



**LOS ANGELES COUNTY ARTS COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF DECEMBER 9, 2024**

The meeting of the Los Angeles County Arts Commission of December 9, 2024 was held at 10:00 a.m. at the Hall of Administration, 500 W. Temple Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012 and by teleconference.

Present (in-person):

Pamela Bright-Moon  
Alis Clausen Odenthal  
Rogerio Carvalheiro  
Diana Diaz  
Eric Eisenberg  
Sandra Hahn  
Helen Hernandez  
Anita Ortiz  
Jennifer Price-Letscher  
Randi Tahara

Present (teleconference):

Constance Jolcuvar  
Brad Gluckstein

Absent (excused):

Liane Weintraub

Staff:

Kristin Sakoda, Director  
Heather Rigby, Chief Deputy  
Miriam Gonzalez, Sr. Manager, Arts Commission Services  
Megan Moret, Board Liaison and Special Assistant  
Pat Gomez, Sr. Manager, Public Art in Private Development  
Lida Venieri, Assistant Division Director, Civic Art

President Buckley called the meeting to order at 10:12 a.m. and opened the meeting by reading the LA Countywide Land Acknowledgement ([link](#)).

Public Comment

None.

Public Art and Private Development Ordinance Report

Pat Gomez, Sr. Manager, Public Art in Private Development (PAPD), provided an update on the PAPD Ordinance and program ([attached](#)). The PAPD ordinance, established on October 15, 2021, requires developers working in unincorporated areas to allocate 1% of their project budget to public art. Developers can either fund their own public art project or pay an in-lieu fee towards the Public Art in Private Development Fund. Staff provided an overview of the current developer activity totaling \$3,734,684 with \$1,838,933 collected from in-lieu fees for the PAPD Fund. A few recent developer-led projects were highlighted including Color Compton, Unearth and Empower, the Santa Clarita Artists Association, Young Storytellers, and the Institute of Contemporary Art (ICA LA).

*Commissioners asked questions about the ordinance and staff positions, how developers select the art projects, and if the PAPD fund can support additional activities by the Department. Staff clarified the PAPD fund is designed to pay for two salaried positions to administer the program and the fund. Developers are permitted to choose an arts organization within a 5-mile radius of the developer's site and the Department provides developers a list of nonprofit arts organizations in their area that they may consider supporting or partnering with under the PAPD requirement. The Civic Art Division is in the process of developing a plan to deploy PAPD in-lieu funds, which will require stakeholder participation.*

#### Civic Art Annual Report

Lida Venieri, Assistant Division Director for Civic Art, provided an overview of the Civic Art Program for FY2023-2024 ([attached](#)). During this period, the staff managed 108 active projects, completed 30 projects, collaborated with 66 contracted professionals, and continued to oversee the civic art collection, which has 637 artworks. The presentation highlighted examples of the civic art projects in various phases of development such as planning, artist selection, community engagement, design, fabrication, and installation. Notable projects included the Harbor UCLA Medical Facility project, which featured extensive community workshops at the nearby Bixby Marshland to inspire the artwork; a playground renovation project for Parks and Recreation, which aimed to redesign park benches at eight different parks with creative seating; and the installation phase of a project at the Public Defender's Office, where eight original artworks were created by artists who collaborated closely with the office to transform the environment for both employees and clients.

The civic art program also continues to support artists through initiatives such as the Apprenticeship Program and the Public Artists in Development (PAID) program. The apprenticeship program completed the restoration of the *Inner Resources* mural by Paul Botello at City Terrace Park, engaging individuals interested in the conservation from City Terrace and East Los Angeles. The PAID program helps to break down entry barriers to the field of public art by providing training opportunities for artists of color. The PAID artist council, selected in 2023, consists of eight artists of color who will offer recommendations to help share the future of the public art policy and processes.

