



MEETING OF THE FULL ARTS COMMISSION

Friday, September 5, 2025

2 p.m.

Hybrid Meeting

Minutes

President Collins called the meeting to order at **2:00 p.m.**

1. Call to Order, Roll Call, Agenda Changes, Land Acknowledgment (0:07)

Commissioners Present

Charles Collins, President

Janine Shiota

JD Beltran

Patrick Carney

Suzie Ferras

Nabiel Musleh

Jessica Rothschild

Debra Walker (left meeting at 3:15pm)

Marcus Shelby

Commissioners Absent

J. Riccardo Benavides

Lydia So

Staff Present:

Ralph Remington, Director of Cultural Affairs

Sarah Hollenbeck, Deputy Director of Finance and Administration

Veronica Limcaco, Acting Chief of Staff

Manraj Dhaliwal, Commission Secretary

No agenda changes were made.



President Collins announced the public meeting instructions.

Commission Secretary Dhaliwal announced public comment instructions.

President Collins began the meeting by reading the Arts Commission's land acknowledgment statement.

2.Approval of the Minutes (7:18)

Commissioner Beltran, seconded by Commissioner Shiota moved to approve July 7, 2025, minutes.

There was no public comment.

The motion was unanimously approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 0905-25-120: Motion to approve July 7, 2025, Full Commission minutes.

3. General Public Comment (8:30)

Public Comment

Camila Baum representing Docomomo NOCA, which is the documentation and conservation of buildings, sites and neighborhoods of the modern movement. Baum spoke against the proposed deaccession of the Vaillancourt Fountain. Baum stated that if this request is granted, it would send a clear message that public art in San Francisco does not belong to its residents and that it would imply that any piece of public art or historical architecture is a commodity for sale — devaluing the city's unique history and stripping art of its meaning and context. Baum shared that its removal would undermine the city's cultural identity and prioritize private redevelopment interests over community heritage. Baum echoed the request from artist's family that the commission pause, reconsider, and understand the irreplaceable value of the artwork. Baum emphasized that the fountain's worth goes beyond traditional beauty

Bob Pullum, a national board member of Docomomo US, reinforced opposition to removing the Vaillancourt Fountain. Pullum said the fountain is an important piece of modern art and public space, known internationally, and should be preserved. Pullum urged the Commission to delay any decision until a full historic resource review is completed and relevant stakeholders—local, national, and international—are properly included. He warned that approving the removal would result in the loss of a unique civic landmark and damage San Francisco’s cultural and architectural legacy.

Matt Joseph, a Potrero Hill resident with a background in data engineering, urged the Arts Commission to slow down the decision-making process around the proposed removal of the Vaillancourt Fountain. He shared that he had analyzed over 5,000 hours of public meeting audio and 16,000 Commission documents. Joseph warned against rushing into a decision without proper transparency and cited risks of bias—such as anchoring and recency bias—if the process moves too quickly. Joseph called on the Commission to extend the timeline to allow for more thoughtful public input and a fuller understanding of the fountain’s historical and cultural context.

4. Director’s Report **(17:01)**

Director Ralph Remington began his report by recognizing former commissioners Masa Hakimi and Ying Liu for their service, and congratulated Commissioner Carney on his reappointment. He highlighted the upcoming 150th anniversary of Lotta’s Fountain. He also shared updates from recent events, including his attendance at the Diana Ross concert at Stern Grove, a farewell event for former A.C.T. executive Jennifer Bielstein, and a ribbon-cutting at City College’s new Student Success Center, which included the restoration of Robert B. Howard’s whale sculpture. Additionally, he celebrated the Artistic Legacy Grant tribute video for Rhodessa Jones winning a national award and announced its upcoming social media feature.

Key program updates included the September 13 unveiling of “Canopy of Sky” by Ned Kahn on Treasure Island and the September 30 ribbon-cutting for the SFPUC Headworks facility, which features Norie Sato’s 335-foot public artwork. Grant updates noted that guidelines for the FY26 cycle would open soon, with an Advance Payment Policy info session scheduled for September 9. Director Remington also addressed staffing, announcing that Veronica Limcaco had stepped in as Acting Chief of Staff following Alyssa Ventre’s departure. The report concluded with gallery updates, including the opening of *Auxiliary Archives* on August 28 and a preview of upcoming exhibitions like *Too Bright Disturbances*, exploring land use and restorative practices.

