



City of Arts & Innovation

BUDGET ENGAGEMENT COMMISSION MINUTES

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2025, 5 P.M.
PUBLIC COMMENT IN PERSON/TELEPHONE
ART PICK COUNCIL CHAMBER
3900 MAIN STREET, RIVERSIDE, CA 92522

PRESENT: Chair Williams, Commissioner Ayra, Bello, Hutchins, Benavidez, Scott-Coe, Ward, Wroten, and Langner

ABSENT: Vice Chair Vandenberg, Commissioner Weinrich and Thomas

STAFF PRESENT: Kristie Thomas, Sergio Aguilar, Edward Enriquez, Sean Murphy, and others

The Budget Engagement Commission meeting was convened at 5:01 p.m.

CONSIDERATION OF REMOTE PARTICIPATION PER ASSEMBLY BILL 2449

There were no Budget Engagement Commissioners requesting to participate remotely.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE

No one wished to address the commission.

CONSENT CALENDAR

It was moved by Commissioner Hutchins and seconded by Commissioner Benavidez to approve the Consent Calendar as presented below affirming the actions appropriate to each item. The motion was carried unanimously with Vice Chair Vandenberg, Commissioner Weinrich and Thomas absent.

MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of August 14, 2025 were approved as presented.

ATTENDANCE

The absence of Commissioner Holley was excused from the August 14, 2025, meeting.



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DISCUSSION CALENDAR

FISCAL YEAR 2026-2028 BIENNIAL BUDGET DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

Following discussion, and without formal motion this item was received and filed.

MEASURE Z- FUND BALANCE RESERVE POLICY

Following discussion, It was moved by Commissioner Benavidez and Commissioner Ward to; (1) recommend to council to update the Measure-Z Reserve Policy language in the surplus reserves section to read as following; (a) If the \$ 5 million minimum reserve requirement is projected to be met, City staff, along with the Budget Engagement Commission shall present their plan to the City Council to allocate Surplus Reserves to new spending initiatives. The motion was carried with Commissioner Bello, Hutchins, Ward, Tscherednikov, Benavidez, Langner, and Scott-Coe voting aye. Chair Williams, Commissioner Ayra and Wroten abstaining and with Vice chair Vandenberg, Commissioner Weinrich and Thomas absent.

FINANCE DIRECTOR UPDATE

Kristie Thomas provided an update for the Commission.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE BUDGET ENGAGEMENT COMMISSION CONSIDERATION

Commissioner Ayra requested a report from the Fire department on critical priorities and gaps. Commissioner Ward requested an item on what the City's export economy looks like compared to other cities. Commissioner Tscherednikov requested an item on Measure Z allocations to real estate. Commissioner Bello requested an item on the marketing for Measure Z. Commissioner Langner requested an item to discuss engagement for Measure Z.

Chair Williams adjourned the meeting at 6:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

ELIZABETH MARTINEZ
Senior Administrative Assistant