

CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD



ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION

**MEETING AGENDA PACKET
THURSDAY, MARCH 24, 2022 – 5:00 P.M.**

TELECONFERENCE MEETING

Join Zoom meeting via computer or app:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83730837218>

(Please keep video and microphone off when joining)

OR

Dial-in via phone: (669) 900-6833

Use Meeting ID: 837 3083 7218, then press #

**CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
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The West Hollywood Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission Urban Art Subcommittee acknowledges that the land on which we gather and that is currently known as the City of West Hollywood is the occupied, unceded, seized territory of the Gabrieleño Tongva and Gabrieleño Kizh peoples.

*IN AN EFFORT TO PROTECT PUBLIC HEALTH AND PREVENT THE SPREAD OF COVID-19 (CORONAVIRUS), THIS PUBLIC MEETING IS HELD PURSUANT TO AB 361, WHICH AUTHORIZES PUBLIC MEETINGS TO TAKE PLACE VIA TELECONFERENCE BECAUSE STATE AND LOCAL OFFICIALS ARE RECOMMENDING MEASURES TO PROMOTE SOCIAL DISTANCING.

TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS PUBLIC MEETING:

1. You are strongly encouraged to Email or call the Recording Secretary at: doceguera@weho.org or 323-848-6351 no later than 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 24, 2022, to be added to the Public Speaker List for the meeting. Please include your name, the phone number from which you will be calling, and which item you would like to speak on.
2. Join the meeting by clicking the meeting link 10 minutes prior to the start of the meeting OR dial-in via phone 10 minutes prior to the start of the meeting (the meeting begins at 5:00 p.m.) You will be placed on HOLD in the Virtual Meeting Room until the meeting begins. Please keep video and microphone off if joining by computer or app.
 - Join via computer or Zoom app here (please keep video and microphone off): <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83730837218>
 - OR Dial-in via phone: 669-900-6833, use Meeting ID.: 837 3083 7218, then press #

If special assistance to participate in this meeting is required, (e.g., an American Sign Language interpreter for people who are Deaf or hard of hearing), you must call or submit your request in writing to the Office of the City Clerk at (323) 848-6409 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting. The City TTY line is (323) 848-6496.

For a complete listing of arts and cultural programs, events and opportunities, please visit www.weho.org/arts or follow @WeHoArts on social media.

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
 - A. Pledge of Allegiance

- B. Roll Call
- C. Approval of the Agenda
- D. Approval of the February 24, 2022 Meeting Minutes
- E. Public Comment

The public is given the opportunity to address the Subcommittee on any item within its responsibility. At the discretion of the Subcommittee, speakers may be limited to two minutes each. If you would like to present public comment at the meeting, please see the section titled "TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS PUBLIC MEETING" at the top of the first page of this Meeting Agenda.

2. **CONSENT CALENDAR**

The following routine matters can be acted upon by one motion. Individual items may be removed by the Commission for separate discussion. Items removed for separate discussion will be heard following New Business items.

A. **Posting of the Agenda**

The agenda was posted per proper noticing procedures at City Hall, Plummer Park, West Hollywood Library and West Hollywood Sheriff's Station. RECOMMENDATION: Receive and file.

3. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

A. **Performing Arts and Cultural Affairs Subcommittee Report** (page 10)

The Commission will receive a report from the Performing Arts and Cultural Affairs Subcommittee on its meeting held March 10, 2022 and consider ratifying recommendations proposed by the Subcommittee.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 1) Receive and file the Performing Art Subcommittee Report, and consider ratifying recommendations proposed by the Subcommittee.
- 2) Recommend that the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission approve the 2023 Arts Grant Program Guidelines for the Arts Project, Community Arts, Organizational Development, Transgender Arts Initiative, and WeHo Artist grants with the following updates:
 - a. Clarify the intent, purpose and outcomes, and eligibility requirements of the Community Arts Grant to support community goals through cultural equity.
 - b. Change the bi-annual Community Arts Grant timeline to align with the other grant categories and have an annual deadline.
 - c. Add an additional, specific, WeHo Artist Grant Workshop / Webinar.
 - d. Require Organizational Development grantees to attend 2023 Bootcamp.
 - e. Change Organizational Development expectations and funding amount (from \$6,000 per year to \$4,000 for years 1, 2 and \$6,000 for year 3).
 - f. Remove Commission's ability to transfer applications to the Organizational Development category.

- 3) Recommend that the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission approve the Musicians and Performers Roster.
- 4) Recommend that the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission approve the short list of 10 artists to be considered for the 2022 Summer Sounds Concert Series.

B. Urban Art Subcommittee Report (page 11)

The Commission will receive a report from the Urban Art Subcommittee on its meeting held March 17, 2022 and consider ratifying recommendations proposed by the Subcommittee.

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive and file the Art on the Outside Subcommittee Report, and consider ratifying recommendations proposed by the Subcommittee.

C. Art on the Outside Subcommittee Report (page 12)

The Commission will receive a report from the Art on the Outside Subcommittee on its meeting held March 24, 2022 and consider ratifying recommendations proposed by the Subcommittee.

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive and file the Art on the Outside Subcommittee Report, and consider ratifying recommendations proposed by the Subcommittee.

4. NEW BUSINESS

A. Land Acknowledgment Policy (page 13)

The Commission will receive a presentation from staff regarding the new Land Acknowledgment Policy approved by the City Council on February 22, 2022.

