



Strengthening arts, culture,
and creative expression as the
tools to cultivate a better
California for all.

Gavin Newsom, **Governor**
Jonathan Moscone, **Executive Director**
2750 Gateway Oaks Drive, Suite 300, Sacramento CA 95833
(916) 322-6555 | www.arts.ca.gov

MINUTES OF PUBLIC COUNCIL MEETING
March 24, 2023
10:00 a.m. to 2:45 p.m.

The members of the California Arts Council convened via web conference to discuss and vote on various items as listed in the minutes below. The full audio and video of the meeting can be accessed [here](#).

PRESENT:

Council Members

Consuelo (Chelo) Montoya, Chair
Vicki Estrada, Vice-Chair
Gerald Clarke
Caleb Duarte
Ellen Gavin
Leah Goodwin
Alex Israel
Phil Mercado
Roxanne Messina Captor
Nicola Miner
Olivia Raynor

Arts Council Staff

Jonathan Moscone, Executive Director
Kayla Ungar, Chief Deputy Director
Ayanna Kiburi, Deputy Director
Liz Azevedo, Director of Program Services
Kimberly Brown, Public Affairs Specialist
Kristin Margolis, Director of Legislative Affairs
Qiana Moore, Outreach and Events Coordinator
Zachary Hill, Information Technology Associate

1. Call to Order

Chair Montoya opened the meeting at 10:00 a.m.

2. Land and Peoples Acknowledgement

Council Member Mercado acknowledged the following: *“We acknowledge that we are on the unceded ancestral homeland of the Tongva, the Tatavium, Serrano, Kizh and Chumash people who are the original inhabitants of what we now call Los Angeles County. As the indigenous stewards of this land, the Tongva, Tatavium, Serrano, Kizh and Chumash peoples have never ceded, lost nor forgotten their responsibilities as the caretakers of this place as well as for all peoples who reside in their traditional territory. As guests we recognize that we benefit from living and working on their traditional homeland. We wish to pay our respects by acknowledging all members of the indigenous communities here and throughout the state and by affirming their sovereign rights. The California Arts Council is committed to developing the competencies and the relationships to support all indigenous people throughout our state.”*

Council Member Mercado noted that there are more than 140,000 Native American people in Los Angeles County of these 30 tribes.

3. Roll Call and Establishment of a Quorum

Director of Legislative Affairs Margolis conducted a roll call.

Present: Chair Chelo Montoya, Vice Chair Vicki Estrada, Gerald Clarke, Caleb Duarte, Ellen Gavin, Leah Goodwin, Phil Mercado, Roxanne Messina Captor, Nicola Miner and Olivia Raynor.

A quorum was achieved.

Council Member Alex Israel joined the meeting after the roll call was taken.

4. Chair’s Report

Chair Montoya reported the following: April is designated as the Arts and Culture and Creativity Advocacy Month in California. I encourage all of you to get out and advocate in that art is everything, everywhere all at once and April is the month where we spotlight the work that we are doing.

I would like to welcome a few Council Members and staff to share about what makes you so passionate about this work and what inspires you.

I have spent my entire career building opportunities for individuals and communities who have not had access. I grew up in a very rural town in California where I always wanted more and more art. I would like to get us closer to covering those communities who have been excluded.

Council Member Gavin shared the following: I was born in Lawrence, Massachusetts, and it was a mill town and the home of the Bread and Roses Strike of 1912. It was an amazing example of multi-culturalism. California is such a beautiful, contemporary of cultures from all over the

world and I so love California. I am thrilled to celebrate all the diversity that we are able to experience.

Council Member Clarke spoke: As a member of the tribal community we gather together and we sing and we dance together and it is a very powerful thing. This is a form of community wellness. Everything we do here involves community wellness which is so needed. These are ancient practices and I am proud to advocate for that.

Vice Chair Estrada commented: As a landscape architect I have been working in San Diego since the mid-1970s and from early on I have been involved with the arts. I have been involved particularly with under-served communities who typically do not get to see that and over the years I have noticed the incredible change in people's attitudes and their demeanor and their self-esteem when the arts come to their communities. I am very excited to serve on the California Arts Council.

Council Member Duarte shared the following: Como migrante, an economically-displaced, field-working family from the Central Valley we see systems of power, large economies, and evidence of capitalism; and art allows us to be the historians of our own lives. It is how we demonstrate our humanity. It is the parallel to the evidence of violence and hardship that we see in the world - it is that parallel alternative that we provide for the arts that just moves me.

Council Member Mercado stated: As somebody who is an arts advocate and arts supporter - I and my husband are not artists - we are thrilled with the work that this Council does. Our oldest one is going to be going to art school next year and we are thrilled about it.

Council Member Messina Captor commented: I have been in the arts since I was a child in Chicago and was on the Illinois Arts Council and then in New York and now here in Los Angeles. I have worked up and down the state of California in various theatres and dance companies. We have gone into areas that do not get the arts and I have seen the change that happens when you bring the arts because people who do not want to talk to each other - when you start playing theatre games or doing a dance project together they come together as if there were no boundaries. Art is the great equalizer and it is one of the most important things in our lives.

Executive Director Moscone shared the following: When my dad took me to see at ACT a play and it was a big theatre and the lights went to black and then when the lights came up - a world appeared. In that moment I thought, oh, plays are dreams. You do not have to wait to go to sleep to be part of a dream. I started by acting in the dreams and I realized I get to direct dreams. I believe that my dreams are as real as anything else that goes on in my life. I have never forgotten that one moment that got me there.

Deputy Director Kiburi chimed in: My childhood was filled with dance. The first dance style I learned was Congolese dancing in Oakland. What I learned about dance as a young person was that there is a relationship between the dancer and the drum and that has stayed with me my entire life. When I danced I felt free and alive and we used to do performances in the community for free. I also did the same when I danced with the Afro-Cuban dance troupe. Dancing, music

and creativity is part of my fabric as a being and I have been so grateful to have that here in California.

Council Member Raynor was recognized: The arts has always been a part of my life and of my families. I was born in New York, raised in New York, Los Angeles and Paris, France. I am the product of a film-industry family and married to a television producer. I have participated in the arts as an avid audience member and lover of all kinds of music. It is something key that informs my perspective of the arts for Californians. John F. Kennedy said many decades ago that the arts very centered to a nation's purpose. I would like to be a part of the arts resonating as the soul of Californians.

Council Member Goodwin spoke: I am from Berkeley, California and the arts have been a part of my whole life. I took dance in high school and I took theatre and poetry. Much like Jonathan I fell in love with the arts and the San Francisco Opera House where my dad took me when I was little. I have been really blessed to spend my whole career working as a poet, an artist and art administrator. I firmly believe that the arts are the tool for healing. The arts create a safe place for us to be human with one another.

5. Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Moscone reported the following: What a beautiful way to start the day. During the last two weeks I have been travelling down the Central Coast to Los Angeles and all the way up to Humboldt County via plane to visit with the Eureka Cultural District and many diverse artists and cultural workers there and in Arcata.

First I spent the morning at Corcoran State Prison experiencing creative acts of profound work engaging incarcerated individuals in solitary confinement through innovative arts practices including virtual reality.

After that I visited with Stephanie Magnia at the Kings Art Center in the town of Hanford in Kings County. I spent time at the Kings Art Center and with the Hanford Multi-Cultural Theatre Company, a company of artists and artisans who are centrally located in downtown Hanford and provide classes and performances for people in the area all year round.

I spent a few days in Bakersfield meeting with Jeanette Harrison, Director of the Bakersfield County Arts Council as well as with Andrea Hansen of Kern Dance Alliance who is administering the Creative Corps Program for regions throughout the Central Valley.

In Los Angeles I was honored to finally meet with Kristen Sakoda, Director of the Los Angeles County Office of Arts and Culture. The next day Council Member Ellen Gavin and I went to a dress rehearsal of a new play entitled, *Immigrants of the State* co-directed by Rich Loya currently a teaching artist with the Actor's Gang and a formerly incarcerated member of our society.

That night, Chair Montoya and I saw a revival of, *Twilight Los Angeles 1992* by Anna Devere Smith at the Mark Taper Forum during which a testimonial by Cornel West talks about the

artist's capacity to enter bravely into a state of despair and yet find hope - hope beyond evidence. And quote, "Hope that attempts to create new possibilities based on visions that become contagious so that people can engage in heroic actions always against the odds, no guarantee whatsoever, that's hope", unquote.

In Riverside I visited Director, Rachel Dzikonski with the Riverside Arts Council which is partnering with the Inland Empire Community Foundation to administer the Creative Corps Program serving artists and arts organizations throughout the Inland Empire.

And next time you are in Riverside you must see Martin Sanchez', epic community-driven art work all made from recycled materials.

Finally, in Eureka and Arcata one experience that stood out was my visit with Brenda Perez and her colleagues with the Jardin Sanctuario, a program of Centro Del Pueblo in Arcata. They grow from the ground. They perform on the ground. They are a community center. They have been vandalized and they have been resilient. It was quite a sight to see such hope.

While all this was happening our staff and our Council committees were working non-stop to incorporate conversations, comments, feedback, and deep-diving analyses to prepare us for today.

Our Council will be voting on guidelines for our 2023 programs as well as for allocations to grantees for our remaining 2022 grants.

I could not be prouder of this organization, Council and staff alike. This Council does not rubber stamp. This staff does not just go through the motions; they are actively listening and adapting policies that move closer and closer to reflecting and meeting the needs and aspirations of our expansive and diverse field.

We will continue to listen. We will continue to learn as promised and I expect all of you to hold us accountable. We know that we have to get our 2023 Guidelines and 2022 Allocations voted on today. And if there is something that needs more time to discuss we will take the time. As long as we get the Guidelines and Allocations voted on our staff can get to the next phase of their work and that is our goal today.

So let us approach this day with a belief in good intention, grace for the time it takes to do the good work and a promise to have a positive impact that we all aim to have for you, our field and the communities you serve and with whom you engage.

At our next meeting I hope to yield time to our new Chief Deputy Director Kayla Ungar to share some of the exciting developments in our building new relationships with agencies throughout the state. We are also looking at all the ways we can increase opportunities for artists, culture bearers and culture workers to be paid as a workforce that will be an essential one in achieving a California for all. That is hope - indeed.

