



City of Fresno

2600 Fresno Street
Fresno, CA 93721
www.fresno.gov

Meeting Minutes Parks, Recreation, and Arts Commission

Chair - Kimberly McCoy

Vice Chair - Laura Ward

Commissioner - Jose Leon Barraza

Commissioner - Rose Caglia

Commissioner - Jon Dohlin

Commissioner - Kelly Kucharski

Commissioner - Scott Miller

Commissioner - Harman Singh

Commissioner - Christina Soto

Monday, October 28, 2024

5:30 PM

Council Chambers (In
Person and/or Electronic)
<https://www.fresno.gov/prac-meeting/>

Regular Meeting

The Parks, Recreation and Arts Commission (PRAC) met in regular session in the Council Chamber at Fresno City Hall on the date and time above written.

1. **Call to Order**

Chair McCoy called the meeting to order at 5:39 P.M.

2. **5:39 P.M. Roll Call**

Commissioner Miller joined the meeting at 6:12 P.M.

Present 6 - Chair Kimberly McCoy, Vice Chair Laura E. Ward, Commissioner Jose Barraza, Commissioner Rose Caglia, Commissioner Kelly Kucharski, and Commissioner Scott Miller

Absent 3 - Commissioner Jon Dohlin, Commissioner Harman Singh, and Commissioner Christina Soto

3. **Pledge of Allegiance**

Chair McCoy led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Approve Agenda

On motion of Commissioner Barraza, seconded by Vice Chair Ward, the AGENDA was APPROVED. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Chair McCoy, Vice Chair Ward, Commissioner Barraza, Commissioner Caglia and Commissioner Kucharski

Absent: 4 - Commissioner Dohlin, Commissioner Miller, Commissioner Singh and Commissioner Soto

5. Approval of Minutes

5.-A. [ID 24-1421](#) Approval of the regular meeting minutes of October 14, 2024.

On motion of Commissioner Caglia, seconded by Chair McCoy, that the above Action Item be APPROVED. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Chair McCoy, Vice Chair Ward, Commissioner Barraza, Commissioner Caglia and Commissioner Kucharski

Absent: 4 - Commissioner Dohlin, Commissioner Miller, Commissioner Singh and Commissioner Soto

6. Discussion: Subcommittee Reports:

6-A. Parks Master Plan:

There was no update from the Parks Master Plan.

6-B. Highest Needs Neighborhoods:

There was no update from the Highest Needs Neighborhoods

6-C. San Joaquin River Parkway:

Commissioner Kucharski reported the committee recently conducted a site visit along the Parkway, assessing four or five properties. The subcommittee identified two projects they want to propose funding for. However, they will hold off on a final decision until after today's presentation from the PARCS or Public Works Departments about Parkway projects.

7. Members Reports and Comments

COMMISSIONER BARRAZA REPORTS AND COMMENTS: Expressed appreciation to Commissioner Caglia for attending a community meeting in Southeast Fresno. Acknowledged Executive Director Lilia Chavez for her informative presentation on the culture arts districts, explaining what they are and how they function. Expressed gratitude to the office of Councilmember Chavez for their attendance and support at the event.

COMMISSIONER CAGLIA REPORTS AND COMMENTS: Acknowledged the San Joaquin River Parkway Subcommittee for arranging a tour, and expressed gratitude to the San Joaquin River Parkway and the San Joaquin River Trust for hosting the tour.

VICE CHAIR WARD REPORTS AND COMMENTS: Attended a tour of the San Joaquin River Parkway, acknowledged the PARCS department and the San Joaquin River Parkway subcommittee for organizing it, and encouraged commissioners who couldn't attend to participate in the future.

CHAIR MCCOY REPORTS AND COMMENTS: Commended the Fresno Arts Council for their beautiful awards ceremonies, including the State of the Arts and Horizon Awards. Acknowledged Dr. Lilia Chavez for the invitation and expressed having a great time at the ceremony.

8. City Administration and PARCS Staff Reports and Comments

PARCS DIRECTOR AGUIRRE REPORTS AND COMMENTS: Clarified that the presentation of interest on Category 5 with Public Works will occur next week with Director Mozier, and tonight's presentation will focus on programming. Announced PARCS Departments past and future community events. Acknowledged the PRAC Commission, administration, and the PARCS Department staff for their efforts in organizing the community events.

9. Unscheduled Communication: Members of the public may address the Commission regarding items that are not listed on the agenda and within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Commission. Each person will have up to three (3) minutes to present.

Upon call, no members of the public addressed the Commission with unscheduled communication.

10. Workshops:

- 10.-A.** [ID 24-1448](#) Workshop - Overview of PARCS Department's FY 2025 After School, Recreation, and Community Services Programs to inform the FY 2026 budget (PARCS).

The above item was presented to the Commission by Assistant Director MacNab.

Commission discussion on this item included: Neighborhood safety and community engagement partnering with non profits. Community centers and community engagement with the science mobile unit. Senior hot meals and locations where they are offered. Youth employment and mentorship programs at community centers and parks. Participation in youth sports, cheer leading, and dance classes for the youth. Future events, and other sports at city parks. Sponsorships of city facilities. Outreach efforts for adaptive recreation. Bucket three money, and recommendations for unfunded needs. Community groups access to city facilities, partnerships, and the process for reserving facilities. Special events using city facilities. Offering and teaching youth work skills. Fee waivers for individuals and groups, and promotion of the programs. Nonprofits working with youth girls providing programs and mentorship's.

- 10.-B.** [ID 24-1449](#) Workshop - Expanded Access to Arts and Culture quarterly PRAC Reporting for July 2024 - September 2024 (Fresno Arts Council).