There was no additional public comment.

5. Committee Reports and Committee Matters **(30:58)**

5.1 Civic Design Committee Report **(31:07)**

Commissioner Deborah Walker reported that the July 21 Civic Design Review Committee meeting included approval of Phase 2 for SFO’s Westfield Campus Building 626.1, which expanded from four to five office floors without increasing the footprint. At the August 18 meeting, three projects received administrative approval: the installation of additional plaques for the Little Italy Plaque Project, activist plaques on Woodland Avenue, and the Tenderloin Recreation Center Children’s Play Area Improvements. The Committee also approved Phase 1 designs for two major infrastructure projects: the SFO Westfield Campus Garage 2, a 7-story, 1,100-stall garage designed to anchor a larger people-first campus, and the Millbrae Campus Improvement Project, which includes a new lab, admin building, Wellness Pavilion, and renovated campus facilities centered around a green, stormwater-sensitive landscape design.

There is no public comment.

5.2 Community Investment Report (36:14)

President Collins presented the Community Investments Committee report, which included approval of a grant amendment for the GLBT Historical Society and a new two-year operating grant for the American Indian Cultural Center. The committee reviewed changes to the grant appeals process shared findings from the Arts Impact Endowment Year One survey, leading to a consolidation of grant categories and a \$100K increase in the Artistic Legacy Grant award. Staff previewed updated FY25–26 guidelines and announced a new Advance Payment Policy taking effect in 2026, with an informational session scheduled for September 9, 2025. Commissioners emphasized the importance of outreach at cultural centers to support grantees during this transition, especially those with limited administrative infrastructure. The report also noted internal promotions, including Jonelle Molina as a new senior program officer, and affirmed that all Dream Keeper Initiative grants had been honored.

There was no public comment

5.3 Visual Arts Committee Report (51:55)

Commissioner Susie Farris presented the Visual Arts Committee report, covering actions from the July 16 and August 20, 2025 meetings. Key approvals included public art opportunities at Kezar Pavilion, the selection of 22 artworks for Gene Friend Recreation Center, and a mural by Maria Belen Islas Cular for the Main Library atrium in partnership with the Ramaytush Ohlone. The Committee also approved major public artworks for Treasure Island, including a cyanotype installation by Ron Moultrie Saunders, and new sculptures for Portsmouth Square by artists Cathy Lu and Jennifer Kay Wolford. Additional approvals included

the Civic Center Plaza temporary sculpture plan, the 2026 Art on Market Street poster series, and five artist proposals for the Shaping Legacy temporary art program, focused on reinterpreting monuments and public memory. Commissioners praised the breadth of projects, artist development pathways, and successful cross-committee coordination with Civic Design.

There was no public comment

5.4 Executive Committee Report (1:11:18)

President Collins reported on the August 27 Executive Committee meeting, which included a comprehensive presentation outlining the structure, programs, and funding sources of the Arts Commission. The committee also discussed ways to improve the Commission's internal operations and meeting structure, specifically proposing the return of the "New Business" agenda item with clearer guidance for commissioners to propose future topics (rather than make informal announcements).

Commissioners agreed that the Executive Committee should serve as the central review body for suggested agenda items, determining whether they should proceed to the Full Commission or a specific subcommittee. The discussion emphasized the need for transparency, adherence to the Good Government Guide, and creating space for constructive dialogue while staying within public meeting laws. All commissioners were encouraged to review the recorded meeting to understand proposed structural improvements.

There was no public comment.

9. SFAC Galleries Winter 2026 Exhibition (1:14:44)

Acting Director of Galleries Jackie Im presented two upcoming exhibitions for Winter 2026. At City Hall, the exhibition *Nowhere in Particular* (January 15 – June 19, 2026) will feature archival photography from the SFMTA Photo Archive, showcasing San Francisco's transit and urban evolution through images spanning from 1903 to the present. At the SFAC Main Gallery, *Dream Jungle* (opening January 29, 2026) will explore themes of spectacle, imperialism, and racialized fantasy through works by four contemporary Bay Area artists. Curated by Matthew Villar Miranda, the show draws inspiration from Jessica Hagedorn's novel of the same name and features multidisciplinary works examining colonial narratives and cultural memory. Admission to both exhibitions is free.

