



ARTS COUNCIL CITY OF MERCER ISLAND

AC26-09
July 15, 2026
Regular Business

AGENDA BILL INFORMATION

TITLE:	AC26-09: 2027-2028 Arts and Culture Workplan Priorities	☒ Discussion Only ☐ Action Needed: ☐ Motion ☐ Recommendation
RECOMMENDED ACTION:	Review and provide input for the recommended 2027 – 2028 Arts and Culture Workplan Priorities.	

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 input toward the 2027 – 2028 Arts and Culture Workplan Priorities.

BACKGROUND

The City's Arts and Culture Workplan Priorities are developed to inform the staff workplan and arts and culture initiatives for the biennium. These priorities play a crucial role in shaping the direction, focus, and impact of cultural policies and initiatives within the community.

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.

ISSUE/DISCUSSION

Building off the 2025 – 2026 Art and Culture Priorities, staff developed a draft set of priorities for the 2027 – 2028 biennium. Tonight, staff seek input and discussion from the Arts Council on the priorities listed below:

- Deliver exceptional arts and cultural programming that enhances quality of life for the Mercer Island Community.
- Increase access to arts and culture for all members of the community.
- Strengthen partnerships that support local artists and performing arts organizations.
- Advance stewardship of Mercer Island's public art collection and cultural resources.
- Strengthen Arts Council engagement with the community.

Guiding Questions:

- Do these priorities align with guiding documents and community input received over the current biennium?
- Do these priorities remain relevant today and in alignment with the Arts Council goals?
- Do you think these priorities address community need for arts and culture opportunities and experiences?

NEXT STEPS

Staff will return to the Arts Council's October meeting with revised priorities and obtainable objectives and outcomes for the Arts Council's review and endorsement, reflective of resources anticipated to be allocated for the 2027-2028 biennium.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Review and provide input for the recommended 2027 – 2028 Arts and Culture Workplan Priorities.