Chair Montoya added that Jonathan is also everything, everywhere all at once. You are so involved in everything and it is so helpful because reinforces the work that we are doing here. Thank you for being there for everything.

We are going to go on to Item 6, Voting Item Council Minutes from previous Council meetings, February 24 and Open Programs Policy Committee Meeting on March 13. Maybe we should make a motion to approve them one-by-one.

6. Voting Item: Council Minutes from Previous Council Meetings

MOTION: Council Member Raynor moved approval of the [February 24, 2023 CAC Meeting Minutes](#) as amended to include the actual numbers that were allocated to each of the grant programs, seconded by Council Member Messina Captor.

VOTE: Yes: Chair Chelo Montoya, Vice Chair Vicki Estrada, Gerald Clarke, Caleb Duarte, Ellen Gavin, Leah Goodwin, Phil Mercado, Roxanne Messina Captor, Nicola Miner, Olivia Raynor.

No: None.

The February 24, 2023 CAC Minutes were approved.

Discussion was as follows:

Council Member Goodwin commented: I found the Minutes detailed but also confusing. In particular to the motion around funding for State and Local Partnerships. Approved that the funds suggested were 75,000 including the 3500 - I thought it was for the convening but I realized that the scenario was saying the funding was 75,000 plus 3,500 meaning that the suggested motion was the 78,500. Somehow if we could clarify the motions for the record that funding for the SLPs is 75,000 which includes Poetry Out Loud then we will easily change our policy when it comes up for review from the Policy Committee to suggest the funding for SLPs to be 75,000. Thank you.

Chair Montoya stated that I will also take part in just making sure we slow down and try to recap. I want to make sure that we are all honoring what we understand is the thing that we are voting on.

Council Member Raynor was recognized: I wanted to suggest that under the voting item or the allocations that we actually add the specific amounts that were voted upon. I am happy to report out loud what we approved. Moving forward we should repeat each of our final votes and any friendly amendments would strengthen the use of our minutes which is what their function is.

The amounts are as follows: State and Local Partners: \$4,050,000, State and Local Partners Mentorship, \$200,000, Statewide and Regional Networks, \$2,105,000, Folk and Traditional Arts, \$1,000,000, Arts and Cultural Organizations General Operating Support, \$9,350,000, Impacts Projects, \$9,350,000, 2023 Local Assistance Total, \$26,055,000.

Council Member Gavin thanked the staff because Leah and I had different understandings on what we had voted on. We were able to go back and look at the verbatim transcript and we were able to listen to the meeting again and there were actually two different versions of the motion on the table and yet it was clarified by the graphics.

Council Member Clarke recommended that in the future the motions be numbered. It makes it easier to reference back into the minutes when we are making these clarifications. In reference to the most recent minutes there is a difference between the two sets of minutes in terms of us being referred to as, Mr. and Mrs. or referred to as Council Member. There needs to be some consistency there.

Chair Montoya stipulated: I would appreciate removing the gender references all together. We are approving the February Minutes first.

MOTION: Council Member Raynor moved approval of the [March 13, 2023 Programs Policy Committee Minutes](#) as amended, seconded by Council Member Messina Captor.

VOTE: Yes: Chair Chelo Montoya, Vice Chair Vicki Estrada, Gerald Clarke, Caleb Duarte, Ellen Gavin, Leah Goodwin, Phil Mercado, Roxanne Messina Captor, Olivia Raynor.

No: None.

Abstain: Nicola Miner

Chair Montoya stated that the recommendation is to refer to Council Members as “Council Members” and not reference them by gender.

Council Member Raynor recommended that title of the minutes be changed to the name of the committee.

The March 13, 2023 Programs Policy Committee Minutes were approved.

7. Public Comment (General)

Chair Montoya explained the purpose and prohibitions for making Public Comment at CAC meetings. Staff Member Margolis explained the process and provided specific instructions.

Julie Baker with Californians for the Arts speaking from the Nevada City Rancheria commented: We are proud to present Arts, Culture and Creativity Month as part of our work as a statewide regional network through the California Arts Council. This year we are bringing the California Arts and Culture Summit with our partners at Create California to Sacramento on April 17 and it is sold out. Because of a grant from the CAC we have 43 people who have scholarships to come to that. We will be meeting in Berkeley on April 6 to launch with the mayor, Arts, Culture and Creativity Month there. We will be in Watsonville on April 14. And on April 18 we will have

Arts Advocacy Day in the park outside the Capitol with the Mayor's Office from Sacramento as well as Speaker Rendon attending and others that we expect from the Legislature. We know that \$20,000,000 in Cultural District funding is slated to be put back into the General Fund. We want to make sure that maintains in the California Arts Council's budget among other things.

Marie Acosta thanked everyone for their hard work. From our vantage point as working artists and non-profit, arts-producing organizations it is very helpful that a renewed focus on our role as contributing residents of California is becoming more of a priority, kudos. The Council Members are one of the most thoughtful groups of individuals to serve the Agency and it is exciting to hear your comments and experience. Jonathan is an exceptional listener and he is concerned about the Arts Council's mandate to grow, strengthen and support artists and arts-producing organizations and the support systems that assist in their development. I hope the Arts Council and reviews its history and find those successes that have happened in the past like the Multi-Cultural Advancement Program to guide its future.

Leticia Soto Flores the Development Manager of the Alliance For California Traditional Arts (ACTA) and it was founded in 1997 to support statewide services for traditional and folk art. We are speaking in favor of a proposal to allow organizations above \$250,000 to apply for operating support. It is important for midsize organizations of up to 1.5 million dollars to also be nurtured. We are living in a boom-and-bust funding economy in the arts and the 30,000 core operating grant will have an important impact on these organizations. I was born and raised in San Fernando Valley where I learned to play traditional Mexican music in 1991. I received my PhD in Ethno-Ecology from UCLA. I am now helping traditional arts communities from diverse cultural backgrounds thrive in California.

Lily Kharrazi, Tri Tip Special Initiatives also from the Alliance for California Traditional Arts where I have had the privilege of working for over 17 years to lift up practices of artists and culture bearers and their unique communities throughout the state of California. We have been in the field for over 25 years with the CAC as our partner and now as an AO poised to re-grant the new traditional arts monies. We will provide bilingual outreach, tech assistance and we anticipate engaging with many first-time grantees. We want to thank the Council for your continued trust in ACTA. Cultural workers are a key part of the arts ecosystem and we thank you for recognizing by providing additional costs that are aligned with our mutual ambitions. Thank you so much Council

Riselda Suarez stated, I am proud to let you know that as an administering organization of the California Creative Corps we recently closed our application phase for non-profits and received 90 applications across Los Angeles County and Orange County. This opportunity has given us the room to reach out to other organizations. We had a 60/40 split with 40 percent being new applicants and new partners. Artists with the Queer Mercado and Southeast LA Corridor were very thankful for the CAC providing funds. They have never seen this kind of investment and they hope that it continues. I want to thank you on their behalf.

Katrina Schneider stated that she was a consultant specializing in watershed and climate science. I work with the California Creative Corps administering organizations for the upstate region. I am here to provide feedback and perspective regarding the use of the Healthy Places Index as a

means of measuring and evaluating rural community conditions with an aim towards geographic equity. While I applaud the use of this amazing tool I have concerns particularly relevant to the rural regions in the upstate. After looking at the HPI data for all 374 upstate region census tracts combined with all 19 upstate counties on a listening tour our team saw many instances where the HPI metrics used did not adequately reflect on-the-ground, rural-community conditions. In some instances the HPI metrics may serve to indicate urban health conditions yet a tract actually demonstrate less healthy conditions and higher risks in rural settings such as with measure of forced canopy and density. We are also looking at a number of other areas in the lens of rural communities. I provide this feedback due to the importance the metrics that best identify and represent rural community conditions in the pursuit of geographic and health equity. Last fall we provided feedback to the California Arts Council's Creative Corps Team and the Public Health Alliance staff regarding these observations and I am happy to continue such work.

Kathleen Gallegos former Council Member and founder of the Avenue 50 Studio based in Highland Park addressed the Council. A few years ago we were awarded a grant from the CAC for the Fellows of Color Mentorship Program. We came up with a plan to submit an application to the LA Cultural Heritage Commission to designate a Chicano mural in Highland Park a cultural, historic monument for the city of Los Angeles. At the end of the project Jade stayed with the project taking ownership of the designation. I am thrilled to say that after three years of going meeting to meeting, last Wednesday the City Council voted unanimously in support of the very first freestanding mural designated an LA Cultural Heritage Monument. This is historic for all Angelinos. We could not have done this without the support of the CAC. Please continue to fund this fellowship - it works.

Hanna Rubalcava, Grants and Contracts Manager for the Santa Barbara County Office of Arts and Culture commented. We are proud to be serving as an administering organization for the California Creative Corps for the Central Coast Region. I am excited to announce that we launched our program two weeks ago in partnership with the Arts Council from Monterrey County, Arts Council Santa Cruz County, San Benito County Arts Council, San Luis Obispo County Arts Council and the Ventura County Arts Council. The Central Coast Creative Corps Program is an extraordinary opportunity for community-based organizations and artists to drive social change. We have 23 community partners, non-profits and government agencies or tribal governments that will be selected to receive \$140,000 to hire artists or cultural practitioners to co-develop bold and inspiring engagement campaigns to communicate powerful messages on one or more themes including civic engagement, social justice, public health and climate impacts. Thank you for this amazing opportunity.

Sabra Williams stated that she could see that the California Arts Council was really listening and that this was inspiring. I wanted to thank Jon for coming to Corcoran State Prison to solitary confinement to see the power of the arts for the people who are most invisible and silenced. I would urge Council Members to visit programs in all 34 California prisons. This will inspire you by the power of the arts. We are funded by CDC Art, the Department of Corrections. I would urge the CAC to look at the recent CDC Rights Grant. It was one question, one page long, one report at the end and the money can be used as we see fit. That is in line with trust-based philanthropy and I pray the CAC finally gets in line with trust-based philanthropy and gives the money to artists to decide for ourselves what to do with the money.