10. Consent Calendar **(1:23:15)**

President Collins introduced all items on the consent calendar.

Commissioner Beltran, seconded by Commissioner Shiota moved to approve all consent calendar items.

There was no public comment.

The motion was unanimously approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 0905-25-121: that this Commission does hereby adopt the following items on the Consent Calendar and their related Resolutions:

1. **RESOLUTION NO. 0905-25-170:** Motion to approve the July 21, 2025, [Civic Design Review Committee Meeting Minutes.](#)
2. **RESOLUTION NO. 0905-25-122:** Motion to approve the August 18, 2025, [Civic Design Review Committee Meeting Minutes.](#)
3. **RESOLUTION NO. 0905-25-123:** Motion to approve the July 16, 2025, [Visual Arts Committee Meeting Minutes.](#)
4. **RESOLUTION NO. 0905-25-124:** Motion to approve the August 20, 2025, [Visual Arts Committee Meeting Minutes.](#)

5. **RESOLUTION NO. 0905-25-125:** Motion to approve the August 27, 2025, [Executive Committee Meeting Minutes](#).

Civic Design Review Committee Recommendations (July 21, 2025, [link to agenda](#))

6. **RESOLUTION NO. 0905-25-126:** Motion to approve Phase 2 Review for SFO West Field Campus: Bldg 626.1: Phase 2

Civic Design Review Committee Recommendations (August 18, 2025, [link to agenda](#))

7. **RESOLUTION NO. 0905-25-127:** Motion to approve Phase 1 Review for SFO West Field Campus: Garage 2 (Building 670): Phase 1

8. **RESOLUTION NO. 0905-25-128:** Motion to approve Phase 1 Review for Millbrae Campus Improvements Project: Phase

Community Investments Committee Recommendations (August 26, 2025, [link to agenda](#))

9. **RESOLUTION NO. 0905-25-129:** Motion to approve an amendment of grant 25SPX01 Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Historical Society (GLBTHS) to extend the grant term through December 31, 2026 and add \$400,000 of additional funds, for a grant total of \$800,000, to support operations and programming; including operational and programmatic readiness to transition the GLBTHS to a new permanent location as the nation's first full-scale, co-located LGBTQ+ history museum and archive in San Francisco, and to authorize the Director of Cultural Affairs to enter into a grant amendment of \$800,000 at this time.

10. **RESOLUTION NO. 0905-25-130:** Motion to approve the Cultural Center fiscal year 2025-2026 grant amount not to exceed \$284,572 to SOMArts with sub-grantee The American Indian Cultural Center of San Francisco to support the operation and programming of this virtual cultural center and to ensure that this cultural center remains a vital contributor to the cultural life of the City; and to authorize the Director of Cultural Affairs to enter into a grant agreement not to exceed \$284,572 at this time.
11. **RESOLUTION NO. 0905-25-131:** Motion to approve the update the Appeals Procedure approved by RESOLUTION NO. 0502-94-244.

Visual Arts Committee Recommendations (July 16, 2025, [link to agenda](#))

12. **RESOLUTION NO. 0905-25-132:** Motion to amend RESOLUTION NO. 0602-25-095 to change the location so that the revised motion reads: Motion to approve the temporary installation of a Solar Arch, 2024 by Fnnch. The sculpture is fabricated from stainless steel, aluminum, acrylic, and LED lighting and will be installed in Golden Gate Park, along JFK Promenade, adjacent to John McLaren Rhododendron Dell from June 1, 2025 – June 2026. It will be maintained by the Recreation and Park Department, with Illuminate the Arts. The artwork will not become part of the Civic Art Collection.
13. **RESOLUTION NO. 0905-25-133:** Motion to approve the final selection of works for the third installment of the 2025 Art on Market Street Poster Series.
14. **RESOLUTION NO. 0905-25-134:** Motion to approve the final design and construction documents for Mareas, a polycarbonate resin and steel artwork by Ana Teresa Fernández for the Pier 27 Cruise Terminal Project, located at Pier 27 on the Embarcadero between

Chestnut and Lombard streets.

15. **RESOLUTION NO. 0905-25-135:** Motion to approve the Project Plan for the Kezar Pavilion public art project.

