

Regular Council Meeting

June 18, 2026

FRESNO CITY COUNCIL



Public Comment Packet

ITEM(S)

2-O (ID 26-820)

Actions pertaining to the Expanded Access to Arts and Culture Grant Program

[TITLE TRUNCATED FOR SUPPLEMENTAL PACKET COVER PAGE]

Contents of Supplement: Public Comment Received

Supplemental Information:

Any agenda related public documents received and distributed to a majority of the City Council after the Agenda Packet is printed are included in Supplemental Packets. Supplemental Packets are produced as needed. The Supplemental Packet is available for public inspection in the City Clerk's Office, 2600 Fresno Street, during normal business hours (main location pursuant to the Brown Act, G.C. 54957.5(2)). In addition, Supplemental Packets are available for public review at the City Council meeting in the City Council Chambers, 2600 Fresno Street. Supplemental Packets are also available on-line on the City Clerk's website.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA):

The meeting room is accessible to the physically disabled, and the services of a translator can be made available. Requests for additional accommodations for the disabled, sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices, or translators should be made one week prior to the meeting. Please call City Clerk's Office at 621-7650. Please keep the doorways, aisles and wheelchair seating areas open and accessible. If you need assistance with seating because of a disability, please see Security.

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2026 JUN 17 P 3:23
CITY OF FRESNO
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

From:

Subject:

Date:

[BULK] New eComment for City Council on 2026-06-18 9:00 AM - Regular Meeting
Wednesday, June 17, 2026 4:08:11 AM

External Email: Use caution with links and attachments

[City of Fresno](#)

New eComment for City Council on 2026-06-18 9:00 AM - Regular Meeting

Dan Waterhouse submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council on 2026-06-18 9:00 AM - Regular Meeting

Item: 2.-O. ID 26-820 Actions pertaining to the Expanded Access to Arts and Culture Grant Program 1. RESOLUTION - Adopting the Measure P Expanded Access to Arts and Culture Grant Guidelines 2. RESOLUTION - To create the Ad-hoc Cultural Arts Grant Application Review Committee to be Known as "ARC Group A" 3. RESOLUTION - To create the Ad-hoc Cultural Arts Grant Application Review Committee to be Known as "ARC Group B" 4. RESOLUTION - To create the Ad-hoc Cultural Arts Grant Application Review Committee to be Known as "ARC Group C" 5. RESOLUTION - To create the Ad-hoc Cultural Arts Grant Application Review Committee to be Known as "ARC Group D" 6. RESOLUTION - To create the Ad-hoc Cultural Arts Grant Application Review Committee to be Known as "ARC Group E"

eComment: I oppose increasing the Measure P grant cap from \$150,000. I also oppose giving money to the Helm Building owner and final passage of the entertainment zone proposal. I fear unintended consequences from the entertainment zone proposal: there are €™s talk of creating one on Olive Avenue in the Tower, in an area surrounded by homes and residents fed up with the drunks and violence.

[View and Analyze eComments](#)

This email was sent from <https://fresno.granicusideas.com>.

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From: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Please Reject the Proposed Increase to the Measure P Grant Cap
Date: Wednesday, June 17, 2026 3:39:47 PM

For item 2-O [ID 26-820](#) on the 6/18/26 Council agenda.

-District 3 Staff

From: Samuel Contreras [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2026 3:25 PM
To: District3 [REDACTED]; District4 [REDACTED]; District5 [REDACTED]
Subject: Please Reject the Proposed Increase to the Measure P Grant Cap

External Email: Use caution with links and attachments

Dear Councilmember Arias, Councilmember Maxwell, Councilmember Vang, and Fresno City Council Members,

I am writing to respectfully oppose the proposed increase of the Measure P grant cap from \$150,000 to \$350,000.

The current \$150,000 cap was not created arbitrarily. It was the result of months of public meetings, community engagement, and extensive discussion through the PARCS process. Community members, artists, nonprofit leaders, and residents invested significant time participating in these meetings with the understanding that their input would help shape a fair and equitable funding structure for Fresno.

Increasing the cap to \$350,000 undermines the intent of that public process and raises serious concerns about transparency and accountability. If the recommendation developed through PARCS and supported by PRAC can be substantially altered without meaningful public discussion, it weakens community trust in the decision-making process.

More importantly, raising the cap will reduce the number of organizations able to receive funding. Measure P was designed to expand access to arts, culture, recreation, and community programming across Fresno. A higher cap concentrates resources among fewer recipients and creates additional barriers for grassroots organizations, small nonprofits, independent artists, and emerging community leaders who often have the greatest difficulty accessing public funding.

Many community-based programs operate with limited staff and modest budgets but produce meaningful results. These organizations provide cultural programming, youth development opportunities, neighborhood engagement, health and wellness initiatives, and services that directly reach underserved communities. Their impact should not be overshadowed by the interests of larger institutions with greater fundraising capacity and organizational infrastructure.

The success of Measure P should be measured not only by the size of individual grants, but by the breadth of community participation and the number of Fresno residents who benefit from funded programs. Maintaining the \$150,000 cap helps ensure that public resources are distributed more equitably and that opportunities remain accessible to a diverse range of organizations and communities.

I respectfully urge the Fresno City Council to reject the proposed increase and preserve the \$150,000 funding cap. I also ask that any future changes to Measure P funding recommendations be discussed openly and transparently, with meaningful opportunities for public review and input.

Thank you for your consideration and for your commitment to serving the residents of Fresno.

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Sending warm saludos,

Samuel Contreras, MFA
Assistant Professor in Film & Media Arts
Department of Media, Communications, and Journalism
California State University, Fresno

[REDACTED]