

# Regular Council Meeting

March 26, 2026

## FRESNO CITY COUNCIL



### Public Comment Packet

#### ITEM(S)

RECEIVED  
2026 MAR 25 P 2:11  
CITY OF FRESNO  
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

#### 2-I (ID 26-295)

\*\*\*RESOLUTION - Adopting the Third Amendment to the Position Authorization Resolution No. 2025-179 adding three permanent, full-time positions in the Parks, After School, Recreation, and Community Services Department, effective April 6, 2026 (Subject to Mayor's Veto)

#### 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.

From:

Subject:

Date:

Public Comment: Please Vote No on Proposed PARCS Positions

Tuesday, March 24, 2026 5:22:05 PM

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**External Email: Use caution with links and attachments**

Dear Fresno City Councilmembers,

I am writing to urge you not to approve the three requested positions by the Parks Department to administer the Measure P Expanding Access to Art and Culture grants. (Consent Item 2-I in the City Council agenda for March 26)

We witnessed the [presentation made by PARCS at the March 16, 2026 PRAC meeting](#) and spoke against the proposal. The PRAC itself did not vote unanimously in favor of the resolution with two members voting no (Kimberly McCoy and Jose Luis Barraza).

The problem with the proposed staffing plan is that it does not address the senior level of leadership needed to successfully implement a City tax-based arts and culture grants program.

Regarding the proposed three new positions within the Parks Department. – the Project Liaison/Program Administrator, Community Outreach Specialist, and Community Coordinator – these titles do not indicate the level of leadership needed for the City to successfully administer the EAAC grants program, nor do they require any arts and culture expertise. We need the City to hire a senior level arts and culture director to implement the mandate of Measure P grants. We have seen the effects of not having a professional standard for arts and culture leadership in the City, which has been a disaster.

Instead of hiring the proposed three positions, the City of Fresno should create a Cultural Affairs Division (which could be within PARCS) and hire a professional director of cultural affairs who will oversee the EAAC process as well as serve the city in all matters related to arts and culture, including policy development and expanded services.

We need to remember, there are other critical arts and cultural policy issues within the city besides the grants, including the development of the next cultural plan as well as public art and other official matters. Hiring three positions that appear to be geared for more junior staff levels will not get us to where we need to be. Of the eight largest cities in California, Fresno is alone in not having a Cultural Affairs Director/Department.

We need specific arts and culture administrative leadership. We have heard city officials argue that arts expertise is needed only for the review of the grants, which in

itself illustrates the lack of experience coded in this assumption. The administrator of the grants program needs to understand the local arts and cultural ecology in which art is being practiced and produced in order to effectively design a funding program, make needed changes, and structure outreach. The City needs to do better for its citizens with the tremendous investment by the taxpayers before us.

For these reasons, I urge you to vote no on Consent Item 2-I and advocate instead for the creation of a Cultural Affairs Division led by a qualified Cultural Affairs Director. I would welcome the opportunity to discuss this further with you.

Sincerely,  
Hugo Morales

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1 \*\*\*RESOLUTION - Adopting the Third Amendment to the Position Authorization Resolution No. 2025-179 adding three permanent, full-time positions in the Parks, After School, Recreation, and Community Services Department, effective April 6, 2026 (Subject to Mayor's Veto)

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**Hugo Morales (He/Him)**

FOUNDER & CO-EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**RADIO BILINGÜE LATINO PUBLIC RADIO**

Mobile: [REDACTED]

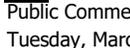
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**From:**   
**To:**   
**Subject:** Public Comment: Please Vote No on Proposed PARCS Positions  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 24, 2026 2:55:56 PM  
**Attachments:** [img-f21313b5-ca95-496a-946d-bd77dbc78504](#)

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Sincerely,  
Amy Kitchener

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**Amy Kitchener**

*Executive Director*

Alliance for California Traditional Arts

██████████ | [actaonline.org](http://actaonline.org)