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive and file.

B. Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission Work Plan 2023 (page 26)

The Commission will review, discuss, and provide feedback for the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission Work Plan for the fiscal year 2023.

RECOMMENDATION:

Provide feedback for the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission Work Plan for fiscal year 2023.

5. EXCLUDED CONSENT

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

The public is given the opportunity to address the Subcommittee on any item within its responsibility. At the discretion of the Subcommittee, speakers may be limited to two minutes each. If you would like to present public comment at the meeting, please see the

section titled "TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS PUBLIC MEETING" at the top of the first page of this Meeting Agenda.

7. ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS

8. ITEMS FROM THE STAFF

9. DEVELOPMENT OF NEXT MEETING AGENDA

The Commission will advise staff on development of the agenda for the meeting on Thursday, April 28, 2022.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission will adjourn to its **meeting on Thursday, April 28, 2022, at 5:00 p.m.** to be held via teleconference.

**CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2022 – 5:00 P.M.
*Teleconference Meeting***

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission meeting was called to order by Commission Chair Gantman at 5:01 p.m.

A. Pledge of Allegiance: Commissioner Moreno-Freedman led the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. Roll Call:

Present: Commissioner Mito Aviles
Commissioner Lindsey Deaton
Commissioner Dawn Moreno-Freedman
Commissioner Todd Williamson
Commission Vice Chair Dan Faltz
Commission Chair Martin Gantman

Absent: Commissioner Catherine Lee

Also Present: Arts Manager Rebecca Ehemann
Administrative Specialist IV/Recording Secretary Dennice Oceguela
Arts Coordinator Michael Che
Grants Coordinator Eva Angeloff
Arts Technician Joy Tribble
Public Art Contractor Jessica Rich

C. Approval of the Agenda:

ACTION: Approval of the February 24, 2022 meeting agenda with item 3B moved to first item **motioned by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner Aviles, and approved unanimously.**

D. Approval of the January 27, 2022 Meeting Minutes

ACTION: Approval of the January 27, 2022 meeting minutes was **motioned by Commissioner Deaton, seconded by Vice Chair Faltz, and approved unanimously.**

E. Public Comment

Patricia Ortega of Los Angeles, Research Associate for Maroon Society, Inc. shared information about the 2022 Social Services Community Needs Assessment Survey with the Commission.

II. CONSENT CALENDAR

The following routine matter was acted upon by one motion.

Approval of the Consent Calendar was **motioned by Commissioner Deaton, seconded by Vice Chair Faltz and approved, noting No Vote from Commissioner Williamson.**

A. Posting of the Agenda

The agenda was posted per proper noticing procedures at City Hall, Plummer Park, West Hollywood Library and West Hollywood Sheriff's Station.

ACTION: Receive and file. **Approved as part of the Consent Calendar.**

B. Temporary Art Project Proposal – Lost Hollywood

The Commission will receive and file the February 4, 2022 Decision from the City Manager's Designee in the appeal of the October 28, 2021 Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission's decision to decline the project "Lost Hollywood" by Carl Hopgood.

ACTION: Receive and file. **Approved as part of the Consent Calendar.**

III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Performing Arts and Cultural Affairs Subcommittee Report

The Commission received a report from the Performing Arts and Cultural Affairs Subcommittee on its meeting held February 10, 2022 and considered ratifying recommendations proposed by the Subcommittee.

Commissioner Aviles reported that the Subcommittee and staff had a dialogue regarding proposed changes and updates to the 2023 guidelines for the Arts Project, Community Arts, Organizational Development, Transgender Arts initiative, and WeHo Artist Grants. He stated that the Subcommittee provided direction and edits and that the updated guidelines will be reviewed at the March meeting

The Commission and staff discussed the guided direction and edits provided from the Performing Arts and Cultural Affairs Subcommittee, with a particular focus on the Community Arts Grant.

ACTION:

1) Received and filed the Performing Arts and Cultural Affairs Subcommittee Report.

B. Art on the Outside Subcommittee Report

The Commission received a report from the Art on the Outside Subcommittee on its meeting held February 24, 2022 and considered ratifying recommendations proposed by the Subcommittee.

Commissioner Deaton began by thanking staff for their hard work. She reported that the subcommittee reviewed the artwork proposal "In Finite Space" from artist Kean O'Brien for installation in the Aquatic and Recreation Center which is a full funded project by City Council and recommends the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission to approve the project.

Commissioner Deaton also reported that after the Subcommittee reviewed, discussed and evaluated a presentation from artist Anne Bray on her Temporary Art Project for the artwork project “Do You Belong in WeHo?” The Subcommittee requested additional information from the artist and the item was tabled for a future Subcommittee Meeting.

Commissioner Deaton also explained that the discussion for Temporary Art Project Proposal Schedule of Reviews has been tabled for next Month’s Subcommittee meeting.

Commissioner Deaton continued the report by stating that the Subcommittee reviewed the submitted proposals for the City Hall Mural 2022 West Hollywood Pride and recommends the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission to approve “Our Pride” proposal, submitted by LaToya Peoples.

Commissioner Deaton concluded the report by stating that the Subcommittee reviewed the received presentation for the “Arts on Sunset 2022” program proposal, submitted by Orange Barrel Media, for exhibition on the electronic billboards at 8775 Sunset Boulevard (Sunset Spectacular). The Subcommittee recommends that the Arts and Cultural Commission approve the proposal.