Written public comment submissions:

- Dina Asna (She/Her/Hers), IWIN Iranian Women In Network, Contra Costa County

My name is Dina Asna the founder/CEO of IWIN (Iranian Women In Networking) a SF/Bay Area grassroot Non profit with the mission of empowering women through art. We launched the Woman Life Freedom Quilt Project early Jan 2023 and in this short period of time we got over 300 beautiful artworks from Iran to Paris and of course many cities here in the USA.

We received beautiful artworks from 5 years old kids to 86 year old grandpa's. From original painting to calligraphy and of course many mixed media and textile art.

As of today with full support and endorsement of the National Aids Memorial Quilt team we have been able to create 16 magnificent quilts and there are more to follow. (Format 3 x 6 Feet).

Our vision in support of this project extends beyond the cause of supporting the women of Iran to encompass the struggles of women worldwide who face discrimination.

Here is the link to a short introductory video
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FICBijKBGXk>

As part of this commitment, we are seeking an indoor venue that can offer a pageantry of grandeur and sophistication to display our cherished pieces or any other form of support to be able to stand up for women's rights and to heal and connect more communities.

Our next preview exhibit (sneak preview) will be on March 24th at 12 noon at San Francisco City Hall in the present of our honorable Mayor London Breed.

Grateful for time and consideration.

- Katrina Schneider (She/Her/Hers), consultant to Nevada County Arts Council, Nevada County
RE: Agenda Item 8. Presentation and Discussion: Healthy Places Index

I am a consultant specializing in watershed and climate science. I work with your CA Creative Corps AO for the Upstate Region. While I applaud the use of the amazing HPI tool, I have concerns particularly relevant to the rural regions in the Upstate.

After looking at the HPI data for all 374 Upstate Region census tracts, combined with visiting all 19 Upstate counties on a Listening Tour, our team saw instances where the HPI metrics used did not adequately reflect on-the-ground rural community conditions. Examples include: the measure of forest canopy; wildfire threat and prolonged smoke particulate exposure; rural housing challenges not captured by current HPI metrics; the challenges to attracting medical, educational, and other professionals to live in many rural communities; "Retail density" metric and its disconnect with the choice for rural living; mental health metrics

In some instances, the HPI metrics may serve to indicate urban health conditions, yet in fact actually demonstrate LESS healthy conditions and higher risks in rural settings (such as with the measure of forest canopy and density). There are other areas worth looking at with the lens of rural communities including: functional internet; PSPS events; public land considerations.

I provide this feedback due to the importance of advancing metrics that best identify and represent rural community conditions in the pursuit of geographic and health equity.

8. Presentation and Discussion: Healthy Places Index

Chair Montoya moved on to Item 8 on the Agenda. Helen Dowling is the Director of Data Initiatives at the Public Health Alliance of Southern California. At the Alliance Helen leads work to advance state, local and local-data projects. She also serves as the Project Manager of the California Healthy Places Index (HPI) a data and policy platform created to advance health equity through accessible data. Helen will describe the interactive Healthy Places Index and how it maps data on social conditions that drive health and wellness in communities.

Helen Dowling, Director of Data Initiatives at the Public Health Alliance addressed the Council. I am also the Project Manager for the Healthy Places Index series of projects. I am here to talk about our approach to using race and place to get a more in-depth and complete picture of the communities in California.

I represent the Public Health Alliance of Southern California which is a coalition of 11 local health departments stretching from San Luis Obispo to San Diego and Imperial County and we represent over 60 percent of California's population. We are on a mission to mobilize the transformative power of local public health for enduring health equity.

Our Shared Value Statement guides the work we do with the HPI and our work overall as public-health practitioners. We at the Public Health Alliance believe that everyone deserves a fair and just opportunity to achieve good health and well-being.

To achieve this goal we need to understand and address those factors that are driving the health disparities we see in our communities and we need to promote policies and services that enable good health while seeking to remove systemic barriers to health.

Ms. Dowling via a slide presentation discussed many details, concepts, data, applications and strategies in furtherance of the organization's Shared Value Statement.

Council Discussion

Vice Chair Estrada stated that access to the arts makes for a healthier community. On your website am I missing how well a community has access to the arts? On the demographics; is that derived from the most recent national census? How did you obtain that data?

Ms. Dowling replied that access to art is important but in our HPI we had several considerations of what is included. To be included as part of the HPI score data had to be available at the

census-tract level and it had to be available for the entire state. Importantly it also had to be publicly actionable. So it needed to be something that we knew there were policies associated with to improve and access to arts would definitely fall into that category. Our HPI is empirically associated with life expectancy at birth and every indicator is correlated with life expectancy. That correlation is what is used to help derive the weight for our HPI score. We have over 375 Decision Support Layers which are additional measures of community contacts that do not have to fit into that rubric. We are always building and expanding.

Council Member Miner said, I thought in the state of California we were not allowed to use race. Can somebody clarify that for me?

Deputy Director Kiburi mentioned that HPI serves as a proxy to get to the communities that we want to serve that have race and base as the considerations. Helen, could you explain how the tool has been used to support agencies doing that?

Ms. Dowling explained that we are a non-profit organization which means that we could in fact include race and ethnicity in HPI but there are lots of reasons why we did not do that not the least of which is that for it to be used in state, grant-making programs - race and ethnicity cannot be explicitly considered per Prop 209. Recognizing that, we wanted to give people the flexibility to use the pathway that they are able to use. If you are not a state organization you can lean more heavily on the race and ethnicity data as well as complementing it with the place-based data. The HPI score itself is a Prop 209 safe way to do grant making that largely still gets at those communities of color that have been systemically disadvantaged.

Council Member Gavin stated that this presentation does give us a way to have a proxy to talk about race and ethnicity and that is incredibly valuable. We have other groups of folks that we are intent on representing culturally which would include women, LGBTQ folks, disability, seniors and rural communities and I am wondering if you have incorporated any of that. And are you planning on expanding out to any other groups? It would be interesting if you could bring into the conversation in some way cultural assets. What does a community look like? It could be that we had more assets there than we realized and that would be important to know.

Ms. Dowling replied that regarding special populations - Decision Support Layers are truly our under-advertised trove of incredible supplemental data. That includes measures that cover elderly populations and disabled populations so you can use that and overlay that or look at that alongside the HPI map to provide additional context. Demographic data is coming from the Census. Cultural assets is a thing that we can include. We would be open to including more data like that as part of our Decision Support Layers or within the Index itself. We have had conversations with people regarding some of the issues raised by the Health Places Index. We cover 98 percent of the population in California and we modified some of our measures to perform better in rural areas.

Council Member Raynor asked if the organization relied on existing databases or do you also partner to do some of the research that would be needed? I am looking at the issue of inclusion of the arts as part of the Index.

Ms. Dowling explained that typically we are accessing primary data sources in which they are making the data available across the state of California and we may do some post processing. There are a number of indicators where we actually take a source data set that is very different from what you end up seeing on the map and we do the analysis and the processing that is necessary to get it there. In terms of doing primary survey data, that is not something that we have embarked upon but if there are data sets we can combine them. We can look at novel approaches in order to be able to provide that data. We are always open to discussion.

Council Member Raynor had a question related to mental health and loneliness. We also recognize that loneliness has become an international public-health crisis. How is that included or addressed? Is it addressed within the Index?

Ms. Dowling explained that with mental health along with many other health outcomes; we have 20 or 30 health outcome measures and are available in our Decision Support Layers. There is an empirical reason why we do not include mental health or any other health outcomes in the Healthy Places Index. One is that our focus is on place-based measures, so those upstream determinants of health not individual-level concerns. We use the Index to predict life expectancy which means that we actually cannot have health outcomes as one of the components of the Index because it is predicting itself. We do have a significant number of data layers available for mapping at the neighborhood level for health outcomes including mental health in our Decisions Support Layers.

9. Presentation: Poetry Out Loud Winner Recitation

Chair Montoya continued to Agenda Item 9, Poetry Out Loud Winner Recitation. Jonathan will introduce this Item.

Executive Director Moscone stated that Poetry Out Loud is an initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts and it is administered statewide by the CAC. It aims to develop high school student's public-speaking skills, help build the self-confidence and to educate about literary history and contemporary life. California's Poetry Out Loud is the largest event of its kind in the US with the greatest participation of students, teachers and schools. On March 19 our staff produced a live, virtual event hosted by California Poet Laureate Lee Herrick where the 10 finalists competed in the presence of our judges who included Council Member Nicola Miner and several artists recommended by Council Members Goodwin and Gavin. Our first partner, Jennifer Siebel Newsom, celebrated all the contestants via video and family members and teachers were able to watch the 10 finalists perform. The winner of that contest will go on to compete nationally in DC from May 8 to 10. That winner is Alex Yue from John F. Kennedy High School in Sacramento in Sacramento Valley.

[\(A video showing Mr. Yue reciting his poem was played\)](#)

Executive Director Moscone continued: We are also honored to show you a video of the poem written and performed by the winner of the Poetry Ourselves contest which is a competition for original work by Poetry Out Loud county champions. The winner of Poetry Ourselves is Olivia Le of Orange County.

[\(A video showing Ms. Le reciting her poem was played\)](#)

Executive Director Moscone thanked the presenters and all those involved in running the program and for putting on an extraordinary event.

10. Voting Item: [Programs Policy Committee Recommendations for 2023 Grant Guidelines](#), including presentation of [Equity Committee Memo](#)

Chair Montoya continued on to Agenda Item 10. We will be presenting the Programs Policy Committee Memo as well as the Equity Committee Memo. This will be followed by Public Comment and then we will have a motion to open the discussions.

Council Member Gavin started by announcing that she and Council Member Goodwin would go this section by section and I will start with an overview. This will help clarify and make it easier for the conversations. In our meeting today the Programs Policy Committee is presenting for a vote our suggested changes and our edited Application Guidelines for five different programs: General Operating Support, Impact Projects, State and Local Partners, State and Local Partners Mentorship, Folk and Traditional Arts, Administrating Organizations and Statewide and Regional Networks.

Our overview is that we are making recommendations for grant period lengths that are either one or two years for each program.