The above item was presented to the Commission by Fresno Arts Council Executive Director Lilia Gonzales Chavez.

Commission discussion on this item included: Annual and quarterly reports listing grant recipients by zip code, and allocation of funding.

11. Discussion Items:

12. Hearings:

- 12.-A.** [ID 24-1450](#) Hearing - Actions pertaining to the Highest Needs Definition 2025-2027
1. Presentation of the outcomes of phase two of outreach for the

Highest-Needs Definition of 2025-2027.

2. Discussion relating to the Highest-Needs Definition 2025-2027
3. Recommendation to City Council to Adopt a Proposed Highest Needs Definition for 2025-2027.

The above item was called to order at 6:52 P.M. and was presented to the Commission by Program Manager Gaytan. Upon call, no members of the public addressed the Commission: Public comment closed at 7:04 P.M.

Commission discussion on this item included: Phase two outreach results, and current priorities. Selecting a percentage. Feedback from the community about the process. Weighted equity factor scoring results. What percentage of committee recommendations will be sent to City Council for approval. Public involvement in the process. Support of the top 50% being approved.

On motion of Commissioner Barraza, seconded by Commissioner Caglia, to recommend to the city council that 50% be allocated, as indicated by the public's input be APPROVED. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Chair McCoy, Vice Chair Ward, Commissioner Barraza, Commissioner Caglia, Commissioner Kucharski and Commissioner Miller

Absent: 3 - Commissioner Dohlin, Commissioner Singh and Commissioner Soto

- 12.-B.** [ID 24-1451](#) Hearing - Actions pertaining to the Parks, After School, Recreation, and Community Services (PARCS) Department's FY 2026 Budget Build as it relates to capital projects; after school, recreation, and community services programs; and trails, beautification, and the San Joaquin River Parkway
1. Presentation - Overview of the FY 2026 budget build process.
 2. Receive public input on expenditures related to the PARCS Department's FY 2026 budget.
 3. Action - Make recommendations to the City Council for adoption of expenditures in connection to the PARCS Department's FY 2026 budget (PARCS).

The above item was called to order at 7:08 P.M. and was presented to the Commission by Assistant Director Chinevere. Upon call, no members of the public addressed the Commission: Public comment closed at 7:13 P.M.

Commission discussion on this item included: Allocating funds during this meeting or the November 18, 2024 meeting, and recommendations adopted during the budget process. Extension of the youth employment program. Using Measure "P" funds to add a full time position to the Public Works Department for conservation services in city parks.

Chair McCoy motioned to allocate \$75,000 for neighborhood safety and community engagement focusing on female youth. Commissioner Barraza seconded the motion which PASSED by the following vote:

*Aye: 6 - Chair McCoy, Vice Chair Ward, Commissioner Barraza, Commissioner Caglia, Commissioner Kucharski, and Commissioner Miller
Absent: 3 - Commissioner Dohlin, Commissioner Singh, and Commissioner Soto*

Chair McCoy Motioned to allocate \$75,000 for a mentorship program targeting youth ages 9 to 17, with a focus on academic support, workforce readiness, and general mentorship. The motion was withdrawn to allow staff to clarify the motion language, and bring it back to the November 18, 2024 meeting.

Commissioner Barraza motioned to allocate \$300,000 and to make a minor language change so funding applies not only to individuals but also to nonprofit organizations serving low-income residents, helping them qualify for fee waivers, and encourage staff to improve public awareness about the availability of the fee waivers. Additional clarification on the motion was made to allocate \$300,000 to continue the youth fee waiver program and increase marketing and outreach efforts to encourage higher utilization of the fee waiver. Chair McCoy seconded the motioned which PASSED by the following vote:

*Aye: 6 - Chair McCoy, Vice Chair Ward, Commissioner Barraza, Commissioner Caglia, Commissioner Kucharski, and Commissioner Miller
Absent: 3 - Commissioner Dohlin, Commissioner Singh, and Commissioner Soto*

12.-C. [ID 24-1422](#) Hearing - Resolution - To create the Cultural Arts Grant Fund

Subcommittee

The above item was called to order at 7:27 P.M. Upon call, no members of the public addressed the Commission: Public comment closed at 7:28 P.M.

Commission discussion on this item included: Ad-hoc committee, verses standing committee. Receiving cost information from staff. Creating a new ad-hoc committee annually per project.

Chair McCoy appointed Vice Chair Ward, Commissioner Miller, and Commissioner Dohlin to the subcommittee.

RESOLUTION 2024-4 ADOPTED

On motion of Chair McCoy, seconded by Commissioner Caglia, that the above Action Item be ADOPTED. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Chair McCoy, Vice Chair Ward, Commissioner Barraza, Commissioner Caglia, Commissioner Kucharski and Commissioner Miller

Absent: 3 - Commissioner Dohlin, Commissioner Singh and Commissioner Soto

- 12.-D.** [ID 24-1423](#) Hearing - Receive public input on allocations related to Measure P, updates to the Parks Master Plan and Cultural Arts Plan, and annual PARCS Department Budget and Capital Improvement Plans.

The above item was called to order at 7:32 P.M. Upon call, no members of the public addressed the Commission: Public comment closed at 7:35 P.M.

There was no Commission discussion on this item.

13. Adjournment

Chair McCoy adjourned the meeting in Memory of Dr. Francine Oputa, and welcomed her cousin Georgia Davis serving in the Navy home from Dubai, and thanked her for her service, at 7:36 P.M.

The above minutes were approved by unanimous vote of the Parks, Recreation, and Arts Commission during the October 28, 2024, regular meeting with Commissioners Caglia, Dohlin, Singh, and Ward absent.