16. **RESOLUTION NO. 0905-25-136:** Motion to approve the purchase of up to 20 two-dimensional artworks from the following list for Gene Friend Recreation Center Project:

-Charisse Alcantara, Victoria Manalo Draves Park, 2022, Oil on canvas, 30h x 40w inches, \$3,000

-Kimberley Acebo Arteche, It Wasn't Only A Hotel, 2020, Screenprint and digital archival print, 30h x 24w inches, \$1,500

-Kimberley Acebo Arteche, Untitled (Places, Icons, Situations – Memories we must not let fade), 2020, Screenprint and digital archival print, 30h x 24w inches, \$1,500

-Rina Ayuyang, Selection of up to four archival prints:

- Finding Filipino in SOMA, 2023, Print, 23h x 16w inches, Limited Edition 1 of 2, \$600
- Finding Filipino on Mission St., 2023, Print, 23h x 16w inches, Limited Edition 1 of 2, \$600
- Finding Filipino in the Park, 2023, Print, 23h x 16w inches, Limited Edition 1 of 2, \$600
- Finding Filipino in Yerba Buena, 2023, Print, 23h x 16w inches, Limited Edition 1 of 2, \$600

-Leo Bersamina, Selection of up to four wood paintings

- Forty-Fives, 2024, Acrylic, wood, glue, 16.5h x 13.5w inches, \$1,500
- Woodshop I (Red), 2024, Acrylic, glue, wood, glue, 9h x 9w inches, \$650
- Woodshop II (White), 2024, Acrylic, wood, glue, 9h x 9w inches, \$650
- Woodshop III (Black), 2024, Acrylic, wood, glue, 9h x 9w inches, \$650

-Cristine Blanco, Kapamilya Yard I and 2, 2021, House paint and aerosol spray on wood, 42h x 57w inches, \$3,000

- Mel Vera Cruz, Ligo Sardines, 2017, Mixed media, 40h x 30w inches, \$2,200
- Kija Lucas, Birds of Paradise 4, 2025, Archival pigment print, 30h x 24w inches, \$3,000
- Francesca Mateo (DBA ChiChai Mateo), Bola Ay Buhay/ Ball is Life, 2024-2025, Silk, polyester, acrylic, and wood, 48h x 24w x 2d inches, \$3,000
- Johanna Poethig, Corrugated Memories (Malate School Day), 2022, Ceramic on wood backing, 18h x 14w x 2d inches, \$3,000
- Jerome Reyes, the horizon toward which we move always recedes before us (Gene Friend Recreation Center), 2023, Ink, correction fluid, tape, spray paint, vellum, 21.5h x 34 inches, \$3,000
- Favianna Rodriguez, The Sacred Garden, 2023, Collage with linoleum block elements on hanji, 36.75h x 24.75w inches, \$1,500
- Favianna Rodriguez, Mountain People 4, 2023, Collage with linoleum block and phototransfer elements, 22.5h x 15w inches, \$800
- Charlene Tan, Research and Remembering, Ube 2, 2024, Ube, pigment, photo, acrylic paint, wood, 48hx 37w inches, \$3,000

17. **RESOLUTION NO. 0905-25-137:** Motion to approve the conceptual design proposal by artist Maria Belen Islas Cuellar, developed in collaboration with the Association of the Ramatush Ohlone, for the San Francisco Main Library Temporary Atrium Mural Project.

Visual Arts Committee Recommendations (August 20, 2025, [link to agenda](#))

18. **RESOLUTION NO. 0905-25-138:** Motion to approve *We Love Everybody*, a mural design by Deb. The mural will be installed on the corner of Liberty and Valencia in District 9. The mural measures approximately H15 ft. 4 in. by W8 ft. 7 in. The artwork is funded by a SF Shines Grant, a program of the Community Economic Development (CED) division of the Office of Economic and Workforce Development and will not become part of the Civic Art Collection; the

artwork will be maintained by the artist.