ACTION:

- 1) Received and filed the Art on the Outside Subcommittee Report.
- 2) Approved the artwork proposal “In Finite Space” from artist Kean O’Brien for installation of a full year in the Aquatic and Recreation Center. **Motioned by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner Moreno-Freedman and approved unanimously.**
- 3) Approved the artwork proposal “Our Pride” submitted by LaToya Peoples for the City Hall Mural 2022 West Hollywood Pride. **Motioned by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner Deaton and approved unanimously.**
- 4) Approved the “Arts on Sunset 2022” program proposal, submitted by Orange Barrel Media, for exhibition on the electronic billboards at 8775 Sunset Boulevard (Sunset Spectacular). **Motioned by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner Aviles and approved unanimously.**

IV. NEW BUSINESS

None.

V. EXCLUDED CONSENT

None.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

Madeleine Rackley expressed appreciation for all the work the Commission continued to bring to the City of West Hollywood.

VII. ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Moreno-Freedman shared that the Barnsdall Art Park in Los Angeles has

a theater with a bronze plaque that acknowledges all the people involved in building the theater with includes the Arts and Cultural Commission of approximately 50 years ago. She suggested for all art projects to have the names of the Commissioners of the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission to receive recognition of said projects throughout history.

Commissioner Williamson thanked the Commission for their importance in the City of West Hollywood. Also stated that City Council will be presented with a proposal to meet in person very soon.

Commissioner Aviles thanked everyone for the meeting.

Vice Chair Faltz congratulated staff for the launch of *BLACK.ECO*, also congratulated Eva Angeloff Grants Coordinator for the success of the Artists Roundtable, also is pleased with the work and direction Staff are taking with the Community Arts Grant. Vice Chair Faltz asked Rebecca Ehemann Arts Manager if there was an opportunity for a collaboration with the Recreation Services Division to offer art teaching opportunities, classes and/or workshops for the community.

Chair Gantman suggested for the Commission to listen in Subcommittee meetings to be knowledgeable of all information before it is presented to the Commission.

VIII. ITEMS FROM THE STAFF

Public Art Contractor, Jessica Rich, thanked the Commission for their work.

Arts Technician, Joy Tribble shared that the application for the newly created Musicians and Performers Roster is open and will be used to select performers for upcoming concerts, including Summer Sounds and Winter Sounds. The application can be found on the Artist Opportunities page on the City's website. The deadline is Tuesday, March 1, 2022 at 5 p.m.

Arts Coordinator, Mike Che thanked the Commissioners for their work and for moving forward with the selection of the artist for the City Hall mural opportunity. He reminded the Commission that the next 2022 WeHo Reads event is on March 16, 2022 at 6 p.m. that will feature *A celebration of Women Who Submit's New Anthology called Gathering*. Also encouraged everyone to visit the Arts Division YouTube page to view the two previous very well-received WeHo Reads events if they haven't done so already.

Grants Coordinator, Eva Angeloff, thanked the commission for their hard work, thanked the Commissioners that attended the Artists Roundtable meeting and is looking forward to the next meeting in September. She also highlighted some grantee programs taking place in March. Mashup Contemporary Dance Company presents International Women's Day Festival taking place March 6, 2022 from 1 p.m.- 7 p.m. at Pro Dance LA, 744 N. Fairfax Ave, Los Angeles CA 90046. THESTYLEGUYDE, FLUX, and WallSpace Gallery present "As We Are, Pillars of Society"- A Pop Up Art Exhibit featuring Trans Visibility Artwork taking place from March 31, 2022 to April 15, 2022 at WallSpace, 7701 Santa Monica Blvd. West Hollywood CA 90069.

Arts Manager, Rebecca Ehemann congratulated Arts Technician Joy Tribble on the success of Weho Sounds Winter Series and congratulated Grants Coordinator Eva

Angeloff on the success of the Artists Roundtable with over 50 people in attendance. In response to Vice Chair Faltz's question about the partnership with the Recreation Division, she shared that she could explore that with the Recreation Division and see what opportunities may exist. She also reminded the Commission that the deadline for requests for proposals for Multicultural Holidays Artwork is March 2, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. Also, the deadline for Moving Image Media Art (MIMA) Program proposals is May 1, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.

IX. DEVELOPMENT OF NEXT MEETING AGENDA

The Commission authorized staff to develop the agenda for the meeting on Thursday, March 24, 2022.

X. ADJOURNMENT

The Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission adjourned at 6:23 p.m. to its meeting scheduled on March 24, 2022, at 5:00 p.m. via teleconference.

APPROVED BY A MOTION OF THE ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION
ON THIS 24TH DAY OF FEBRUARY 2022.

MARTIN GANTMAN
COMMISSION CHAIR

ATTEST:

Dennice Ocegüera,
RECORDING SECRETARY

ITEM 3.A.

The Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission may refer to the Performing Arts and Cultural Affairs Subcommittee Agenda to discuss item 3.A.

The **Performing Arts and Cultural Affairs Subcommittee Agenda** is available for viewing and download at this URL:

<https://bit.ly/3sG1OTf>

ITEM 3.B.

The Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission may refer to the Urban Art Subcommittee Agenda to discuss item 3.B

The **Urban Art Subcommittee Agenda** is available for viewing and download at this URL:

<https://bit.ly/35HimBX>

The Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission may refer to the Art on the Outside Subcommittee Agenda to discuss item 3.C

The **Art on the Outside Subcommittee Agenda** is available for viewing and download at this URL:

<https://bit.ly/3uabdC2>

CITY COUNCIL
UNFINISHED BUSINESS

FEBRUARY 22, 2022

SUBJECT: **LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT POLICY**
INITIATED BY: **COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT**
(Yvonne Quarker, Director)
(Andi Lovano, Community & Legislative Affairs Supervisor)

STATEMENT ON THE SUBJECT:

The City Council will consider adopting a Land Acknowledgment Policy, which is a statement recognizing the history and presence of Indigenous peoples and their enduring relationship to their homelands. The Land Acknowledgment will be posted on the City's website, printed on City Council, Commission, and Advisory Board agendas, and read or spoken aloud at official City events.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 1) Adopt the City of West Hollywood Land Acknowledgment Policy (Attachment A).
- 2) Direct staff to implement the Land Acknowledgment Policy as outlined in the document, including posting the Land Acknowledgment on the City's website, printing it on meeting agendas, and reading or speaking the acknowledgment aloud at official City events.
- 3) Direct staff to issue a call to artists to develop artistic visual assets and content related to the Land Acknowledgment that will be shared through the City's communications channels and may be shown at City events or meetings when appropriate.
- 4) Authorize the Director of Finance & Technology Services to allocate \$35,000 from unallocated General Fund reserves for costs associated with developing artistic visual assets, video content, and graphics related to the Land Acknowledgment.

BACKGROUND / ANALYSIS:

The land that is currently known as the City of West Hollywood is on the ancestral, and unceded homelands of the Gabrieleño Tongva and Gabrieleño Kizh (pronounced "Keesh") peoples. The Tongva and Kizh are the original peoples of Tovaangar, which includes Los Angeles County, Riverside County, West San Bernardino County, parts of Orange County and the four Southern Channel Islands.

The City Council provided direction to staff on September 21, 2020 to develop a formal Land Acknowledgment policy to recognize the history and presence of the Tongva and Kizh peoples and their enduring relationship to their homelands. The Land Acknowledgment Policy is included as Attachment A.

The Land Acknowledgment is a statement recognizing the traditional land of Indigenous peoples who have called – and still call – the land home before and after the arrival of settlers. It is a way to honor the original inhabitants of a place and is intended to serve as a symbol of recognition and respect. It is also an expression of gratitude and appreciation to Indigenous peoples whose homelands we currently reside on.

Land Acknowledgments help create awareness of the cultural erasure of Indigenous peoples and the processes of colonization and suppression that have led to the dispossession and displacement of Indigenous peoples from their ancestral homelands and territories.

Typically, Land Acknowledgments take the form of written and/or verbal statements. It is becoming more common for Land Acknowledgments to be read or spoken at meetings, community gatherings, places of worship, conferences, etc.

The City's Land Acknowledgment Policy includes a protocol for when and where the acknowledgement should be posted, printed, or read aloud at official City events. The City of West Hollywood's Land Acknowledgment should be used in the following ways:

- Posted on the City's website.
- Included in official City documents, including City meeting agendas for City Council, Commissions, and Advisory Boards, strategic plans, and other reports.
- Read or spoken aloud at all public meetings, City events, and gatherings.

The Land Acknowledgment sample language provided in the policy document should be used as a guide, and the language can be amended appropriately for the specific context in which it will be used. Here are a few examples:

"I would like to start this meeting by acknowledging that this meeting is taking place on the ancestral, and unceded territory of the Gabrieleño Tongva and Gabrieleño Kizh peoples. The Tongva and Kizh peoples are the traditional caretakers of Tovaangar, which includes Los Angeles County, Riverside County, West San Bernardino County, parts of Orange County, and the four Southern Channel Islands."

"I want to respectfully acknowledge the Gabrieleño Tongva and Gabrieleño Kizh peoples who have stewarded this land that is currently known as the City of West Hollywood throughout the generations, and we pay respect to their elders, past and present."

"We would like to begin by acknowledging that the land on which we gather and that is currently known as the City of West Hollywood is the occupied, unceded, seized territory of the Gabrieleño Tongva and Gabrieleño Kizh peoples."

The Land Acknowledgment should be approached not as a set of obligatory words to rush through, but offered with respect, grounded in authentic reflection, presence, and awareness.

In developing the policy, City staff partnered with Tina Calderon, a Tongva Culture Bearer, who provided her guidance and feedback. Tina encouraged the City to think about the first peoples in this area, and consider how we can express our gratitude to the lands and to the original caretakers, past, present, and emerging. Tina encouraged the City to highlight the fact that the Land Acknowledgment is the first step in continuing to build the relationship between the City and the local Indigenous community. This process of engagement is ongoing and we must continue to work towards inclusivity and our joint commitment to being good stewards to the lands we live and work upon.

As part of the update and development of the City's Climate Action and Adaptation Plan, the City worked collaboratively with Pueblo Planning and the Sacred Places Institute for Indigenous Peoples to organize listening sessions and a climate survey with local Indigenous community members. This community engagement effort sought to better understand traditional ecological knowledge principles, practices, and pathways to guide climate action and adaptation efforts, while also building a foundational relationship between the City and the local Indigenous community for future collaboration. Some of the input provided by the Tongva and other Indigenous community members who live in the region during the listening sessions was also used in the development of the City's Land Acknowledgment.