#### Absentee Excuses

*A motion was made by Commissioner Clausen Odenthal, seconded by Commissioner Hernandez, to approve the absentee excuse for the December 9, 2024 Arts Commission meeting. The motion carried by roll call vote. Ayes: Commissioners Bright-Moon, Buckley, Carvalho, Clausen Odenthal, Diaz, Eisenberg, Gluckstein, Hahn, Hernandez, Jolcuvar, Ortiz, Price-Letscher and Tahara.*

#### Approval of Minutes

*A motion was made by Commissioner Carvalho, seconded by Commissioner Price-Letscher, to approve the minutes for October 21, 2024 (attached). The motion carried by roll call vote. Ayes: Commissioners Bright-Moon, Carvalho, Clausen Odenthal, Diaz, Eisenberg, Gluckstein, Hahn, Hernandez, Jolcuvar, Ortiz, Price-Letscher and Tahara. Abstained: Commissioners Buckley, Clausen Odenthal and Hernandez.*

#### Correspondence

Commissioner Carvalho reported the Commission received a thank you letter from Karen E. Basiulis, President of Los Cancioneros Master Chorale for their OGP grant award of \$17,100.

### President's Items

President Buckley announced Commissioner Patrisse Cullors resigned from the Arts Commission due to time commitments. The second district seat will remain vacant until Supervisor Mitchell makes a new appointment.

President Buckley asked Commissioners to provide one word that summed up their reflection of the Arts Commission Retreat held on November 18, 2024. Commissioners shared the following responses: productive, connection, strategic, fellowship, friendship, engaging, inspiring, healing, generative and engaging.

President Buckley announced the Ad Hoc Retreat Committee will continue to meet through January and the retreat report will be presented and discussed at the January 13, 2025 Commission meeting.

President Buckley notified Commissioners that the Arts Commission meetings will be relocated to Room 140 on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor beginning in 2025.

Miriam Gonzalez, Senior Manager, Arts Commission Services, made a brief announcement regarding the Brown Act and the status of Commissioner participation under teleconferencing rules for "just cause". Commissioners are permitted to attend up to two meetings per year by teleconference, provided they have a valid "just cause" reason.

### Commissioner items

President Buckley congratulated the Natural History Museum on its new wing, The Commons. The space now includes the permanent home of artist Barbara Carrasco's mural, *Sin Censura*. Commissioner Hernandez provided additional information about the mural, which was first commissioned in 1981. The mural depicts the history of Los Angeles and was never displayed publicly when it was created because it was considered controversial.

Commissioner Hernandez recommended inviting Mark Callahan and Leslie Flores, both participants in the Civil Grand Jury, to provide a follow up on the Civil Grand Jury Report and discuss the recommendations related to the Cross Sector program. Kim Glann, Cross Sector Manager, is tentatively scheduled to present an annual report at an upcoming meeting. It was suggested to combine the items together.

### Committee Updates

None.

### Department Updates

Kristin Sakoda, Director, and Heather Rigby, Chief Deputy, provided a brief update on the preparation for the budget. Currently, the CEO has not delivered further instructions to County departments about a potential curtailment. However, departments were notified that the County intends to implement some changes as a result of Measure G and plans to hold Department budget hearings in public in 2025. This marks a change in budget protocols from previous years. More information will be shared as soon as it becomes available.

Director's Report

Kristin Sakoda, Director, gave an update on the Olympic community convenings held between September and December 2, 2024. She thanked Commissioners who attended one or more sessions. The convenings were held in partnership with the LA City Department of Cultural Affairs and the LA28 Games. The next steps include a survey in January to all participants, followed by a draft report and an anticipated final report due by April 2025 to the LA County Board of Supervisors. The Director also announced she spoke to President Buckley about including an Olympic discussion on the February 10, 2025 Commission agenda.

Adjournment

*A motion was made by Commissioner Hernandez, seconded by Commissioner Carvalho, to adjourn the meeting of December 9, 2024 at 11:25 a.m. The motion carried by roll call vote.*

*Ayes: Commissioners Bright-Moon, Carvalho, Clausen Odenthal, Diaz, Eisenberg, Hahn, Hernandez, Ortiz, Price-Letscher and Tahara. Abstained: Commissioners Buckley, Clausen Odenthal and Hernandez. Absent: Commissioner Gluckstein and Jolcuvar.*