19. **RESOLUTION NO. 0905-25-139:** Motion to approve *Next-Gen Sanchez: Sanchez Street Asphalt Mural*, a mural design by Hollis Callas. The mural will be installed on Sanchez Street at the intersection of 29th and Clipper Streets in District 8. The mural measures approximately a combined 600 square ft. The artwork will not become part of the Civic Art Collection. Friends of Slow Sanchez will be responsible for the maintenance of the mural, which is anticipated to fade over time unless funding is identified to repaint it.
20. **RESOLUTION NO. 0905-25-140:** Motion to approve *Consider the Flowers*, a mural design by Valerie Yee. The mural will be installed at 200 Clement Street in District 1. The mural measures approximately H20 ft. by W15 ft. The artwork is funded by a SF Shines Grant, a program of the Community Economic Development (CED) division of the Office of Economic and Workforce Development and will not become part of the Civic Art Collection. The artist will maintain the artwork for the first year, followed by Evermore, the primary tenant of the site.
21. **RESOLUTION NO. 0905-25-141:** Motion to approve *The Clappers of Mission Creek*, a mural design by Bunnie Reiss. The mural will be installed at 305 Shotwell Street and 3141 17th Street in District 9. The mural measures approximately H20 ft. by W100 ft. on the Shotwell side and H20 ft. by W49 ft. on the 17th Street side. The artwork is funded by a SF Shines Grant, a program of the Community Economic Development (CED) division of the Office of Economic and Workforce Development and will not become part of the Civic Art Collection; the artwork will be maintained by Ritual Coffee Roasters, the primary tenant of the site.
22. **RESOLUTION NO. 0905-25-142:** Motion to approve *Rainbow Over Bernal Heights*, a tile mosaic mural retaining wall and stair design by Colette Crutcher. The tile mosaic will be installed on the Prospect

Avenue Stairs at 100 Cortland Ave between Prospect and Santa Marina Streets in District 9. The tile mosaic retaining wall mural measures approximately H3 ft. by W33 ft. each (two panels). Each riser of the 21 step tile mosaic stairs measures approximately H½ ft. by W6 ft. The artwork will not become part of the Civic Art Collection; the artwork will be maintained by the community gardeners and Bernal Beautiful volunteers.

23. **RESOLUTION NO. 0905-25-143:** Motion to approve *Your Help, Your Hands, and Your Hearts Are Always Needed*, a mural design by E Dyer. The mural will be installed at 835 Larkin Street at Myrtle Alley in District 5. The mural measures approximately H13 ft. by W54 ft. The artwork is funded by a Tenderloin Community Action Planning Grant, a program of SF Planning, and will not become part of the Civic Art Collection; the artwork will be maintained by Tenderloin Museum, the primary tenant of the site.
24. **RESOLUTION NO. 0905-25-144:** Motion to approve *Jimi, Janis and Jerry*, a mural design by Mel Waters. The mural will be installed at 1699 Haight Street in District 5. The mural measures approximately H12 ft. by W50 ft. and H12 ft. by W15 ft. The artwork is funded by a SF Shines Grant, a program of the Community Economic Development (CED) division of the Office of Economic and Workforce Development and will not become part of the Civic Art Collection; the artwork will be maintained by the artist.
25. **RESOLUTION NO. 0905-25-145:** Motion to approve *Precita Park Restroom Tile Mural*, a mural design by Susan Cervantes and Precita Eyes Muralists Association. The mural will be installed at Precita Park, 3200 Folsom Street, in District 9. The mural measures approximately H6 ft. 7 in. by W8 ft. 4 in. The artwork will not become part of the Civic Art Collection and will be maintained by the artists.
26. **RESOLUTION NO. 0905-25-146:** Motion to approve and accept into the Civic Art Collection *Black Flight*, 2019, by Sydney Cain, accession

number 2025.01. The lithograph on paper print measures H19 5/16 in. by W14 15/16 in. Its purchase for the San Francisco International Airport, Terminal 3 Connector, two-dimensional artwork program was approved under Resolution No. 0604-24-243.