Next Steps

The City takes this opportunity to recommit ourselves to lifting up Indigenous stories and cultures, and we seek to continue to build a stronger foundational relationship between the City and the local Indigenous communities. Through community engagement, we intend to continue to be responsive to the local Indigenous communities.

In order to move beyond land acknowledgment towards informed meaningful actions, the City intends to take the following next steps:

- Access to Land: Partner with Indigenous community members and organizations to make land available to Indigenous peoples for cultural events and gatherings.
- Cultivate Community Education: Highlight Indigenous arts and culture and cultivate community education as an active way to combat erasure and uplift Indigenous history and current narratives.
- Relationship Building: Continue to explore the relationship between the City and the local Indigenous communities and actions the City can take to address the needs of the Indigenous community members.

This item approves an allocation of funding to begin to address these next steps by cultivating community education and celebration of culture. The proposed \$35,000 will be

used to support the development of artistic visual assets, video content, and graphics to deepen engagement and community awareness of the City’s Land Acknowledgment. The intention is for this content to be shared through the City’s communications channels and shown when appropriate at City events and meetings.

The City of West Hollywood is committed to addressing social justice, systemic racism, and equity. The City has worked diligently to defend the fundamental rights of its community members including LGBTQ people, people living with disabilities, seniors, people of color, immigrants, women, and others. Addressing Indigenous rights and bringing a greater public consciousness to Indigenous sovereignty and culture is essential as the City continues its ongoing efforts to promote diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice.

CONFORMANCE WITH VISION 2020 AND THE GOALS OF THE WEST HOLLYWOOD GENERAL PLAN:

This item is consistent with the Primary Strategic Goal(s) (PSG) and/or Ongoing Strategic Program(s) (OSP) of:

- OSP-2: Institutional Integrity.
- OSP-11: Community Education.

In addition, this item is compliant with the following goal(s) of the West Hollywood General Plan:

- HS-3: Promote a community with strong social networks and cross-cultural interaction.

EVALUATION PROCESSES:

N/A

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND HEALTH:

N/A

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT:

In developing the policy, City staff partnered with Tina Calderon, a Tongva Culture Bearer, who provided her guidance and feedback. In addition, as part of the update and development of the City’s Climate Action and Adaptation Plan, the City worked collaboratively with Pueblo Planning and the Sacred Places Institute for Indigenous Peoples to organize listening sessions and a climate survey with local Indigenous community members. Some of the input provided by the Tongva and other Indigenous community members who live in the region during the listening sessions was also used in the development of the City’s Land Acknowledgment.

OFFICE OF PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY:

CITY MANAGER'S DEPARTMENT / COMMUNITY & LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS
DIVISION

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT / ARTS DIVISION

FISCAL IMPACT:

This item authorizes the Director of Finance and Technology Services to allocate \$35,000 from unallocated General Fund reserves in Fiscal Year 2021-22 to the New Initiatives account in the City Council Division (100-1-01-00-531019) for costs associated with the development of artistic visual assets and content related to the Land Acknowledgment.

Special Council Programs Fiscal Year 2021-22		
Date	Description	Amount
7/1/2021	Budget for Special Council Programs	\$ 80,000
12/6/2021	General Fund Reserves Appropriation	\$ 100,000
12/6/2021	General Fund Reserves Appropriation	\$ 15,000
1/18/2022	General Fund Reserves Appropriation	\$ 4,000
1/18/2022	General Fund Reserves Appropriation	\$ 9,350
1/18/2022	General Fund Reserves Appropriation	\$ 6,200
2/22/2022	<i>Proposed: General Fund Reserves Appropriation</i>	<i>\$ 50,000</i>
Total Proposed Budget		\$ 264,550
Approved Allocations		
5/3/2021	Community Garden Y1 Operations	\$ 16,800
8/2/2021	City Programming: BiVisibility Week	\$ 5,000
8/16/2021	City Programming: Pet Week	\$ 5,000
9/20/2021	Expansion of Sexual Assault Awareness Campaign	\$ 5,000
10/4/2021	Cosponsorship: BOOM Virtual New Year's Event	\$ 15,000
10/18/2021	Pride Mural on City Hall	\$ 10,000
11/1/2021	Council-commissioned Artwork	\$ 10,000
11/1/2021	Co-sponsorship: Unique Women's Coalition Thanksgiving	\$ 2,500
11/1/2021	Street Tree Giveaway Program	\$ 5,000
12/6/2021	Pickleball Clinic Marketing	\$ 2,000
12/6/2021	Historical Context Study	\$ 100,000
12/6/2021	Text Communication Platform	\$ 15,000
12/20/2021	Security Ambassadors: Holiday Expansion	\$ 2,000
1/18/2022	Community Cleanup Events	\$ 4,000
1/18/2022	City Programming: Black History Month	\$ 9,350
1/18/2022	City Programming: Lesbian & Queer Women's Visibility Month	\$ 6,200
Total Approved Allocations to Date		\$ 212,850
Proposed Allocations		
2/22/2022	<i>General Fund Reserves: Drink-spiking test strips</i>	<i>\$ 15,000</i>
2/22/2022	<i>General Fund Reserves: Land Acknowledgement visual assets</i>	<i>\$ 35,000</i>
Total Proposed Allocation		\$ 50,000
Amount Remaining		\$ 1,700