We are offering changes to grant amounts and in one instance we are raising the ceiling on the total organizational budget size to include more groups.

We are offering a recommendation on overhead and length of grant period for Folk Arts.

We have incorporated new language about people with disabilities including creatives, audience members, and collaborators - all of this into the Guidelines.

We have detailed new reporting requirements for SLPs and SRNs and supported the Equity Committee's work on promoting diversity with these groups.

We have reviewed each program's guidelines to be sure that they are now comports with the new changes.

We have done an extensive decision support tool that you can read and all of this interacts.

In summary, all of our work has been guided by one principle - to ensure that those artists and arts organizations which represent California's evolving culture can be healthier and more stable.

General Operating Support

Council Member Goodwin covered recommendations for General Operating Support. We are hoping that we can make things easier, accessible and intentional in our work.

Extend grant activity for two years.

Institute a three tier system prioritizing smallest organizations.

Organizations with revenue up to \$1.5 million eligible to apply.

Applicants with total revenue less than \$60,000 exempted from match requirement.

Program allocations anticipated to be 55 percent to smaller organizations.

Tier one would be organizations with total revenue up to \$250,000.

The middle tier would be organizations with total revenue from \$250,000 - \$1.0 million..

The third tier would be organizations with total revenue from \$1.0 - \$1.5 million.

Impact Projects

Maximum request amount \$25,000.

One year program.

State and Local Partnership Program

Maximum request amount \$75,000 which includes \$5,000 for Poetry Out Loud.

Allow flexibility with full-time equivalency staffing and maintaining office spaces.

Require statewide convening to deepen equity practices.

Use the Healthy Places Index to flesh out evaluation planning and CAC technical assistance.

State and Local Partnership Mentorship Program

Maximum request amount \$50,000 with up to 20 percent going to the mentee.

Grant activity period of one year with ability to re-apply for up to two years.

Folk and Traditional Arts Program

Grant activity period of two years.

Program design and implementation costs up to 30 percent.

Statewide and Regional Networks Program

SRNs must submit a report providing quantitative and qualitative data on artists and art organizations and the audiences served.

Equity Committee Report

Revision of language pertaining to “Centering Community Artists” inclusive of current language, Prop 209 and the Federal Equal Protection Clause.

Policy Committee consulted on equity language.

Healthy Places Index and other state agencies looked at to see allowable language.

Research utilized to help rename criteria to, “Centering Equity for an Inclusive Arts Landscape”.

Language submitted that inspires organizations to be clear and concise with their answers allowing them to be transparent and submitting specific information relating to centering community artists.

New language and old language was shown on the screen for reference.

Public Comment

Chair Montoya explained the purpose and prohibitions for making Public Comment at CAC meetings.

Director of Legislative Affairs Margolis explained the process and provided specific instructions.

Susie Tanner addressed the Council: I want to thank the Council for the work they are doing and thank Executive Director Moscone for the new tone that he has set; it is really welcoming. I am the Founder and Director of Theatre Workers Project. We are a longtime and very grateful grantee. I am disappointed that Re-Entry Through the Arts Grant Program has been diminished and put under the umbrella of Impact Grants. We were one of original Re-Entry Through the Arts grantees. We were one of the first to implement incentivizing the program. We have been able this year to serve 11 participants. If we had a \$20,000 Impact Grant we would not even be able to pay our artists. I encourage you to rethink Re-Entry Through the Arts for the next funding round.

This grant serves participants some of whom have been incarcerated for 30 years and have not had the opportunity to have an arts experience.

Chair Montoya recapped motion parameters and options for Agenda Item 10.

There are two paths pertaining to this conversation. This includes voting on the individual Guidelines. It also includes from the Programs Committee a recommendation on accessibility

application review criteria and we want to include that in the motion as well as recommendation from the Equity Committee.

So one option would be someone can make a motion to adopt all recommendations from both Committees as a means to open up conversation and then we will discuss it as a whole or if we do it individually we have to keep in mind if we do the individual grant programs first; we need to consider the other recommendations for the accessibility and the equity items.

So it is a little complex. I am leaning on the conversation as a whole and I will make sure we discuss each item and our staff is on standby to capture any amendments and restate those at the end. I leave it to the Council to make an opening motion.

Council Member Messina Captor commented: I really would like to do it on each individual thing. The Committee incorporated the checks and balances discussed and that was my big deal.

Chair Montoya stated that ideally we would make the motion and then have discussion. If we do it individually we should discuss the accessibility criteria and the equity criteria first otherwise if we move forward with the individual programs we would lock ourselves into the Guidelines and not be able to re-open them to make those additional adjustments. It would be very messy.

Council Member Goodwin echoed what Council Member Messina Captor stated because clarity in the minutes is important and these are three huge items. I think if we took them in a block of two it will give us more clarity. I could make the first motion if that would help move us along. Would you want a motion on the equity and accessibility language?

Chair Montoya acknowledged and said that we are discussing those two items, the accessibility recommendation and the equity. Council, do we have any comments, any questions, feedback?

Council Member Gavin asked if it would be good to read the accessibility language.

Executive Director Moscone read the recommended changes to the Council.

Executive Director Moscone read the Council instructions to applicants to include a line item in their budget tables to provide accommodations for persons with disabilities to access their programs and services including in-kind or partner support for the provisions of such accommodations and that this was a consideration and not necessarily a recommendation.

Council Member Gavin said that this was the last program the Committee considered and disability should be separated from the equity piece because it would be nice to put a minute or two into this last issue which is - should we have a line item in budgets? It is a major change in that we are asking people to identify the resources that they commit towards accessibility.

Perhaps we could have a friendly amendment to separate these for discussion. Discuss the disability and then vote on that and then discuss the equity and vote on it.

Chair Montoya suggested that we have to proceed with the motion as is but you can make a friendly amendment on any of the key elements. I did make a note that the last bullet is a consideration so that motion will have to be clarified from the amendment if we are adopting that recommendation.

Council Member Raynor opined that this is a really important and valuable change that we are proposing to go across all of our grants. It points to two things. We talk about accessibility to the arts in a number of different ways that reach all populations. This points to accessibility to a wide swath of people inclusive of disability. Accommodations is more on an individual level and how you plan to incorporate creatives with disabilities or audience members with disabilities on an individual level. I believe that unless we point in our budget that we expect people with disabilities to be participants or involved in a meaningful way in the projects and grants that we support; that is a critical recommendation and I hope that we make it , “should” not “may include’ , in your budget. You can make it a requirement. We know as a Council that it does take planning. I am also basing this on 20 years of experience of running the Arts and Accessibility Program and getting organizations that had very little resources to organizations that had millions of dollars asking for dollars to support accommodations. I think it should be the bread and butter of what we do.

Vice Chair Estrada was recognized and stated that I agree with Olivia on that last bullet. Anytime you have something that says, “may consider”, it is just wishy/washy. It does not really mean anything. I would rewrite that to say, “applicants should include a line item”, period. If they do not want to then they give us an explanation.

Chair Montoya commented that I wonder if you should recommend a starting point because some may not know how much to budget. Should the Council specify that applicants must include a starting resource of a certain amount to allocate to this?

Council Member Raynor replied that it really does depend on the size and the scope of the activities being planned so this is a little difficult to answer. At a minimum it should be somewhere around \$500 to \$1,000.

Chair Montoya added that when we specify the friendly amendment we have to make it clear what we are putting in those Guidelines.

Council Member Gavin announced that, I would like to add a friendly amendment to Leah’s motion that says, applicants should include a line item in their budget table to provide accommodations for persons with disabilities to access their programs and services including in-kind or partner support for the provision of such accommodations.

Council Member Goodwin suggested that it should say that the Council will add instructions to applicants that they should include this item. We should make it easy because it already is in.

Council Member Gavin stated that it is fine to do what Council Member Goodwin just said.

Chair Montoya said that we will go back to the original motion maker, do you accept the friendly amendment?

Council Member Goodwin stated - absolutely and yes.

Chair Montoya stated: Olivia was the first to make the motion.

Vice Chair Estrada said, I second it and I accept as well.

Chair Montoya continued: Do I have Olivia as the motion maker?

Council Member Gavin replied that no, Leah was the motion maker.

Council Member Goodwin reiterated, I was the motion maker.

Chair Montoya acknowledged, yes, then you accept the friendly amendment?

Council Member Goodwin stated yes and Vice Chair Estrada also accepted the friendly amendment.

Director of Program Services Azevedo clarified that three of the programs that are in Operating Support Programs would not have a budget table in them. For those programs they can absolutely within the accessibility and accommodations criteria describe those efforts. Those applications have a match table where they are describing the match source, the amount of match being provided and the status. So I am trying to clarify with Olivia - is the intention therefor that to be where they are capturing that in-kind or partner support for the accommodations?

Council Member Raynor explained that they currently do not provide to the Council a budget of their activities. Is that what you are saying?

Director of Program Services Azevedo reiterated that for the Operating Support grants they are not providing a budget table in their application. Now when they do their contracts the matched table is captured in those application documents. It is all of the things that might be supported by the General Operating Fund. Those applications provide their operation budget in the application that describes what they have been using the funds for. We will just have to figure out how to implement that particular change for the General Operating Support.

Chair Montoya moved on to the Equity Recommendation that is included in this motion.

Council Member Raynor asked about the application questions. I am having a little bit of a challenge understanding what the intent of question one is and the kind of responses that you expect from the applicants and how you would score it.

Council Member Clarke fielded this inquiry and stated that one of the things that we tried to do was to approach this in a way that we were not imposing certain ideas onto these organizations. We used the word, "inspire", and that was the idea of uplifting these organizations to give an

opportunity to tell us their story and how they are approaching these equity questions. As far as scoring - it is really a basis of them clearly, concisely explaining what they are doing in terms of equity and outreach.

Council Member Raynor was still puzzled by the first question. I have to give some thought to what I would actually, specifically recommend. I recognize that we want this to come from a good place within that organization and a deep recognition for what is going on in their communities or with the artists that they serve. I am just wondering - are you sort of asking for some kind of context? Is it what they know about their communities or in what ways have they served their communities or responded to issues or priorities; I do not know what vocabulary exactly to use. While I like the word, “inspired”, I might be thrown by it also in terms of what is it that you are asking me. Is it an ideal or is it a real activity or historical focus?

