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**From:** Jennifer Tanaka <jletanaka@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 7, 2025 11:58 AM  
**To:** PACS Comments  
**Cc:** CITY CLERK  
**Subject:** Public Comment Re: Arts Commission New Business Item 1 (Arts Master Plan)  
**Attachments:** 64a314ac850dd.webp; painted-goats-in-kingsport-6.webp; 64a314b5ac112.webp

Dear Members of the Arts Commission:

First, this is my first time writing you, and I noticed that the agenda addresses written public comments to "[pacscomments@costamesaca.gov](mailto:pacscomments@costamesaca.gov)". Therefore I have done so here but also copied the city clerk in case this email address directs my comments to the Parks and Community Services Commission rather than the Arts Commission. If it does, perhaps the city should look into a separate email address for the Arts Commission and updating the agenda accordingly.

Second, I am very excited to see the Commission embarking on the update to the Arts & Culture Master Plan. I think the city has made great strides in earning its moniker "City of the Arts". But, as an admittedly casual and outside observer, I think there is still some ways to go before Costa Mesa becomes as synonymous with "the arts" as we would all like.

In particular, I look forward to analysis and reflection on the extent to which Goals 2 and 4 of the existing ACMP have been achieved. Frankly, and again this is from an outside perspective, I haven't seen a lot of progress on the acquisition/commissioning/installation of public art. I also question the extent to which our current efforts are likely to achieve the goals set out in Goal 4. I am particularly concerned about the fate of the Costa Mesa Playhouse, mentioned in Action 4.2.5, which I believe is still searching for a new home.

I also wanted to pass along one idea for placemaking art that would fit into both Goals 2 and 4. I came across a program for the city of Kingsport, TN, which also has a longstanding connection to goat farming similar to us, where the city purchased plaster goat statues and invited local businesses and organizations to sponsor them, thus recouping some of the costs. The sponsors were required to commission an artist to decorate the goats and enter them into a "parade" at a local event. After the parade was over, the goats were then installed in and around the city for a time, before reverting to their owners.

Kingsport maintains a great website for the project that you can access here: <https://thisiskingsport.com/goats/>

Given that the town of Kingsport already has a supplier and experience, I would think the research for doing something similar in Costa Mesa would be as simple as calling up the Kingsport Office of Cultural Arts (<https://tnartscommission.org/creative-placemaking/city-of-kingsport-office-of-cultural-arts/>) and asking them the details of the program.

I for one would love to see some beautifully painted goats around town. I think such a project would fit perfectly into Costa Mesa's vibrant, eclectic style and it would take advantage of the city's incredibly creative businesses. And it would provide local artists with an opportunity to be visible to the public while also earning them a commission.

I've attached some example goats -- aren't they fun?

Once again, I look forward to the discussion tonight and I am excited to see how this new chapter in the "City of the Arts" will unfold.

Best,  
Jenn Tanaka  
321 Broadway  
Costa Mesa

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