27. **RESOLUTION NO. 0905-25-147:** Motion to approve and accept into the Civic Art Collection *Journey To An Illusion*, 2023, by Erica Deeman, accession number 2025.02. The unique archival pigment print with hand-cut neutral density filter measures H36 7/8 in. by W29 7/8 in. by D3 in. framed. Its' purchase for the San Francisco International Airport, Terminal 3 Connector, two-dimensional artwork program was approved under Resolution No. 0604-24-243.
28. **RESOLUTION NO. 0905-25-148:** Motion to approve and accept into the Civic Art Collection *For the Ancestors at Malaga Island #2, #4, #7, #8, #9, #11*, 2023, by Adama Delphine Fawundu, accession number 2025.03.1-6. The monoprint on silver gelatin prints measure H16 in. by W12 in. each. Its purchase for the San Francisco International Airport, Terminal 3 Connector, two-dimensional artwork program was approved under Resolution No. 0604-24-243.
29. **RESOLUTION NO. 0905-25-149:** Motion to approve and accept into the Civic Art Collection *To Tailor a Pattern*, 2022, by Myra Greene, accession number 2025.04. The hand dyed and silkscreen textile measures H30 5/8 in. by W33 5/8 in. Its purchase for the San Francisco International Airport, Terminal 3 Connector, two-dimensional artwork program was approved under Resolution No. 0604-24-243.
30. **RESOLUTION NO. 0905-25-150:** Motion to approve and accept into the Civic Art Collection *The Wig*, 2014, by Kenyatta A.C. Hinkle, accession number 2025.05. The collage on polyfilm measures H11 in. by W8 ½ in. Its purchase for the San Francisco International Airport, Terminal 3 Connector, two-dimensional artwork program was

approved under Resolution No. 0604-24-243.

31. **RESOLUTION NO. 0905-25-151:** Motion to approve and accept into the Civic Art Collection *Integrity (Portal)*, 2023-2024, by Adia Millett, accession number 2025.06. The acrylic on wood painting measures H35 15/16 in. by W35 15/16 in. by D1 ¾ in. Its purchase for the San Francisco International Airport, Terminal 3 Connector, two-dimensional artwork program was approved under Resolution No. 0604-24-243.
32. **RESOLUTION NO. 0905-25-152:** Motion to approve and accept into the Civic Art Collection *Our Shared Horizons* #1, #2, #3, #4, #5, #9, #10, #11, #14, #15, #16, #20, #21, #22, #31, #32, #33, #34, #35, #46, #50, #51, #52, #53, #54, #61, #63, #72, #75, #77, #91, 2022, by yétúndé olágbajú, accession number 2025.07.1-31. The photo transfer on travertine stone artwork consists of 31 components varying in size from H3 3/8 to H10 5/8 in. and W4 1/8 in. to W11 in. Its purchase for the San Francisco International Airport, Terminal 3 Connector, two-dimensional artwork program was approved under Resolution No. 0604-24-243.
33. **RESOLUTION NO. 0905-25-153:** Motion to approve and accept into the Civic Art Collection *Crown*, 2023, by Trina Michelle Robinson, accession number 2025.08. The copier photogravure and chine colle printed on gampi mounted on handmade raffia palm paper from Cameroon measures H15 1/4 in. by W11 in. Its purchase for the San Francisco International Airport, Terminal 3 Connector, two-dimensional artwork program was approved under Resolution No. 0604-24-243.
34. **RESOLUTION NO. 0905-25-154:** Motion to approve and accept into the Civic Art Collection *Cornucopia (with Okra Pods)*, 2023, by Eve Sandler, accession number 2025.09. The synthetic hair, metal earring, metal barrettes, dried okra pods and cowrie shell artwork measures H40 in. by W8 in. by 2 in. Its purchase for the San

San Francisco International Airport, Terminal 3 Connector, two-dimensional artwork program was approved under Resolution No. 0604-24-243.