General Fund Supplemental Appropriations Fiscal Year 2021-22		
Date	Description	Amount
Approved Supplemental Expenditures		
7/21/2021	Prop A Funds Exchange - City of Hermosa Beach*	\$ 490,000
9/20/2021	COVID-19: Eviction Protection & Defense*	\$ 73,978
11/3/2021	One-time Funding for Needs Assessment Consultant	\$ 75,000
11/15/2021	Security Ambassador Eastside Kiosk & Staffing	\$ 95,000
11/15/2021	Prop A Funds Exchange - City of Lakewood*	\$ 1,400,000
12/6/2021	City Council: Historical Context Study	\$ 100,000
12/6/2021	City Council: Text Communication Platform	\$ 15,000
1/18/2022	City Council: Community Cleanup Events	\$ 4,000
1/18/2022	City Council: City Programming: Black History Month	\$ 9,350
1/18/2022	City Council: City Programming: Lesbian Visibility Month	\$ 6,200
2/7/2022	WeHo Pride 2022	\$ 1,000,000
2/22/2022	City Council: Land acknowledgement visual assets	\$ 35,000
Total Approved Supplemental Expenditures to Date		\$ 3,303,528
Proposed Supplemental Expenditures		
2/22/2022	City Council: Drink-spiking test strips	\$ 15,000
2/22/2022	City Council: Land acknowledgement visual assets	\$ 35,000
2/22/2022	Mid-Year Budget Update	<i>See Staff Report</i>
Total Proposed Supplemental Expenditures		\$ 50,000
Appropriations Surplus/(Deficit) as Proposed		\$ (3,353,528)
* Drawdown of Committed or Emergency Reserves		
7/21/2021	Prop A Funds Exchange - City of Hermosa Beach	\$ (490,000)
9/20/2021	COVID-19: Eviction Protection & Defense*	\$ (73,978)
11/15/2021	Prop A Funds Exchange - Lakewood	\$ (1,400,000)
Total Surplus/(Deficit) after Reserves		\$ (1,389,550)

ATTACHMENT:

Attachment A - City of West Hollywood Land Acknowledgment and Policy Guide

Land Acknowledgment and Policy Guide

City of West Hollywood

Land Acknowledgment

The land that is currently known as the City of West Hollywood is on the ancestral, and unceded homelands of the Gabrieleño Tongva and Gabrieleño Kizh (pronounced “Keesh”) peoples. The Tongva and Kizh are the original peoples of Tovaangar, which includes Los Angeles County, Riverside County, West San Bernardino County, parts of Orange County and the four Southern Channel Islands.

Tovaangar supported an estimated 5,000 to 10,000 people in nearly 100 autonomous village-states, which were connected by kinship, language, culture, and trade. Prior to the Spanish conquest that began in 1769, the people of these villages managed their lands with a deep respect by cultivating, pruning, seeding, and seasonal burning. Villages were often built near rivers, creeks, and other sources of water which supplied a lifeline of food and resources. We acknowledge that the City of West Hollywood is built upon and has benefited from their land stewardship over many generations.

Many Tongva and Kizh continue to live in their traditional territory and care for the lands. We pay our respects to the Tongva and Kizh ancestors, elders, and relatives past, present, and emerging. We recognize the Tongva and Kizh peoples who are still here, and we commit ourselves to honoring and uplifting their stories and culture. We seek to build a restorative relationship with people and place which requires dedication to reciprocity, co-stewardship, repair, and rematriation.

How to Use the City's Land Acknowledgment

The City of West Hollywood's Land Acknowledgment should be used in the following ways:

- Posted on the City's website.
- Included in official City documents, including City meeting agendas for City Council, Commissions, and Advisory Boards, strategic plans, and other reports.
- Read or spoken aloud at all public meetings, City events, and gatherings.

The Land Acknowledgment should be approached not as a set of obligatory words to rush through, but offered with respect, grounded in authentic reflection, presence, and awareness.

The Land Acknowledgment provided in this document should be used as a guide, and the language can be amended appropriately for the specific context in which it will be used. Here are a few examples:

"I would like to start by acknowledging that this meeting is taking place on the ancestral, and unceded territory of the Gabrieleño Tongva and Gabrieleño Kizh peoples. The Tongva and Kizh peoples are the traditional caretakers of Tovaangar, which includes Los Angeles County, Riverside County, West San Bernardino County, parts of Orange County, and the four Southern Channel Islands."

"I want to respectfully acknowledge the Gabrieleño Tongva and Gabrieleño Kizh peoples who have stewarded this land that is currently known as the City of West Hollywood throughout the generations, and we pay respect to their elders, past and present."

"We would like to begin by acknowledging that the land on which we gather and that is currently known as the City of West Hollywood is the occupied, unceded, seized territory of the Gabrieleño Tongva and Gabrieleño Kizh peoples."

Historical Context

Settler colonization is the removal and erasure of Indigenous peoples in order to take the land for use by settlers in perpetuity. Indigenous peoples across the Americas have demonstrated resilience and resistance in the face of violent efforts to separate them from their land, culture, and each other.

