff shared additional clarifying information about the budget process, including the separate but parallel tracks of budget development work for both the City Council and City Manager. Commissioners and staff asked clarifying questions.

Councilmember Scott shared that she has been looking at ways to get Council involved in the arts for Tacoma Arts Month.

6. Action Items

a. 2025 Community Arts Projects Funding Guidelines

(25:42)

Staff shared the 2025 Community Arts Projects funding guidelines and went over the main content updates including clarifying eligibility language and updating funding award amounts. Commissioners discussed possible options for updating the funding award amounts.

There was a motion: "I would move that we add a third funding tier to our existing tiers of \$9,000 and trust that our funding panels will have good faith discussions about funding lower-level projects as well as the higher-level projects."

Motion: Commissioner Sanchez

Second: Vice Chair Brown

Motion: Carried

Staff shared additional updates to the guidelines including updates to the funding priorities language to prioritize fair compensation to artists and collaborators, especially BIPOC artists and collaborators. Staff also shared some updates to the questions asked in the Evaluation Criteria section as well as updates to the budget sheet.

There was a motion: “I would move that we accept the changes to the language in the application for funding as they are right now.”

Motion: Commissioner Sanchez

Seconded: Commissioner Wygle

Motion: Carried

7. Discussion/Updates

a. Tacoma Arts Month Updates and Sign-ups (01:03:52)

Staff provided an overview of Tacoma Arts Month programming:

- Proclamation – October 1 at City Council
- Kaleidoscope opening party – October 2, 6:30 – 9 pm at STAR Center. Staff shared an overview of performances and activities at the event, which will include the AMOCAT Arts Awards.
- Tacoma Studio Tour – October 12 & 13, 11 am – 5 pm. Staff shared about the event and participating artists.
- Arts at the Armory - December 7 & 8, 11 am – 5 pm at the Tacoma Armory. Staff shared about the event and participating artists.

Commissioners volunteered to help with the Kaleidoscope opening party and material distribution.

b. Funding Subcommittee Update (01:16:51)

Commissioner Takla shared an overview of the subcommittee’s work on reviewing and providing input on the 2025 Community Arts Projects funding guidelines. The subcommittee is planning to meet one more time to provide input on proposed changes to the Tacoma Artists Initiative Program funding guidelines.

c. Tacoma Artists Initiative Program Funding Priorities (01:18:01)

Staff shared that they will be pulling together edits for the 2025-26 TAIP funding guidelines and bringing those to the Commission in November for review and approval. Updates will be made in response to feedback provided by the Commission, funding subcommittee, last cycle’s review panel, fundees, and in alignment with other City funding programs. Commissioners were invited to share any questions, thoughts or suggested updates with staff.

8. Staff Check-In (01:23:54)

a. Staff Projects Overview and Updates

Staff gave updates about the following items:

- Staff shared a notice from the City of Tacoma’s Legal Department regarding allowable First Amendment Activities
- Application are being accepted through September 15 for service on the Commission
- City is hosting a workshop for members of the City’s commissions, boards, and committees about the Equity Index

b. Public Art Updates

Staff gave updates about the following items:

- Teruko Nimura’s first project as the Environmental Services Artist in Residence will take place in October
- McKinley public art projects, which are part of the training cohort led by Spaceworks Tacoma, will be happening soon
- Ricky Reyes shared that he will be leaving City service due to moving out of state and starting a new career trajectory
- Ricky Reyes shared an overview of the public art projects he managed during his tenure with the Arts & Cultural Vitality Division including 17 murals, 20 concrete stamps, 2 artists in residence, working with over 50 panelists, and launching new artist selection processes.
- Carol Wolfe shared that work is still underway to fill the Arts & Cultural Vitality Division Manager position.

c. Tacoma Creates

There were no updates to share.

9. Report Back

(01:43:28)

a. Advocacy Reports

There were no items.

b. Funded Project Updates/ Upcoming Arts Events/Arts Events Attended

Commissioners shared about events they have attended or been involved with including:

- Kellie Richardson’s literary release event at Parable
- Dionne Bonner’s newest artwork
- One Table Shows in August, October, and December
- Tacoma HONK! Fest
- Tacoma Film Festival
- Chair Shakoor’s work in the gallery at the Paramount Theater, curated by Elisheba Johnson
- Accessibility for All artist market
- Arts at the Armory youth participant Freyja Knott’s social media scavenger hunt
- Hilltop Street Fair
- Upcoming projects funded through Community Arts Projects and Tacoma Artists Initiative Program

c. Future Agenda Items for Consideration

There were no items.

10. Community Comment

(01:53:37)

There were no items.

11. Adjourn

6:58 pm (1:53:45)

MEETING FREQUENCY

Meetings are held on the second Monday of every month at 5:00 pm. All meetings of the Tacoma Arts Commission are open to the public.



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