35. **RESOLUTION NO. 0905-25-155:** Motion to approve and accept into the Civic Art Collection *Li/mb (in two gestures)*, 2024, by Keisha Scarville, accession number 2025.10.a-b. The archival inkjet print images measure H24 in. by W36 1/16 in. Its purchase for the San Francisco International Airport, Terminal 3 Connector, two-dimensional artwork program was approved under Resolution No. 0604-24-243.
36. **RESOLUTION NO. 0905-25-156:** Motion to approve and accept into the Civic Art Collection *Serpiente de las Estrellas*, 2021, by Taller SANAA (Shanna Strauss & Jess Sabogal), accession number 2025.11. The photopolymer gravure, silkscreen, and gold leaf with chine-colle print on paper measures H31 1/8 in. by W22 1/4 in. Its purchase for the San Francisco International Airport, Terminal 3 Connector, two-dimensional artwork program was approved under Resolution No. 0604-24-243.
37. **RESOLUTION NO. 0905-25-157:** Motion for the Director of Cultural Affairs to approve the artist honorarium in the amount of \$2000 to Alexa Burrell; \$2000 to adrian clutario; \$3000 to Al-An deSouza; and \$3000 to Astria Supurak for the research and development of artwork for *Dream Jungle* on view at the SFAC Main Gallery January 29 – May 2, 2026.
38. **RESOLUTION NO. 0905-25-158:** Motion for the Director of Cultural Affairs to approve the curatorial honoraria of \$5000 to Matthew Villar Miranda for the research and development of the exhibition *Dream Jungle* on view at the SFAC Main Gallery January 29 – May 2, 2026.
39. **RESOLUTION NO. 0905-25-159:** Motion to approve artist Ron Moultrie Saunders and his proposal *Cycles of Water and Light* for the

Treasure Island Water Resource Recovery Facility Public Art Project,
as recommended by the Artist Review Panel.

40. **RESOLUTION NO. 0905-25-160:** Motion to authorize the Director of Cultural Affairs to enter into a contract with Ron Moultrie Saunders for an amount not to exceed \$717,000 for the design, fabrication, transportation, and consultation during installation of an artwork for the Treasure Island Water Resource Recovery Facility Public Art Project.
41. **RESOLUTION NO. 0905-25-161:** Motion to approve the conceptual design proposal *Nuwa's Hand (Fruits of Chinatown)* by Cathy Lu for the Portsmouth Square Improvement Project Entrance Court Sculpture, as recommended by the Artist Review Panel.
42. **RESOLUTION NO. 0905-25-162:** Motion to authorize the Director of Cultural Affairs to enter into a contract with Cathy Lu (dba Cathy Lu Studio) for an amount not to exceed \$340,000 for the design, fabrication, insurance, and consultation during installation of a sculpture for the Portsmouth Square Improvement Project entrance court at Walter U. Lum and Washington Street.
43. **RESOLUTION NO. 0905-25-163:** Motion to approve the conceptual design proposal by Jenifer K. Wofford for the Portsmouth Square Improvement Project Clubhouse Integrated Art Wall, as recommended by the Artist Review Panel.
44. **RESOLUTION NO. 0905-25-164:** Motion to authorize the Director of Cultural Affairs to enter into a contract with Jenifer K. Wofford (dba Jenifer Karla Wofford) for an amount not to exceed \$151,000 for the design, fabrication, insurance, and consultation during installation of an artwork for the Portsmouth Square Improvement Project Clubhouse Integrated Art Wall.

45. **RESOLUTION NO. 0905-25-165:** Motion to approve the Civic Center Plaza Temporary Sculpture Installation Project Plan.
46. **RESOLUTION NO. 0905-25-166:** Motion to approve the final selection of artists, Adrian Arias, Amir Khadar, Colin Choy Kimzey, Vida Kuang, for the 2026 Art on Market Street Poster Series, as recommended by the Artist Review Panel.
47. **RESOLUTION NO. 0905-25-167:** Motion to authorize the Director of Cultural Affairs to enter into a contracts with Adrian Arias, Amir Khadar, Colin Choy Kimzey (dba Colin Kimzey), Vida Kuang for an amount not to exceed \$12,000 each for the design of an artwork for the 2026 Art on Market Street Poster Series.
48. **RESOLUTION NO. 0905-25-168:** Motion to approve the final selection of artists Caleb Duarte, Stacey Carter & Team, Ariana Martinez-Cruz, Ata'ataoletaeao (Afatasi the Artist) McNealy, and Adrian Arias, for the Shaping Legacy Temporary Art Projects, as recommended by the Artist Review Panel.
49. **RESOLUTION NO. 0905-25-169:** Motion to authorize the Director of Cultural Affairs to enter into contract with Caleb Duarte, Stacey Carter & Team, Ariana Martinez-Cruz, Ata'ataoletaeao (Afatasi the Artist) McNealy, and Adrian Arias an amount not to exceed \$180,000 for the implementation of an artwork for the Shaping Legacy Temporary Art Projects.

8. New Business and Announcements **(1:24:38)**

There were no new business or announcements shared.