Council Member Clarke referred to question one and shared that it kind of connects what we are asking with each of these organizations. They are all mission statements on what are their goals? And how are they engaging with their communities? How are they serving their communities? That is the basis of the question. We are trying to get at how is equity part of what you do? The purpose of your organization and how are you engaging with these equitable practices?

Council Member Duarte added that some organizations would just jump to the questions because they are doing the heavy work. Other organizations might find it really hard to articulate what they are doing because that is not their focus. That is not their strength. And so we want to make sure that they are able to find inspirational language within the area that they are working in that could inspire them to push further into this equity mindset. Not everybody is into this hard work. It is hard to create this kind of equitable art organization. A lot of our organizations feel a burden when they have to fill this out. We want it to be very personal and honest. This is a working document and we are going to keep revisiting it. We are having discussions in ways to get more honest responses from these organizations.

Council Member Gavin was relieved that Prop 209 stripped out our equity language - things got simpler. I really love the new criteria description. I have the same concern that Olivia has with number one and also a question with number four. The way that we went about having conversations in one Committee meeting without a vote and then a sub-committee meeting that invited other Members of the Council to give input around our suggestions - I do not feel like we have had that conversation. I would really love to see an open Equity meeting where we can have a broad discussion about this because I feel really badly that LGBTQ, women, disabled, veterans - all of that has been stripped from all of our applications. It is heartbreaking to me. I am not sure it all should be because Prop 209 is particularly about race. There is so much more to explore here and so much more to talk about and get feedback about. We are talking about going back to the lawyers with another interpretation. It is like an othering language to say, what are you doing to build trust with “them” when you are them or what experiences inspired your organization to do this? In keeping that in mind we have to be careful that we are not insulting the people that have been doing this work for 20 and 30 years. They do not see themselves separate from the community; they feel themselves to be the community. I want to start challenging in the Arts Council the notion that we are going into communities trying to build trust, trying to reflect

them, giving them tools to transform their community - I just think some of that language does not feel right to me.

Council Member Clarke added that I read question four a little differently. If we take a Latinx dance troupe example; it does not mean that they encompass the entire community. We may want the dance organization to engage more than just the dancers in their community; they want to engage the entire community. And then we want communities to be involved with one another. This was language that was going to promote this idea of not creating these silos but where they would go out and interact with one another and address the diversity within their community.

Council Member Goodwin stated that I hope at our retreat we can pick this up. On number four if we just got rid of the word, “these”, because these is the othering, the colonial like, these are the people. Because it is these and them and the othering that I think Ellen is alluding to.

Council Member Clarke added that I do not see, “these” as an othering. It is referring to within the criteria going after and engaging with these under-served communities. I see it as a direction towards who it is that we are seeking to engage.

Council Member Duarte noted that these conversations need to happen in the retreat. Language continues to evolve. Underserved communities, kind of implies that we were left alone and not served but in reality we were placed in specific situations, strategically to create this level of inequality. It is based on white supremacy enable-ism. We really have to dig this stuff out in order to create the best language moving forward because language changes and evolves - it adapts new meaning.

Chair Montoya noted that we have an open motion at hand and this will help us to go forward with the individual guidelines. Are there any refinements to the Equity Recommendations?

Council Member Gavin noted that I was to suggest using the word, “to transform and express culture”, and Leah was referring to how do we look at those two, one and four, and Olivia had problems with it as well. We need to make the language a little more specific. Would the guys be open to having one more conversation about it? The staff has to incorporate this into the Application Guidelines.

Chair Montoya suggested it as a friendly amendment to refine the language before it is published within the Public Programs Committee because you are the last Committee to work on the Guidelines. If you work with staff to refine the language we can defer the finality.

Deputy Director Kiburi counseled that the issue that we are scheduled to have these Guidelines published so applications can come in April 11. That is when they have to go out the door and be finished.

Chair Montoya continued by saying if a friendly amendment were to include deferring to staff in consultation with the Programs Policy Committee to further refine the language and make sure it is alignment with Prop 209 might be useful.

Council Member Gavin added that I would want it to go back to Gerald and Caleb if possible.

Deputy Director Kiburi offered that today is the day. You are all here and it is an open public meeting. Maybe you can take a break and come up with a motion of what could be edited and everybody can agree on it today. That would be very helpful so we can move forward. The friendly amendment that I heard is some language tweaking. So maybe someone can take a moment to write down exactly what it is that you think would be better and it happen today.

Council Member Gavin stated that I feel it should have been a longer process. I do not want anyone to feel that they are getting railroaded. I am not comfortable with a few words.

Council Member Duarte stated that I am open to considering number four and then adding a few things in number one.

Council Member Goodwin asked if it was possible to have one member of the Policy Committee meet with one member of the Equity Committee and talk about language?

Executive Director Moscone stated that, no we cannot do that. What I am hearing is that, Caleb and Gerald, if they feel that they can make a couple of word changes and present it again; we can maybe vote on this today.

Chair Montoya shared that in order to proceed we would have to do that first before we vote on the individual items. We also have an Agenda that includes other discussions.

Deputy Director Kiburi counseled that my recommendation is that you go to question one, read it again and somebody make an amendment to edit and see if that works for everybody and the same thing for four and then you can vote.

Council Member Gavin referenced number one and stated that it is hard for an organization to have an experience and not a person. What if we say, what has inspired your organization to incorporate or evolve policies and programming that uses the arts as a tool to transform and/or express culture?

Council Member Clarke said, that is fine by me but I thought, “inspired”, was one of the issues.

Council Member Duarte stated that I think it still leaves a lot of room for each organization to really take the time to tell their story where they are coming from on that part.

Council Member Gavin continued to number four where Leah was suggesting to take out, “these communities”. Maybe there is a way to walk back by saying, “describe the actions you have taken to build trust in ongoing relationships with - is it something like, “the stated community”, or the - the way I would have transformed it would be to say, “your community” perhaps the “identified community”? It is a simple word change.

Council Member Duarte stated that this leads for a really rich conversation. Not all art is made to incorporate all people. I think that would be great. In the Latino community there is so many different faces and expressions and languages within our own communities.

Council Member Clarke stated that I guess I am fine with it but I do not see it as being that different from just, “these” to be quite honest with you. I do not see, “these” as an othering.

Executive Director Moscone attempted to move this item along. Gerald I hear is not against it and does not see quite the difference. And Caleb is okay with the change. It feels like this does not preclude us from going into a deep dive as we need to in the retreat. It gets us what we need to get done today.

Chair Montoya asked that the friendly amendment be recited.

Council Member Goodwin read the following into the record: The friendly amendment for the Equity is to change new application question number one to say, “What has inspired your organization to incorporate or evolve policy/programming that uses the arts as a tool to transform and/or express culture?” And to change item number four in the same application question segment to say, “Describe the actions you have taken to build trust in ongoing relationship with the identified communities, artists and cultural practitioners.”

Chair Montoya noted: And I hear Leah has accepted her own friendly amendment. Vicki, do you?

Vice Chair Estrada said, I will accept as well.

Chair Montoya continued: Let’s make sure on the first part - are we all clear on the first friendly amendment? Okay, I am seeing thumbs and heads. I will proceed. Kristin can you call for the vote?

MOTION: Council Member Goodwin moved to approve the Equity and Accessibility Language as presented by the Committee and as amended, seconded by Vice Chair Estrada.

VOTE: Yes: Chair Chelo Montoya, Vice Chair Vicki Estrada, Gerald Clarke, Caleb Duarte, Ellen Gavin, Leah Goodwin, Phil Mercado, Roxanne Messina Captor, Nicola Miner and Olivia Raynor.

No: None

Chair Montoya announced: We just advanced accessibility and equity in one fell swoop. Thank you all Council Members. Now we can open one motion, go through each item making the friendly amendments and then make one vote.

Discussion

Chair Montoya continued by stating: We can do as we did in this one - open one motion, go through each item making the friendly amendments, making sure they are clear at the end and then make one vote. Whoever wants to lead the motion, lead the way. Council Member Gavin moved this item, seconded by Vice Chair Estrada. As promised we will continue with the individual items. The Memo starts on page 36 and Arts and Cultural Organizations, General Operating Support, page 37 at the bottom. In gray there are recommended changes having to do with the tiered approach.

Council Member Messina Captor started by saying that I believe in the tiered system and I also believe in adding the two years. My concern on all of this is everything has been upped and all we are hearing is that our budget is going down. I want to know how we think we are going to get this money to up these grants.

Executive Director Moscone responded by saying, Let us be very clear, our baseline has not gone down. We had roll-over funds from previous years that made it appear that this is a decrease. When it was decided not to allocate to Cultural Pathways this year has provided impetus to be able to go into Gen Ops and Impact Projects. The money still does add up.

Council Member Raynor had a question for the Executive Director. When you say the money has not gone down, what fiscal year are you referring to?

Executive Director Moscone replied that if you looked at what we got last year, it is the same amount. We had roll-over funds from previous years that added on to it.

Deputy Director Kiburi pointed out that this current fiscal year still in 2022, the funding for our Local Assistance pot of money was exactly the same as previous years. We did not get an increase or a decrease. Last year was a combination of what we had for 2022 which had to be carried over from 2021 and even funds from 2020 were also included. We are expecting the baseline funding for 2023 will be the \$26 million dollars that we have been getting for the last four years.

Council Member Raynor added that I did want to say that based on this as well as other two-year proposals in the overall grants funding, this would lock 40 percent of our funding next year. And that may be good or it may not be good.

Council Member Clarke stated, I still have concerns. I see that the percentages of the tiers have changed since the last open Committee meeting. I see in the Decision to Support Tool on Tier 3, Equity Alignment, you identify as a Committee that it is going to harm - Will this action disadvantage small organizations - and it says, yes. In general the smallest organizations are going to have less funds to go after. I do not think we have to jump and support all three tiers this year. It could be that we change these percentages and we save consideration of Tier 3 to a future year. I still think our impact and our focus should be on those smaller organizations in Tier 1.

