



Civic Arts Commission

CONSENT CALENDAR
July 28, 2026

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Civic Arts Commission

Submitted by: Peter Montgomery, Chairperson, Civic Arts Commission

Subject: Authorization for Additional Civic Arts Commission Meeting in 2026

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution authorizing the Civic Arts Commission to hold one additional meeting in 2026, allowing the Commission to add an August 26, 2026 meeting.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

Fiscal impacts are minimal. An additional meeting may require staff secretary time. Any related administrative costs are expected to be absorbed within existing resources.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

Resolution No. 68,705–N.S. governs the number of annual meetings for City boards and commissions and authorizes the Civic Arts Commission to meet ten times per year.

The Civic Arts Commission's adopted 2026 meeting schedule did not include an August meeting. Staff brought forward a recommendation to revise the remaining 2026 meeting schedule to add an August 26, 2026 meeting in order to address time-sensitive Commission business and provide an opportunity for Commission feedback on upcoming arts and cultural planning items.

At its June 24, 2026 meeting, the Civic Arts Commission approved staff's recommendation to add an August 26, 2026 meeting, with the direction that the October 28, 2026 meeting also remain on the calendar. Because adding the August meeting while retaining the October meeting would result in one additional meeting beyond the ten meetings authorized for 2026, Council authorization is required.

On June 24, 2026, the Civic Arts Commission voted as follows:

Action: M/S/C (Blecher/Kramer) move to approve revisions to the remaining 2026 Civic Arts Commission meeting schedule as recommended by staff, while retaining the October 28, 2026 date.

Vote: Ayes: — Bachrach, Blecher, Bullwinkel, Dutta-Choudhury, Kramer, Montgomery, Woo; Nays — None; Abstain — None; Absent — Pineda (LoA), Scott.

BACKGROUND

Historically, the Civic Arts Commission has not met in August or November, although this practice is not required by policy. In recent years, however, the volume of Commission agenda items has required a fuller meeting schedule to support timely review of public art projects, grants-related items, cultural planning efforts, and other Commission business. Staff recommended adding an August 26, 2026 meeting to allow the Commission to review and provide feedback on time-sensitive items, including but not limited to:

- Presentation and feedback on the Arts Resiliency Study from Cultural Planning Group;
- Cube Space Artist 5: Lena Coletto, scheduled for October 26, 2026 through January 15, 2027; and
- Animal Shelter Project Plan.

The August meeting will provide needed time for Commission discussion and feedback before these items move forward. Retaining the October meeting will also support continuity during the fall, when the Commission is expected to continue work related to public art, grants, cultural planning, and other programmatic items.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

There are no identifiable environmental impacts or opportunities associated with this report.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

The additional August meeting will allow the Civic Arts Commission to conduct timely review of important arts and cultural items and provide feedback on the Arts Resiliency Study before related recommendations and next steps are finalized. The Commission also determined that retaining the October meeting is important to maintain continuity in the fall meeting schedule and avoid delaying items that may require Commission review or action. Authorizing one additional meeting in 2026 will allow the Commission to complete this work without compressing or deferring agenda items unnecessarily.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

None.

CITY MANAGER

The City Manager takes no position on the content and recommendations of the Commission's Report.

CONTACT PERSON

Carianna Arredondo, Secretary to the Civic Arts Commission and Assistant to the City Manager, City Manager's Office (510) 981-7000

RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

AUTHORIZING ADDITIONAL 2026 MEETING FOR THE CIVIC ARTS COMMISSION

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 68,705–N.S. governs the number of annual meetings for City boards and commissions and authorizes the Civic Arts Commission to meet ten times per year; and

WHEREAS, the Civic Arts Commission’s adopted 2026 meeting schedule did not include an August meeting; and

WHEREAS, staff recommended adding an August 26, 2026 meeting to allow the Civic Arts Commission to review time-sensitive items, including the Arts Resiliency Study, Cube Space Artist 5, and the Animal Shelter Project Plan; and

WHEREAS, at its June 24, 2026 meeting, the Civic Arts Commission voted to approve revisions to the remaining 2026 meeting schedule as recommended by staff, while retaining the October 28, 2026 meeting date; and

WHEREAS, adding the August 26, 2026 meeting while retaining the October 28, 2026 meeting would result in one additional meeting beyond the ten meetings authorized for the Civic Arts Commission in 2026; and

WHEREAS, the additional meeting will allow the Civic Arts Commission to provide timely feedback and conduct necessary Commission business without delaying time-sensitive arts and cultural planning items.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the Civic Arts Commission is authorized to hold one additional meeting in 2026, for a total of eleven meetings in calendar year 2026.