There was no public comment.

9. PROSPECTIVE CLOSED SESSION **(1:25:36)**

President Collins introduced Agenda Item 9, the Prospective Closed Session, by stating that the Commission would confer with legal counsel regarding the potential removal (deaccession) of the Vaillancourt Fountain from Embarcadero Plaza. The session was called in response to the threat of litigation from legal counsel representing the artist Armand Vaillancourt.

President Collins clearly explained that the Brown Act and San Francisco Administrative Code allow such matters involving litigation and legal risk to be discussed in closed session, subject to a vote by the Commission. He also outlined the process for public comment prior to the vote to enter closed session and noted the staff members who would be present, including Director of Cultural Affairs Ralph Remington, Mary Chou (Civic Art Collection and Public Art Program Director), Sarah Hollenbeck (Deputy Director of Finance and Administration), Manraj Dhaliwal (Commission Secretary), and Deputy City Attorney Lauren Curry.

Public Comment

Camila Baum representing Docomomo, urged the Commission to reconsider the removal of the Vaillancourt Fountain, highlighting its lasting cultural significance to San Franciscans. Baum emphasized that the fountain had been a meaningful presence in their life. Baum warned that removing the fountain would signal that public art isn't valued or protected, and instead is disposable in the face of development. Baum asked the Commission to slow down the process and give the public more time to be involved, stressing that the fountain, though not traditionally beautiful, holds deep cultural and historical value.

Bob Pullum cited a recent op-ed by art historian Ted Barrow, framing the Vaillancourt Fountain and Embarcadero Plaza as powerful symbols. Barrow described the fountain and Embarcadero Plaza as important examples of modernist public art and gathering space that reflect San Francisco's unique civic identity. Barrow shares that it's a bold expression of civic modernism, designed to provoke, to move people, and to be part of shared public life. Barrow emphasizes that the fountain (and its surrounding plaza) aren't passive monuments but spaces that invite interaction, play, and challenges citing its history as a gathering place for skateboarders and

citizens, and its resilience over decades.

Matt Joseph expressed concerns about the irregularity and lack of transparency surrounding the decision to enter closed session. Joseph noted that in his research—reviewing thousands of hours of public meeting transcripts and historic Commission records—the Arts Commission has rarely held closed sessions outside of personnel matters. Joseph explained that, based on his review of over a decade’s worth of city meeting records, closed sessions were rarely used for anything other than personnel matters. Citing historical meeting minutes from the 1990s, Joseph pointed out that similar issues regarding the fountain were previously handled in open session with legal input and public participation. Joseph urged the Commission to share as much information as possible to support open public dialogue.

There was no additional public comment.

Commissioner Beltran, seconded by Commissioner Musleh moved to conduct a closed session with council.

The motion was unanimously approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 0905-25-171: Motion to CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION – One Case – Pursuant to California Government Code Sections 54956.9(a), (d)(2) and (e)(3) and San Francisco Administrative Code Section 67.10(d)(2), for the purpose of conferring with, or receiving advice from, legal counsel regarding anticipated litigation (regarding potential removal of the Vaillancourt Fountain from Embarcadero Plaza and threat of litigation from Mr. Armand Vaillancourt), as defendant

Close Session start time, 3:37 pm

Close session end time, 4:23 pm

President Collins reports that no action was taken during the closed session.

Motion was put forward to disclose what was discussed during the closed session, no motion was made.

Commissioner Shiota, seconded by Commissioner Beltran moved to not to disclose the contents of the closed session

Public Comment

Matt Joseph asked the Commission to consider sharing at least part of what was discussed in the closed session about the Vaillancourt Fountain. Joseph acknowledged that some legal topics may need to stay private but felt that total secrecy wasn't necessary. Joseph said sharing some information would help the public better understand the issue and keep the process more open and transparent.

The motion was unanimously approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 0905-25-172: Motion to not disclose any or all discussions held in closed session (San Francisco Administrative Code Section 67.12(a)).

10. Adjournment **(2:27:47)**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:28

p.m. **Posted 09/19/2025, 4:45 p.m., msd**

Archives Available

A recording of this meeting will be available online after the meeting at the following address:

https://sanfrancisco.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view_id=147.

Language Accessibility

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