Chair Montoya advised that if you wanted to make a friendly amendment or if there is further discussion before that happens I am going to let Ellen respond.

Council Member Gavin said that I just want to remind people that it was not until three years ago that there was ever a cap of any kind and for almost 40 years the Organizational Support Program had no cap whatsoever. And that was done in relation to the pandemic and there was never a Decision Support Tool done to weigh the impact of how that would affect BIPOC and other diverse, midsize organizations. We also heard from a total of 46 different public testimonials. If we could strip everything away we would realize that these two programs that are direct to artists and art organizations should be our absolute priority. We should get to a point where we are not pitting small against middle against large particularly when it comes to diverse organizations. Both the one million dollars to the traditional arts is going to go to small organizations and artists of color and then they are still applying and getting 55 percent of the funds here. The big difference here is that we are going back to the midsize groups and picking them up again which they were funded for 40 years. And I think it should be even higher because I know organizations that are at 1.7, 1.8 and they are anchor institutions of color in the state. I hope people will hear that our anchor institutions are suffering.

Chair Montoya spoke in regards to a point made by Council Member Raynor. It is nice to have a two-year grant but my caution with this is if we commit to the second year are we then not offering it for two years? We will not have a big enough pot to continue these and then let new grants in next year. We only offer this once a year so if we do two years that commits us to that amount of money leaving very little resources for a new cohort of applicants.

Director of Program Services Azevedo stated that this is communicated in the Decision Support Tool that a grant activity period of two years would mean that this commitment has to be set aside for the future budget year to be able to fund that second year because the second year is contingent on the passage of the State Budget that year. In approving a two-year grant activity period the Council would have to ensure that that amount of funds is set aside for the second year for the awardees and that the program would not re-open again until the year after.

Chair Montoya added that the gap of not being able to re-enter for organizations that are just learning about the opportunity and they have to wait two years now. That is the area I caution you on.

Council Member Miner stated that one of the things that I like about the two-year approach is that it allows arts organizations to have some continuity and to be able to plan. In terms of the three tiers approach; after listening to all the different arts organizations I think it is a nice compromise over satisfying a larger group of arts organizations in California. I support the three-tiered approach.

Council Member Clarke mentioned that I too have heard the feedback from public comments in our meetings about the need to support the middle-tier and the upper-tier organizations but I also think sometimes those comments could be skewed because maybe the lower, smaller organizations do not have the time or the personnel to be able to chime in on some of those public comments. A lot of the feedback gets skewed towards those organizations who have

funding and who have staff. Again, I support the 30,000 but the impact of that money is going to be felt greater with these small organizations. I like the idea of the tiered system but I do not think we have to do it right now. I think we can gradually work our way into it without impacting these smaller organizations as much.

Executive Director Moscone was recognized and stated that there is one-to-one match as you go up the economic chain. That is important because it does waive the match requirement for organizations with less than 60,000. So there is a structural intentionality around that to help keep the barriers down so as the further up you go the chain the more committed you have to be to one-to-one match.

Council Member Raynor added that I also think that the way to think about a match is it is also a commitment to the project. Typically you are indicating what that match is going towards. I am on the fence about the Tier 3 organizations.

Council Member Clarke appreciated the waiving of the match for smaller organizations. He continued by saying that we will probably have an increase in applications from smaller organizations because that match has been waived. Limiting it to 55 percent of the program funding we might end up not being able to fund some of these smaller organizations.

Council Member Goodwin commented about the fact that knowing that Cultural Pathways has this year and then it is going off - the \$30,000 is what those organizations had and we do not want to leave them in the Never, Never Land as they move forward. However, we kept hearing that artist organizations need sustainability and security and that having two years of funding makes a world of difference in this post-Covid time. It would be amazing to have 65 percent organizations in the under \$250,000 category to consider. We are still looking for more data on all of that.

Chair Montoya stated that we have had a robust conversation and is there a friendly amendment that would like to be posed or do you want to move on as is?

Council Member Messina Captor stated that I move that we accept the recommendation of the Committee with no amendments.

Chair Montoya acknowledged by stating that there is a motion but we hear your endorsement.

Council Member Clarke said that I would offer that we drop Tier 3 and we change the percentages for Tier 1 and Tier 2 to say something like 35/25.

Council Member Gavin stated: I am not accepting that amendment. I feel we have taken a lot of consideration and we have had a lot of testimony and I would like to move the motion as it stands.

Chair Montoya continued by asking: Okay, can I clarify the motion maker?

Council Member Gavin asked: Didn't I make the motion?

Chair Montoya acknowledge by stating, Okay, just wanted to triple confirm. We have had a long day. So the friendly amendment was not accepted. Are there any other thoughts or friendly amendments?

Deputy Director Kiburi made a request: Could the friendly amendment just be stated one more time for the record?

Chair Montoya instructed the Council as follows: We are voting on the Arts and Culture Organization General Operating Support. I guess we are clarifying within the motion of the whole. So this is just capturing the friendly amendments and then we are going to call the vote at the end of the conversation. This is only to clarify the friendly amendments and if the motion maker and the seconder would accept. We are restating the friendly amendments.

Council Member Clarke stated that my friendly amendment was to delete Tier 3 and to change the percentages from Tier 1 and Tier 2 to 75 percent and 25 percent.

Chair Montoya asked: Ellen as the original motion maker would you accept the friendly amendment?

Council Member Gavin replied: No I don't.

Chair Montoya acknowledged: Okay, are there any other friendly amendments or if not we will move on to the next item. Are there any other friendly amendments?

Executive Director Moscone stated that I just want to clarify. We are sticking with the recommendation for two years, correct?

Chair Montoya answered that currently the recommendation has been discussed.

Executive Director Moscone replied that I wanted to confirm that we did not make that amendment.

Council Member Goodwin chimed in and said, Right - because that was the other thing that was discussed. And Madam Chair you were one of the people discussing committing this much money for two years. I do not know if there were people along with Gerald on that friendly amendment. Sometimes you take a poll on an amendment.

Chair Montoya replied that we can have further discussion. Is there further discussion on this item that we want to take the temperature or somebody wants to share their endorsement?

Council Member Duarte clarified and stated that the Tier 3, the matching funds; is that what the Council depends on to get the 10 million matching funds and that is why it is there?

Chair Montoya responded by saying, In part, yes.

Council Member Gavin requested that I would like us to move the question. I feel like we have so much more to cover and there have been endorsements. We have spent so much time on this and I feel that we have taken a lot into consideration. I would like to move the question to the Impact Grants.

Chair Montoya asked if there were any final comments on this item, on this program?

Council Member Clarke pointed out that it is also acknowledged in the Memo as well as the Decisions Support Tool that there is a limitation on these proposed changes because there was no robust or long-term data or analysis that was available in making these decisions. I agree with the need for additional staff to provide us with this data. But we are making this decision and we do not have a lot of deep data that we can rely to competently make this decision.

Chair Montoya stated that this is a very important point and we are at a crossroads because we have decisions to make. One variation could be, if a friendly amendment were to consider reducing even further Tier 3 and redistributing that to the other tiers. Otherwise, we would need to come up with a new strategy. Let's check the room on who is leaning towards Gerald's ideas toward eliminating the third tier.

Council Member Raynor commented that when we say, "anticipate at least 55 percent", so that is the low bar. I think ultimately it may make the allocations for the awards a little complicated only because we need to make sure that we are clear that these are not fixed bars.

Council Member Goodwin added, that is why they said, "anticipated". This is actually the third meeting that we have brought this in front of the Council.

Council Member Raynor said that I say all of this respectfully because I am trying to understand the commitments that we are making because they cascade.

Council Member Gavin agreed with Council Member Goodwin that, if there are so many more high-quality proposals from smaller groups - that the 55 was a low bar. So it could go up to 90. There was never any impact on the midsize organizations taken into account. It was never in the Decision Tool. We looked for it and there was not one. There was no data that supported shifting to a smaller organization. This is just a reset and even still it is a conservative reset because there never used to be a high top bar on organizational support grants - there was none for 40 years.

Council Member Raynor noted that I am going to need guidance. We are going to have to know how to interpret this in terms of scoring. You are going to hear later that we were down to decimal points in the scoring for some of our grantees.

Executive Director Moscone chimed in stating that I recommend that we move forward while we discuss that so that we can cover more of this ground.

Chair Montoya continued and noted that we definitely need to move forward. Does anybody else want to push forward with Council Member Clarke's recommendations and have further

discussion? Please say so now. I think that the smaller organizations are certainly a high priority and this is not the last time we will have this conversation.

Deputy Director Kiburi added that this is a point of order as you are asking for anyone's feedback - but anyone can also make another motion and that is still a possibility.

Chair Montoya responded in saying, but don't we have to vote this one down first before we move on.

Deputy Director Kiburi agreed and said, yes - exactly, correct.

Chair Montoya continued by saying, we are going to continue on. You have a last resort at the end of this one to vote it all down (collective laughter on several screens) so please bear with me all. I am going to move on to the next item, Impact Projects. Let's look at the recommendations on Impact Projects.

Impact Projects went from 20 to 25. Hearing no comments everyone seems to be ok it seems with the recommendations. Let's move on to the next one which is State and Local Partners (SLP). We have the recap here. It is 75 and thank you for the reminder and that is what we are correcting and voting on.

Council Member Clarke commented that I support the previous one. My only concern here is I have a little bit of concern about requiring the, "convening".

Council Member Gavin stated that it is number 3 and read the paragraph to the Council.

Council Member Raynor talked about the last bullet, Program Evaluation Outcomes and Metrics. How is that included within the Guidelines? Is that just for these guidelines or for all?

Council Member Gavin stated that all of these suggestions were in response to the idea that we wanted to know what the SLPs did and how they collected data, how they were responsive to the communities including the equity work. I think the last one was incorporated into the Guidelines but I cannot speak off the top of my head about it.

Director of Program Services Azevedo noted that this was just for the state and local partners. It is an update to the previous language around Outcomes and Evaluations to reflect the ongoing intention for this to be a collaborative process between the CAC and the state and local partners in committing to this ongoing evaluation, building outcomes, building metrics that really describes the ongoing partnership and helps to provide the Council as well as the public with that solid information about their impact to their communities.

