

PUBLIC ART ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES FEBRUARY 26, 2026

City of Paramount, 16400 Colorado Avenue, Paramount, CA 90723

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting of the Public Art Advisory Committee was called to order by Chair Isabel Aguayo at 3:39 p.m. at City Hall, Downstairs Conference Room, 16400 Colorado Avenue, Paramount, California.

ROLL CALL OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Present: Angel Castellanos (Artist)
Christina Rodriguez (Community Stakeholder)
Councilmember Vilma Cuellar Stallings
Chair Isabel Aguayo

Absent: Vice Chair Bautista

Chair Aguayo made note that Vice Chair Bautista would be arriving soon.

STAFF PRESENT:

John King, Planning and Building Director
Monica Rodriguez, Assistant Planning and Building Director
Leslie Corrales, Assistant Planner
Biana Salgado, Administrative Assistant

MINUTES

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES January 29, 2026

Chair Aguayo presented the Public Art Advisory Committee minutes of January 29, 2026 for approval.

It was moved by Committee Member/Councilmember Cuellar Stalling and seconded by Committee Member Castellanos to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was passed by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Committee Members Castellanos, Rodriguez
and Cuellar Stallings; Chair Aguayo

NOES: None

ABSENT: Vice Chair Bautista

ABSTAIN: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were none.

REPORTS

2. ORAL REPORT
Public Art Program
Webpage

Chair Aguayo announced the item. Planning and Building Director King introduced Assistant Planning and Building Director Rodriguez who provided an overview of the updated Public Art Program webpage. The revamped page leads to the City's Public Art Master Plan, the location and background information of art located throughout Paramount, and the "Call for Artists" section of the webpage where the City is seeking artists for the Spane Park Mural project.

3. ORAL REPORT
Spane Park Mural –
Call for Artists

Assistant Planning and Building Director Rodriguez introduced Assistant Planner Corrales who provided an overview of the Spane Park Mural – Call for Artists. Assistant Planner Corrales reviewed the submission requirements, how to enter, and selection process. Regarding the selection process, Assistant Planner Corrales asked for feedback from the Public Art Advisory Committee on prescreening applications.

Vice Chair Bautista arrived at 3:46 p.m.

Committee Member Castellanos posed questions for potential applicants; "Why now?" "Why is it [the art] important today versus yesterday?" "How is it going to affect the community?" The questions were intended to help differentiate between the subjective artwork between talented artists.

Committee Member Castellanos stated his strong preference to see the highly developed proposals first, followed by less developed or honorable mentions. To save time, he is ok with staff input to assist in determining if a proposed art piece is disqualifying or not ready to be seen.

Committee Member Rodriguez agreed with the aforementioned comments.

Committee Member/Councilmember Cuellar Stallings inquired about a process if an artist wished to know the history of the neighborhood such as city establishment, specific culture, and racial makeup.

Assistant Planner Corrales confirmed that if an artist would like more background information about Paramount or the area, staff would be more than happy to provide an overall history from the past to present.

Chair Aguayo concurred that a brief synopsis of the history of Paramount would be beneficial to applicants. Regarding the selection process, Chair Aguayo said the number of entries received and based on a point system (whether the art has been received prior to the deadline, meets the criteria, etc.) should determine recommendations. Due to time constraints, Chair Aguayo concurs that staff should categorize applications. If insufficient entries were received, it would be ok to consider less developed applications.

Assistant Planner Corrales appreciated the feedback and is more than happy to prescreen applications and really liked Chair Aguayo's suggestion of a point system. She also mentioned that there is a March 13, 2026 deadline for submissions.

Planning and Building Director King asked the Public Art Advisory Committee for their direction on applications that are incomplete – missing a couple of requirements that could be easily remedied.

Chair Aguayo gave authorization to contact artists that have applications that could be easily remedied.

Committee Member Castellanos agreed and does not want to exclude artists who may suffer from being neurodivergent, ADHD, or being prone to procrastination.

Vice Chair Bautista asked if we could offer guidance to an artist missing details that would allow the artist to address on a subsequent submittal.

Planning and Building Director King advised that there is information in the application stating that the artwork does not have to be the final version.

4. ORAL REPORT
Hay Tree Public
Market Public Art –
Call for Artists

Chair Aguayo announced the item. Planning and Building Director King provided an update to the Hay Tree Public Market Public Art concept. Due to the structure of the building and the cultural significance of the Hay Tree, the type of art piece being proposed are sculptures or possible mosaic art (depending on funding availability). Outreach would differ from the Spane Park mural project because pool of applicants would be much smaller.

Chair Aguayo stated the Hay Tree Public Market (previously the Saw Building) is an incredible building with the contrast of brick and wood of the structure.

Committee Member/Councilmember Cuellar Stallings asked if it is possible for the Public Art Advisory Committee to take a tour of the building.

Planning and Building Director King stated that a field trip to the building can be planned with possible date in April.

5. ORAL REPORT/
CONSIDERTION
Public Art Workplan

Chair Aguayo announced the item. Planning and Building Director King asked Assistant Planning and Building Rodriguez to provide an update on the Go Store It! mural. At this time, there is no update, but it is expected that they will be submitting a proposal soon.

Planning and Building Director King asked for guidance on what to do with the utility box art located throughout Paramount. Some of the utility boxes need touchups due to fading and or some have never been artistically painted.

The Committee discussed options to give the opportunity for the original artist of the art piece to touch up the utility box. The Committee discussed the possibility of having students work on utility box art. The Committee discussed possible challenges due to the timing of the school year, and it would be more realistic to introduce the concept at the beginning of the school year.

Committee Member/Councilmember Cuellar Stalling asked Planning and Building Director King if he can be present at the an upcoming Ad Hoc meeting with Paramount Unified School District (PUSD) to bring up the possibility of involving students in future art projects.

There was further discussion between the Committee and staff.

6. ORAL REPORT/
CONSIDERTION
Public Art Program
Policies and Guidelines

Chair Aguayo announced the item. Planning and Building Director King advised that the Public Art Program Policies and Guidelines will be ongoing discussion and asked the Public Art Advisory Committee to further consider policies and possible future changes.

7. COMMENTS

Vice Chair Bautista confirmed with staff if they reached out to the California Arts Council and the Arts Council for Long Beach. Vice Chair Bautista asked if the Committee could contact other organizations. Planning and Building Director King encouraged the dissemination to other organizations.

Committee Member Castellanos asked if we could reach out to artists not just in Paramount, but greater Los Angeles County and Orange County for calls for artists. Planning and Director King stated that artists from the greater region are welcome to submit entries but wanted to be clear that there is no supplemental budget for travel and hotel stays.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned by Chair Aguayo at 4:36 p.m. to the next Public Art Advisory Committee meeting to be held on Thursday, March 26, 2026 at City Hall, Downstairs Conference Room, 16400 Colorado Avenue, Paramount, California at 3:30 p.m.

/s/ Isabel Aguayo

Isabel Aguayo, Chair

ATTEST:

/s/ Biana Salgado

Biana Salgado, Administrative Assistant

APPROVED: March 26, 2026

https://paramountcity1957.sharepoint.com/sites/Planning/Shared Documents/ADMIN/PAAC/Minutes/02-2026_PAAC.docx