California's Indigenous peoples survived waves of genocide from multiple colonizing forces which have stripped them of their land and resources, and brought disease, violence, and indentured servitude. By the late 1700s, only a few native villages remained in the Los Angeles area, as nearly the entire Indigenous population had been forcibly relocated to Spanish missions or found refuge with neighboring tribes, while others died from violence, disease, and extreme conditions. After early settlers had enslaved and assimilated the native peoples, they were compelled to work as ranch hands, water carriers, and servants for Mexican and U.S. citizens during the Mexican regime of the 1830s. The California Gold Rush and the path to statehood further decimated their population as violent campaigns to end Indigenous autonomy continued throughout the state.

Today, California has the second highest Indigenous population in the United States and is home to over 200 tribes from across the Americas. There are dozens of pre-Columbian Indigenous languages spoken throughout the state, including the Tongva language. Los Angeles County is home to more Native American/Alaska Natives than any other county across the United States. There are an estimated 1,700 Tongva living in the Los Angeles area today. While the Tongva community gained state recognition in 1994, the struggle to gain federal recognition is ongoing.

What is a Land Acknowledgment?

A Land Acknowledgment is a formal statement recognizing the history and presence of Indigenous peoples and their enduring relationship to their homelands. Typically, Land Acknowledgments take the form of written and/or verbal statements. It is becoming more common for Land Acknowledgments to be read or spoken at meetings, community gatherings, places of worship, conferences, etc.

The Land Acknowledgment is a statement recognizing the traditional land of Indigenous peoples who have called – and still call – the land home before and after the arrival of settlers. It is a way to honor the original inhabitants of a place and is intended to serve as a symbol of recognition and respect. It is also an expression of gratitude and appreciation to Indigenous peoples whose homelands we currently reside on.

Land Acknowledgments help create awareness of the cultural erasure of Indigenous peoples and the processes of colonization and suppression that have led to the dispossession and displacement of Indigenous peoples from their ancestral homelands and territories.

Why is Land Acknowledgment Important?

The City of West Hollywood is committed to addressing social justice, systemic racism, and equity. The City has worked diligently to defend the fundamental rights of its community members including LGBTQ people, people living with disabilities, seniors, people of color, immigrants, women, and others. Addressing Indigenous rights and bringing a greater public consciousness to Indigenous sovereignty and culture is essential as the City continues its ongoing efforts to promote diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice.

Though a Land Acknowledgment is only one way to recognize our history, it is a meaningful step in beginning to change the way we view the land and discuss land stewardship, rights, ownership, and management. History, heritage, and culture of the Indigenous peoples is an integral part of communities across the country.

By acknowledging the original inhabitants of this land, the City aims to counter the “doctrine of discovery” with the true story of the people who were already here on this land before it was colonized. It is also a way to remind people that colonization is an ongoing process, with Indigenous lands still occupied due to deception and broken treaties, practices of eminent domain, and mechanisms intended to benefit government or corporations. Through a Land Acknowledgment, the City of West Hollywood hopes to create a broader public awareness of the Indigenous peoples’ history and to begin to build and repair the relationships with the Indigenous peoples in our community.

Settler colonialism is not a thing of the past, rather it still exists today as long as settlers – and their descendants – are living on appropriated land. Adopting a Land Acknowledgment encourages us all to think about what it means to occupy space on Indigenous lands and to acknowledge that all non-Indigenous people benefit from settler colonialism as it stands today. Acknowledgment demonstrates inclusion and commitment to beginning the process of working to dismantle the ongoing legacies of settler colonialism, honoring Indigenous communities, and starting to decolonize our gathering spaces.

Moving Beyond Land Acknowledgment

Although it is important to acknowledge the land, this acknowledgment is only a first step. Land Acknowledgments are small gestures and become meaningful when coupled with authentic relationships and informed action. As the City formally adopts this Land Acknowledgment, we also recognize its shortcomings. Colonialism is a current, ongoing process and we are mindful of our present participation.

The City takes this opportunity to recommit ourselves to lifting up Indigenous stories and cultures, and we seek to continue to build a stronger foundational relationship between the City and the local Indigenous communities. Through community engagement, we intend to continue to be responsive to the local Indigenous communities.

In order to move beyond land acknowledgment towards informed meaningful actions, the City intends to take the following next steps:

- Access to Land: Partner with Indigenous community members and organizations to make land available to Indigenous peoples for cultural events and gatherings.
- Cultivate Community Education: Highlight Indigenous arts and culture and cultivate community education as an active way to combat erasure and uplift Indigenous history and current narratives.
- Relationship Building: Continue to explore the relationship between the City and the local Indigenous communities and actions the City can take to address the needs of the Indigenous community members.

These were a few of the recommendations that came from listening sessions held on July 28, 2021 and August 12, 2021 as part of the City's Climate Action and Adaptation Plan community outreach. The listening sessions were led by Pueblo Planning, in partnership with the Sacred Places Institute for Indigenous Peoples. Tongva and other Indigenous community members who live in the region participated in the listening sessions.

As the City continues to work on building relationships with Indigenous communities, we will continue to develop actionable next steps to recognize the Indigenous peoples, educate the community, and support tribal land stewardship.

Acknowledgments

The City of West Hollywood would like to recognize and thank Tina Calderon, a Tongva Culture Bearer, for providing guidance and feedback on the development of this Land Acknowledgment Policy.