Chair Montoya continued by saying that I want to bring back the conversation about renaming, reframing, rebranding the program. I do not have an answer or an amendment. We can put a pin it but let's work with them and make sure we clarify that this is a partnership with arts and culture organizations across California.

Council Member Raynor spoke about the renaming and saying that I really like what Chair Montoya suggested about using, “County Arts Agency Network Program or County Arts Agency Partner Program”. I want to keep it open to your previous recommendation for the naming.

Chair Montoya moved on to the State and Local Partner Mentorship Program.

Council Member Gavin stated that the only change here was for the recommendation of the Allocations Committee has gone from 40 to 50. We have added that we want to see up to 20 percent of the grant funds for the mentee.

Council Member Goodwin stated that we also added one additional grant. We decided to make it one year so that people could graduate into the state and local area whenever they are ready to.

Chair Montoya moved on to Grant Programs. We have the Folk and Traditional Arts Administrating Organization - any comments?

Council Member Raynor asked, how does this impact the current grantee? I was unclear when we were recommending change from one year to two years.

Council Member Gavin fielded this question by saying that with ACTA we went in thinking 20 percent in terms of the raise but then after talking with Amy we made it 10 and 20 for the next year. And it would turn into a two-year program and that was based on her desire but also on the desire that we have heard repeatedly from the field and from political representatives that people want the stability of multi-year funding.

Council Member Goodwin stated that this will not affect her this year. This will give her the opportunity to apply for next year.

Chair Montoya wondered if this breakdown is so specific to ACTA when it is re-offered other organizations may apply. So I want to make sure that we are mindful and not backing in specific details. I was only anticipating the administrative costs be called out but this gets into very specific other areas.

Council Member Gavin noted that Chelo when you sent us over to talk with Amy with the proviso that this was probably the highest level of expertise and we found that to be true when we talked to her about what it required to really reach out to traditional artists for the entire state. I would maintain that that is probably also replicable with artists with disabilities and maybe a few other very specific cohorts that are required such expertise. I do think it is not an AO recommendation across the board. We did want to take into account that she had already been approved for 30 percent, 23 percent that is staff that are artists that work with ACTA that are out in the field. It is a bit of a hybrid but there are some specific cohorts that it could be replicable for.

Chair Montoya wanted to know if the specific items were in the Guidelines?

Chair Montoya stated that I do not know if we need to be so specific but I appreciate that the 20 percent is called out. I do not want to back ACTA and any other organization that may apply into this dynamic if that is very ACTA specific. It should be very flexible. I would prefer it be very flexible because there is often innovation and shifting resources when you have the power to do that. I would lean on more flexibility but I do not have a specific recommendation yet.

Council Member Raynor added that I think a lot of this discussion came out of previous requirements for AOs such as the Arts and Accessibility Grant. As a re-granting program it looked like the way it was framed from the Council is that you were a passed-through organization and that money came to you and your job was to get it out. Having a minimum bar or an acceptable bar being at 20 percent to acknowledge the technical assistance and staff time that it takes to run a re-granting program was a really important variable and particularly around technical assistance for typically under-resourced communities.

Council Member Goodwin commented that particularly in the folk and traditional arts area where you are talking about going to the reservation and talking to the culture bearers who are people that are not going to jump on technology and apply for funds. Even a different AO would have to have offices in at least three or four parts of the state because it is a statewide program. This shows that we are aware of the human potential and needs in facilitating a program of this size.

Executive Director Moscone noted that the language that I see in the recommended changes has the words, “up to 30 percent”, and - up to - might that provide the flexibility that you are wishing is in there?

Chair Montoya responded that, absolutely - yes, thanks for calling it out. Seeing no other comments I will move on to the other item and then we will call for one last commentary to make sure that we have all the details and then we will vote. We are on Statewide Regional Networks.

Council Member Gavin stated that the only change to that is that we added the last line which says that they must submit a report providing qualitative and quantitative data on artists and artist organizations and audiences served.

Chair Montoya asked for additional comments and received none. I want to applaud the Committee for all of the work they have done on this. I would like Jonathan to read us any amendments that he has.

Executive Director Moscone read the amendment for the State and Local Partners that stated that the maximum request amount goes from 71,500 to 75,000. I see no other amendments.

Chair Montoya stated that we are voting for all of the recommendations for each individual program with the friendly amendment that Jon recited.

Deputy Director Kiburi clarified in saying, so Chelo you are saying that the changes to the Equity and the Accessibility are all included in this vote?

Chair Montoya answered that - No, we passed them separately. That was the first motion and we voted.

Council Member Raynor reminded that I do not know if it is added into the motion but we are now committing ourselves, assuming level funding, to 40 percent of our dollars for next year. I want people to know that that is front and center. I want people to be aware that we have made that commitment, assuming level funding.

Chair Montoya thanked Council member Raynor and asked for any final comments or amendments? Seeing none I want to triple confirm that the friendly amendments have been fully accepted now that they have been recited. Council Member Goodwin and Vice Chair Estrada agreed to the amendments and called for a vote.

MOTION: Council Member Gavin moved for approval of the Recommendations of the Program Policy Committee Recommendations as outlined by the Memo and the changes in the Application Guidelines that correspond to that Memo, seconded by Vice Chair Estrada.

VOTE: Yes: Chair Chelo Montoya, Vice Chair Vicki Estrada, Ellen Gavin, Olivia Raynor, Leah Goodwin, Caleb Duarte, Phil Mercado, Olivia Miner, Roxanne Messina Captor

No: Gerald Clarke

The motion was approved.

11. Grantee Presentation: Eugene Rodriguez, Executive Director of Los Cenzontles

Executive Director Moscone introduced Eugene Rodriguez, Executive Director of Los Cenzontles. Eugene has played a pioneering role in raising awareness and value for a participatory Mexican folk music in California and has innovated adaptations of traditional pedagogy to suit contemporary urban contexts.

Executive Director Rodriguez expounded on Los Cenzontles, their history, their mission, their accomplishments and their aspirations. An original guitar composition was sung for the Council and very well received.

12. Voting Item: Allocations Committee Recommendations for 2022 Cycle 2 Grantees

Chair Montoya thanked the presenter and moved on to Item 12. Vice Chair Estrada and Council Member Raynor presented this item to the Council.

Council Member Raynor acknowledged the quality of the grants as really notable. We had to go down to decimal points to make the awards that we have. The Allocations Committee has three

recommendations to put forth to the Council for the award of the 2022 Grant Programs for a total of \$2,840,831. The programs are:

Creative Youth Development (CYD) Program.

The Administering Organizations for individual Fellowship Programs.

CYD was one of five grants funded in 2022.

We were able with remaining funds to re-open for a second round of applications with a total allocation of \$1,764,475 in funds.

We are recommending the award of 42 applicants ranked at 5.5 and above at 100 percent and 3 applicants ranked at 5.4 percent at 90 percent.

Chair Montoya asked the Committee to present the full memo, then we open public comment on the voting item and then the motion to discuss.

Vice Chair Estrada stated that the second part is the Individual Artist Fellowships (IAF) in Region 4.

We voted in 2023 to re-allocate the unencumbered funds from 2022 Arts and Accessibility to the Individual Artist Fellowship grantees to support artist fellows with disabilities at \$125,000 for IAF and AO.

We recommend approving the highest ranked applicant at 100 percent of the requested amount of \$800,000 plus \$125,000 from Arts and Accessibility for a total award of \$925,000. This is for one applicant, Youth Speaks out of San Francisco.

Next is Cultural Pathways - Technical Assistance (CPTA) Awards.

Council voted in October of 2022 to re-open the program.

One organization will be providing technical assistance and capacity building to support the current 78 Cultural Pathways grantees.

The Committee recommends funding the highest ranked applicant at 100 percent which is \$150,000 which is World Trust Educational out of Alameda.

This concludes our presentation.

Public Comment

Chair Montoya explained the purpose and prohibitions for making Public Comment at CAC meetings. Director of Legislative Affairs Margolis explained the process and provided specific instructions.

David Mack, Executive Director of Artists Magnet Justice Alliance addressed the Council. We are one of the recommended applicants for the CYD, Creative Youth Development program. I wanted to express much gratitude for opening up this cycle. This came at a wonderful time for us. We support black and brown youth through dance programming. This will be transformational for the careers of the leaders involved in this project.

Andrea Zacalario, Director of Dance Arts Community Projects presented to the Council. We are a very new organization and this was the first grant we have applied for. We are starting to grow quickly here in Marin County in the Canal District in San Rafael and in Marin City. Thanks for having us here today.

Chair Montoya stated that we are going to have a conflict-of-interest question for each Council Member so that anybody who feels in conflict can recuse themselves. I want to call for the motion first that will be either discussing them as a whole and voting as a whole or voting as a whole or opening up the first one and going one-by-one. I will ask the Council to make the first motion.

Director of Legislative Affairs Margolis read the Conflicts of Interest Statement to the Council followed by an individual vote by Members. No Council Members recused themselves from the vote.

MOTION: Vice Chair Estrada moved to approve all three of the Allocations Committee Recommendations for 2023, seconded by Council Member Raynor.

VOTE: Yes: Chair Chelo Montoya, Vice Chair Vicki Estrada, Gerald Clarke, Caleb Duarte, Ellen Gavin, Leah Goodwin, Phil Mercado, Roxanne Messina Captor and Olivia Raynor

No: None

The motion was approved.

Discussion

Individual Artist Fellowship, Region 4

Council Member Clarke commented that there were a total of 302 applicants and the recommendation is to fund 45 of them. Is that correct?

Vice Chair Estrada responded that it was correct.

Director of Program Services Azevedo noted that it was for Creative Youth Development not for Individual Artist Fellowships, Region 4.

Council Member Gavin noticed that Youth Speaks and The Magic Theatre were neck and neck in terms of scoring. I was wondering what the process was in terms of making the decision when you have it so close.

Executive Director Moscone mentioned that this is an awardee for one. It is only one applicant. If it were two the Allocations Committee might have come with a different recommendation.

