



ARTS COUNCIL CITY OF MERCER ISLAND

AC 26-12
October 21, 2026
Regular Business

AGENDA BILL INFORMATION

TITLE:	AC 26-12: 2027-2028 City Arts and Culture Workplan	☐ Discussion Only
RECOMMENDED ACTION:	Review and endorse the 2027 – 2028 City Arts and Culture Workplan	☒ Action Needed: ☒ Motion ☐ Recommendation
STAFF:	Katie Herzog, Interim Recreation Manager	
EXHIBITS:	1. n/a	

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this staff report is to seek the Arts Council's endorsement of the 2027 – 2028 City Arts and Culture Workplan which includes both the workplan priorities and objectives.

BACKGROUND

The City's Arts and Culture Workplan is designed to guide staff work and initiatives related to arts and culture over the biennium. The priorities are included as part of the Recreation Division's overall workplan which is approved by the City Council as part of the biennial budget process.

The priorities are developed by staff with guidance from the [PROS Plan](#), [Arts and Culture Comprehensive Plan](#), and community input. Subsequently, the priorities endorsed by the Arts Council each biennium and should be reflective of the overarching Arts Council Goals.

The Arts Council's goals are to:

- Advocate the arts, artists, and arts organizations of Mercer Island.
- Stimulate and promote community awareness, education, and enjoyment of the fine arts.
- Support performing, visual, and literary arts programs, projects, and events.

At the [July 15, 2026 meeting](#), the Arts Council reviewed the 2027 – 2028 City Arts and Culture Workplan Priorities, and staff committed to return with attainable objectives for Arts Council endorsement at a future meeting.

ISSUE/DISCUSSION

Staff have developed a draft 2027 – 2028 City Arts and Culture Workplan, including objectives of how staff will meet each priority for the 2027 – 2028 biennium.

Tonight, staff request that the Arts Council review the priorities and if desired, endorse the 2027 – 2028 City Arts and Culture Workplan.

Priority 1: Deliver exceptional arts and cultural programming that enhances quality of life for the Mercer Island community

- 1.1 Maintain the City's current level of arts and cultural programming throughout the biennium.
- 1.2 Deliver or support at least eight City-sponsored or City-supported arts and cultural events annually.
- 1.3 Continue the Mostly Music in the Park concert series to provide family-friendly performances and opportunities for community gatherings.

Priority 2: Enhance opportunities for local artists to participate in community events and programs

- 2.1 Incorporate musical artists into the Mercer Island Gallery Receptions.
- 2.2 Enhance opportunities for local artists to participate in community events.
- 2.3 Partner with community organizations to deliver arts and cultural programming that celebrates diversity and promotes inclusion.
- 2.4 Increase awareness of local arts and cultural opportunities through existing City communication channels.

Priority 3: Preserve and Enhance Public Art and Cultural Assets

- 3.1 Complete a periodic update to the 6-Year Work Plan for Art in Public Places
- 3.2 Complete painting of the Pergola and installation of the Space Force plaque at Mercerdale Park.
- 3.3 Coordinate a plan for reinstallation of the Gateway Figures.

Priority 4: Increase Arts Council Engagement and Strategic Planning

- 4.1 Provide opportunities for Arts Council members to participate in City-coordinated and partnered events to better understand community arts and cultural priorities.
- 4.2 Provide input to the Parks and Recreation Commission regarding arts and culture priorities for the 2028 PROS Plan Update.
- 4.3 Update the Comprehensive Arts & Culture Plan.

NEXT STEPS

Once the workplan is endorsed, staff will begin prioritizing objectives for completion over the 2027 – 2028 biennium.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Endorse the 2027 – 2028 City Arts and Culture Workplan.