The City also incorporated comments from the listening sessions with Tongva and other Indigenous community members hosted by Sacred Places Institute as part of the engagement for the Climate Action and Adaptation Plan.

Resources and Further Reading

The following resources were used to develop this Land Acknowledgment Policy. They provide more information on Land Acknowledgments, why they are important, and how we move beyond land acknowledgments to building meaningful relationships.

Cal State University of San Marcos, "Land Acknowledgment: You're on California Indian Land, Now What?: Acknowledging Relationships to Space and Place Toolkit", <https://www.csusm.edu/cicsc/land.pdf>

U.S. Department of Arts and Culture, "Honor Native Land: A Guide and Call to Acknowledgment", <https://usdac.us/nativeland>

Native Governance Center, "Beyond Land Acknowledgment: A Guide", <https://nativegov.org/news/beyond-land-acknowledgment-guide/>

Native Governance Center, "A Guide to Indigenous Land Acknowledgment", <https://nativegov.org/news/a-guide-to-indigenous-land-acknowledgment/>

"Native Land Acknowledgments are Not the Same as Land", <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2021-08-12/native-land-stewardship-needs-to-follow-acknowledgment>

The following resources were used to outline the history of Tovaangar and the Tongva and Kizh people:

"A Brief History of LA's Indigenous Tongva People", <https://laist.com/news/la-history/a-brief-history-of-the-tongva-people>

"Mapping the Tongva Villages of L.A.'s past", <https://www.latimes.com/projects/la-me-tongva-map/>

An Introduction to UCLA's Indigenous Past, Present and Future,
<https://newsletter.alumni.ucla.edu/connect/2020/feb/tongva/default.htm?fbclid=IwAR3rJEJRhb8xwi2v0L1b7AxGtNUDV37sZRaX6LqtpkgGpEo-8h9FUFxY3oQ>

History Department Acknowledgement of the Tongva and Greater Indigenous Lands occupied by the University of Southern California,
https://dornsife.usc.edu/assets/sites/527/docs/USC_Department_of_History_Acknowledgement_of_Tongva_Lands_2021.pdf

SUBJECT: **ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION WORK PLAN
2023**

INITIATED BY: **ARTS DIVISION**
(Rebecca Ehemann, Arts Manager)

STATEMENT ON THE SUBJECT:

The Commission will review, discuss, and provide feedback for the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission Work Plan for fiscal year 2023.

RECOMMENDATION:

Provide feedback for the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission Work Plan for fiscal year 2023.

BACKGROUND / ANALYSIS:

The City of West Hollywood Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission provides accessible arts and cultural programming for all residents. The Commission supports quality arts and cultural organizations in the City; promotes arts and cultural activities and advises City Council on policies affecting the arts and cultural life of the City, its residents and organizations that provide such services to the City. The Commission also reviews and approves final arts plans and reviews and advises other Departments, Commissions and Boards on cultural affairs and events.

The Commission reviews and approves recommendations proposed by its three standing subcommittees, Art on the Outside, Performing Arts and Cultural Affairs, and Urban Art. The subcommittees provide in-depth review and analysis of the Commission's programs, projects, and special initiatives. The Commission maintains its authority to review and ratify subcommittee recommendations. In addition to the specific work plans of the subcommittees, the Commission oversees the larger projects that impact the community it serves as well as projects that traverse subcommittees.

Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission

The Commission will assume oversight of the following project and priorities which lead strategically from the General Plan and the Commission's mission. These projects and priorities will involve the efforts of more than one subcommittee.

- 1) Oversee the implementation of *WeHo Arts: The Plan*, the City's community-based cultural plan.
- 2) Oversee the implementation of the Cultural Equity Statement throughout the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission's programs.

- 3) Oversee the subcommittee's defined workplans with review, approvals, and ratification conducted by the Commission. Each subcommittee has a defined workplan.
- a. The **Art on the Outside Subcommittee** brings temporary art installations and exhibits into the public realm to enhance the City's lively pedestrian-friendly culture. The Subcommittee takes the lead in developing and evaluating exhibition concepts and art proposals for the City's Art on the Outside, Mural, and Moving Image Media Art Programs. The Subcommittee also determines the methodology and process by which to attract artists and art consultants and reviews requests for proposals as well as interviewing arts consultants and artists as appropriate.
 - b. The role of the **Performing Arts and Cultural Affairs Subcommittee** is to assist the Commission in furthering the City's arts and cultural goals by serving as the initial liaison between City departments, commissions and boards and the Commission on arts and cultural affairs projects and city sponsored events. The Subcommittee recommends the Commission's level of involvement and responsibility relative to each event and develops, evaluates, and recommends policy and strategies for review by the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission.
 - c. The role of the **Urban Art Subcommittee** is to oversee the implementation of the City's Urban Art Program pursuant to Chapter 19.38 of the City's Municipal Code that requires developers of certain projects to contribute one percent of the development valuation to public art. The Subcommittee takes the lead in making recommendations with respect to artist selection, schematic plan, final art plan and installation of the art. The Subcommittee also studies, develops, and recommends policies, procedures, and implementation strategies relative to public art conservation, the percent for art ordinance and other projects within its purview as determined by the Commission.

ATTACHMENT:

Attachment A: Quick Guide to *WeHo Arts: The Plan*