Director of Program Services Azevedo stated since there was only one awardee that could be awarded for the Region 4, we had to go with the highest ranking and that is why you see the decimal points represented here. Past programs and past practices have been looking at the final ranks. As it was so close we had to go to the not-rounded, final rank to be able to determine which one was the highest ranking. That is what you see represented here.

Council Member Raynor mentioned that when we have a situation such as this one - how do we build in some discretion on the part of the Council to revisit the scoring and add other criteria that we may or may not think is critical for our selection? There have been a number of issues that have come up that speak to geography, that speak to communities et cetera that we may want to have another layer because that is true of other councils where the panelists serve as the strongest advisers and you want to go with their recommendation but then maybe other considerations that are equally compelling to meet the goals and aims of the art work exist.

Administering Organization, Region 4

Council Member Goodwin commented that she echoed Council Member Raynor on this. I am also looking at the fact that there were the other four administrating organizations that got \$125,000 each. Was there a way to consider splitting it between the two?

Director of Program Services Azevedo clarified that there are two different pots of money going into this grant award. There is the original individual artist fellowships amount that was allocated for Region 4 which was \$800,000 that had not been awarded in October because there was not an eligible applicant for that Region at that time. Council voted at that time to re-open those applications. In the meantime there was a whole conversation that happened around re-allocating the Arts and Accessibility funds which is the \$500,000 for the 2022 Arts and Accessibility that was not awarded last year and Council voted at the February meeting to re-allocate that \$500,000 by breaking it up evenly across these four regions for individual artist fellowships with each of those regional grantees receiving \$125,000 of that original \$500,000 which means that for this motion, Region 4 is awarding them that \$800,000 for the Individual Artist Fellowships, Region 4 plus the \$125,000 re-allocated from Arts and Accessibility to this Region. So that is where you see the total amount at 925.

The other three have already been adjudicated. They have already been awarded. They are already in the process of those awards being paid out and this was the extra that went to them. They are also getting whatever amount was awarded in the original Individual Artist Fellowships. Now those first three are getting amended to add the additional \$125,000 and then we are awarding for this last one.

Chair Montoya asked for any further questions on Administrating Organization for Region 4 and she received no more questions on this.

Cultural Pathways/Technical Assistance

Chair Montoya asked for questions regarding Cultural Pathways/Technical Assistance allocations and received none.

Council Member Raynor stated that we did not need to clarify Creative Youth Development if there are any.

Creative Youth Development (CYD)

Chair Montoya replied that we had some conversation we started with but that was because it was miss-ordered in the Agenda. The way the Memo is written it starts with that so we can go back to that and make sure there are no other comments. Are there any other comments on this? She received no further comments on this and called for the question.

13. Committee Updates:

Governance Committee

Council Member Messina Captor reported that we did meet and Council Member Duarte was with us. Basically we are looking at and reviewing and revising the Council's Handbook. This had not been done since 2021. In addition to the timely updates to the Handbook our Committee is also envisioning a streamlined Handbook that is shorter and more direct. It will still contain critical information such as the dos and don'ts of being a Council Member including details on the Bagley-Keene Act and meeting guidelines et cetera. We did talk about the process on the Agenda of maybe moving some of more significant voting items to the front and moving the Public Comment toward the back to keep things moving. The Handbook also includes the CAC's Decision Support Tool as well as Council Member's responsibilities in onboarding resources. A major focus is to help streamline information presented in the Handbook so that the content is simplified and how it is presented. It will deal with the content of Council meetings including the suggestions that each meeting include a presentation by current or past CAC grantees. We are hoping that we can have this work completed by the retreat.

Discussion

Vice Chair Estrada asked about Public Comment. To clarify, you are saying moving the Public Comment to the back - you want to move typically Item 3 and Item 4, you want to move them towards the end of the meeting. Is that what you said?

Council Member Messina Captor replied that this is correct. This is so we deal with the voting items first and then the Public Comment after we do the voting items.

Vice Chair Estrada stated that I am not quite sure how that would speed things up, but okay. I guess it would speed things up if we have too many speakers and the end they can go over because I guess that is your intent.

Council Member Messina Captor replied that I think it was more the idea that when everybody is fresh and present and we have not lost any Members; we do the voting items first and then we hear the Public Comment.

Vice Chair Estrada continued by asking that we will still have time to discuss this at the next meeting - yes?

Chair Montoya chimed in and said that this is not really a discussion item but they are sharing some of the projects they are working on.

Council Member Gavin mentioned that we did just change that. It was Vice Chair Estrada's recommendation that we have Public Comment before every vote so that we would get input. It just changed one year ago.

Council Member Messina Captor acknowledged and said that was one of the things we came up with was - it is an experiment that we have been doing now and is it working? It has to be evaluated.

Council Member Gavin continued, and there was a memo that Lilia had clarified from the legislature which was the role of the Arts Council in relation to the staff and in relation to creating policy and I have been asking for that to be shared with new Council Members. I think Executive Director Moscone has gotten clarification of it. I would really like to see the memo that describes how we are legislatively mandated and if it has been amended or it is the same. That would really help to clarify the Council's role as people come on new.

Executive Director Moscone announced that we intend to present that as part of The Reader which is the broader book of information that you are going to get at the retreat which is what is called, "The Enabling Legislation."

Chair Montoya added that it is fine to share it since it has been requested. It will be included in The Reader as well. I will now move to the Strategic Framework Committee Report.

Strategic Framework Committee

Deputy Director Kiburi reported that there has been a lot movement and we now have a new staff person that has gone through the Strategic Framework and has taken the good work done by the Committee and has started to write all of the draft objectives for each of the aspirations in the Strategic Framework. There has not been a meeting yet but we are scheduling a meeting for next week and we will be bringing everybody together to talk about those objectives that have been drafted so far to make sure that we are on the right track and it reflects what the Committee wants. The intention is to have those all completed by the time of the retreat.

Chair Montoya stated that I have been working with ExCom and staff to develop Chair's Committee Priorities and I wanted to wait until this meeting to release it. It includes some of the things that you have already accomplished but also some of the goals that have carried over from my time on the Council that I want to make sure are recorded as interest areas of priorities. However, I also want your committees to be able to be innovative and think of other things that might be exciting to pursue. Let me know if there are other priorities that surface so that we are on the page and that we are all doing the work in the strategic way we can for efficiency. Thank you for all the deep work and for this amazing conversation today.

Executive Director Moscone added that I want to acknowledge the staff for not just the number of hours but the quality of thinking that they have done to support this which was the culmination of three months of meetings. You are working better as a Council because of the staff. I want to uplift this staff and I hope you can all join me in uplifting them and celebrating them right now. (On screen applause in unison)

Chair Montoya said, Yes, echoing, echoing, echoing. Thank you for reminding us this is service. We are all doing service and it is the *we* the *why*, the *who* and the *how*.

Deputy Director Kiburi continued by saying, I just want to thank you, Jonathan, for sharing that and I know that everyone appreciates it. We are all hearing the same sentiment that this Council, the composition of all of you is so motivated and so engaged and even though it is a little challenging when we are getting down to the nitty gritty and the timeline is running out; we love working with you and knowing that you are engaged. We really want to give back that gratitude that we get to work with such motivated and very committed people. On behalf of the staff I want to say that as well.

Chair Montoya continued by announcing, I am going to hand it over to our Vice Chair, Vicki Estrada.

14. In Memoriam

Vice-Chair Estrada presented the following:

A poem entitled, *Do Not Stand at my Grave and Weep*, by Clare Horner was read.

Lance Reddick was an actor and he died on March 17.

Wayne Shorter was an incredible musician and he died at 89 years old. Jazz, Hard Bop and Rock Fusion, he did a lot of things for jazz and brought the different genres together.

Ted Sizemore you have seen on TV, all the Way from *Saving Private Ryan* to *Natural Born Killers*. He was only 61. He died on March 3.

Robert Blake you will remember from Berretta. He died this year as well. He was quite an actor.

Peter Werner was a director who won an Oscar for Best Live Action Short as a Film Institute student and he went on to work on a number of TV series. He died on March 21.

Norman Steinberg was a screenwriter. He worked on films like *Blazing Saddles*, *My Favorite Year* and *Johnny Dangerously*. He died March 15.

Ted Donaldson was a former child actor and he starred in *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn*. Lately he had been teaching classes out of a book store in Hollywood on how to act. He died on March 1 at 81 years old.

Another musician, Carl Saunders, a very legendary jazz trumpeter. He went to different colleges teaching musicians how to perform jazz correctly.

Walter Mirisoh was a producer and lived to 101 years old. He did a lot of classics like *Some Like It Hot*, *Westside Story* and *In the Heat of the Night*. He was important to Hollywood.

Jackson Browne used to have an instrumentalist that played with him named David Lindley. He was quite a musician and a very important part of Jackson Browne's sound. We lost him on March 3 at the age of 78.

Council Member Gavin presented the following:

Robert Henry Johnson is a really big loss to the Bay Area. He was a dance room playwright who mixed movement style/literary influences with equal fluidity. He was one of the first students to graduate from the San Francisco School of the Performing Arts and he attended the San Francisco Ballet School on a full scholarship. He created works for the Oakland Ballet, the Bavarian State Opera Ballet, Oregon Valley Theatre and others. This a serious blow to the San Francisco dance community. He was well loved and respected. He died extremely young.

Council Member Raynor presented the following:

Judith Heumann is on the screen. The history of the disability rights movement began here in California in the late 1960s and early 1970s. Judy Heumann is an internationally recognized disability advocate. She served in the Clinton and Obama Administrations and was a Senior Fellow at the Ford Foundation. She went to Crip Camp in her late teens or early twenties and it was a playground for future leaders of the disability rights movement. Many of the leaders came from that early camp experience. Her friendship, leadership and mentorship is going to be missed by many.

Executive Director Moscone stated he knew Lance Reddick and they went to graduate school together. Graduate school is the most competitive place you can be. Everyone wanted everyone else to fail because that is the only way you succeed. Lance was probably the only person who was not like that. He was generous. He was a beautiful human being, generous to a fault. This just breaks my heart.

15. Adjournment

Chair Montoya adjourned the meeting at 2:32 p.m.