



# City of Costa Mesa

77 Fair Drive  
Costa Mesa, CA 92626

## Agenda Report

Arts Commission

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**File #:** 25-407

**Meeting Date:** 8/7/2025

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**TITLE:** ARTS GRANT PROGRAM REVIEW OF GUIDELINES  
**DEPARTMENT:** PARKS AND COMMUNITY SERVICES  
**PRESENTED BY:** LAURETTE GARNER, ARTS SPECIALIST  
**CONTACT INFORMATION:** LAURETTE GARNER, ARTS SPECIALIST, (714) 754-5322

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends the Arts Commission review and discuss the new language added to the City of Costa Mesa Arts Grant program guidelines and make edits and recommendations.

### **BACKGROUND:**

One of the Arts & Culture Master Plan's recommendations was to create a new mission and guidelines for the Arts Grant Program.

On February 2, 2023, staff provided the draft for the Arts Grant Program Guidelines handbook for the Arts Commission to review, collect input, and make any adjustments.

After suggestions were made by the Arts Commission, the edited version was brought back on March 4, 2023, for final review and approval.

At the March 6, 2025, Arts Commission meeting, a suggestion was made by Chair Alisa Ochoa to bring the Arts Grant Program Guidelines back for further review and possible edits.

At the April 3, 2025 Arts Commission meeting, minor edits were suggested; to increase the amount of allowable funding for each Arts Grant applicant, and a recommendation was made to bring back more information about the financial background of each arts grant awardee for the 2024-25 fiscal year.

At the May 1, 2025 Arts Commission meeting, a suggestion was made to bring back examples of other cities' mission, values and objectives, to compare with the current City of Costa Mesa Arts Grant program guidelines.

At the June 5, 2025 Arts Commission meeting, no edits were made to the mission of the program. Chair Ochoa requested that a discount or fee waiver be considered for Costa Mesa parks and facility rentals for arts grant awardees.

**ANALYSIS**

The Arts Grant Program Guidelines (Attachment 1) may be brought back to the Arts Commission at any time for review and edits. Staff has provided a new edited version of the Arts Grant Program Guidelines with new language to address the suggested discount to parks and facility rentals for arts grant awardees.

**FISCAL REVIEW:**

The funding for the Arts Grant program is \$12,500 for the 2025-26 Fiscal Year.

**LEGAL REVIEW:**

The City Attorney's Office has reviewed the guidelines and application and approves them both as to form.

**CONCLUSION:**

Staff recommends the Arts Commission review and discuss the new language added to the City of Costa Mesa Arts Grant program guidelines and make edits and recommendations.