



City of Arts & Innovation

BUDGET ENGAGEMENT COMMISSION MINUTES

THURSDAY, JULY 10, 2025, 5 P.M.
PUBLIC COMMENT IN PERSON/TELEPHONE
ART PICK COUNCIL CHAMBER
3900 MAIN STREET, RIVERSIDE, CA 92522

PRESENT: Chair Williams, Vice Chair Vandenberg, Commissioners Ayra, Bello, Hutchins, Thomas, Benavidez, Scott-Coe, Ward, Wroten and Langner

ABSENT: Commissioners Weinrich and Holley

STAFF PRESENT: Kristie Thomas, Sergio Aguilar, Edward Enriquez, Sean Murphy, Jessica Ochoa, Pamela Galera, Noemi Lopez, Krischanna Jaime, George Khalil and others

The Budget Engagement Commission meeting was convened at 5:02 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.

Commissioner Langner arrived during the following item.

CONSENT CALENDAR

It was moved by Commissioner Hutchins and seconded by Commissioner Scott-Coe to approve the Consent Calendar as presented below affirming the actions appropriate to each item. The motion was carried unanimously with Commissioner Weinrich and Holley absent.

MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of June 12, 2025 were approved as presented.

ATTENDANCE

The absences of Commissioners Weinrich and Holley were excused from the June 12, 2025, meeting.



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DISCUSSION CALENDAR

RECONSIDER THE MINUTES OF MAY 8, 2025

Following discussion, It was moved by Commissioner Scott-Coe and seconded by Commissioner Benavidez to approve the redline minutes for the May 8, 2025 Budget Engagement Commission meeting. The motion was carried unanimously with Commissioners Weinrich and Holley absent.

ANNUAL REVIEW OF CODE OF ETHICS AND CONDUCT FOR ELECTED OFFICIALS AND MEMBERS OF APPOINTED BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AND COMMITTEES TO PROVIDE RECOMMENDED CHANGES TO BOARD OF ETHICS

Following discussion, it was moved by Commissioner Benavidez and seconded by Vice Chair Vandenberg to; (1) provide guidance to City staff for filing complaints and; (2) create whistle blower protocols. The motion was carried with Chair Williams, Vice Chair Vandenberg, Commissioners Ayra, Wroten, Hutchins, Thomas, Ward, Benavidez, and Langner voting aye, Commissioners Bello and Scott-Coe voting nay, and with Commissioners Weinrich and Holley absent.

UPDATE ON MEASURE Z FUNDING ALLOCATED FOR SENIOR AND INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITY PROGRAM

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

FISCAL YEAR 2024/25 THIRD QUARTER FINANCIAL UPDATE

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

DISCUSS THE AD- HOC COMMITTEE MEETING DEBRIEF

Following discussion, it was moved by Vice Chair Vandenberg and seconded by Commissioner Ward to (1) recommend the inclusion of a dedicated \$500,000 (five hundred thousand dollars) line item in the Measure Z budget to fund local 501c3 nonprofit organizations with all funds to be used exclusively within the City of Riverside to: (a) support youth focus programs that promote prevention, early intervention, and long term community wellbeing; (b) maximize impact, grants should be awarded to a limited number of recipients through a competitive annual process; (2) designate Vice Chair Vandenberg to represent the Budget Engagement Commission at the Finance Committee, if needed, in support of the item; (3) designate Vice Chair Vandenberg to represent the Budget Engagement Commission at the City Council meeting in support of



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the item; and (4) if option 2 and 3 fail, authorize Vice Chair Vandenberg to attend the Finance Committee and City Council meetings to speak during public comment as a representative of the Budget Engagement Commission in support of this item. The motion carried with Vice Chair Vandenberg, Commissioner Bello, Wroten, Hutchins, Ward, Benavidez, Langner, and Scott-Coe voting aye, Chair Williams, Commissioners Ayra and Thomas abstaining, and Commissioners Holley and Weinrich absent.

FINANCE DIRECTOR UPDATE

Kristie Thomas provided an update for the Commission.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE BUDGET ENGAGEMENT COMMISSION CONSIDERATION

Commissioner Benavidez requested the agendizing the Measure Z Reserve policy. Commissioner Vandenberg requested a BEC bylaws discussion to either revise or amend the rules of engagement to consider running under City Council rules rather than Roberts rules of order. Commissioner Ayra requested a report from the Fire Department on critical priorities and gaps. Commissioner Bello requested a report from the Marketing department regarding Measure Z branding. Commissioner Wroten requested a report from the police department on the drone use for the Fourth of July and the results.

Chair Williams adjourned the meeting at 7:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

ELIZABETH MARTINEZ
Senior Administrative Assistant