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**STAFF REPORT**

REPORT to the MAYOR and MEMBERS of the CITY COUNCIL  
From the CITY MANAGER

DATE: September 28, 2021

SUBJECT: Introduction and First Reading of an Ordinance Creating a New Chapter 2.87 of the La Mesa Municipal Code to Establish the Arts and Culture Commission

ISSUING DEPARTMENT: Community Services Department

SUMMARY:

Issue:

Should the City Council introduce the First Reading of a new Chapter 2.87 of the La Mesa Municipal Code to establish the Arts and Culture Commission?

Recommendations:

Introduce the First Reading of a new Chapter 2.87 of the La Mesa Municipal Code to establish the Arts and Culture Commission.

Fiscal Impact:

There is no fiscal impact associated with the staff recommendation. Members of the Arts and Culture Commission serve without compensation.

City's Strategic Goals:

- Enhance recreation and quality of life opportunities.
- Revitalize neighborhoods and corridors.

BACKGROUND:

At the July 27, 2021 Council meeting, Council directed staff to draft a recommendation for the creation of an Arts and Culture Commission with the consultation of Mayor Arapostathis and Vice Mayor Shu and bring the recommendation to Council for consideration. On August 24, 2021, Staff met with Mayor Arapostathis and Vice Mayor Shu to present a draft ordinance

adding a new Chapter 2.87 to the La Mesa Municipal Code establishing the Arts and Culture Commission. At the meeting, edits were made to the ordinance based on feedback from Mayor Arapostathis and Vice Mayor Shu and the draft ordinance was finalized.

DISCUSSION:

The purpose of the Arts and Culture Commission (Commission) is to promote the arts, along with the historical, aesthetic, and cultural aspects of the community by using the arts as a mechanism to promote diversity, equity, and inclusion. The Commission shall have the following duties and functions:

1. Serve in an advisory capacity to the City Council on policies relating to public art;
2. Promote, encourage and increase support for the arts;
3. Make recommendations on new ways to integrate arts and culture into community life;
4. Plan, participate in, and/or help sponsor events showcasing art throughout the City;
5. Consult and work with community organizations to coordinate activities of the Commission.

The Commission shall consist of seven appointed members as follows: two members to be art educators (one kindergarten through 8th grade, one 9th grade through college); one member to represent the visual arts; one member to represent the performing arts; one member to represent the musical arts; and two members to be at large. If the appointments cannot be made and vacancies occur, the remaining vacancies may be appointed at large. All seven members shall be resident electors of the City or be employed at a place of business in the City with a direct relationship to the Commission membership categories listed above, or serve in a volunteer capacity at a non-profit organization in the City with a direct relationship to the Commission membership categories listed above. The Commission is proposed to meet at least four times per year. The Commission will have the responsibility of electing one of its members as a Chairperson and one as a Vice Chair in January of each year.

The City Manager has assigned the Community Services Department to provide administrative and clerical support to the Commission. The draft ordinance is attached to this report as Attachment A for reference.

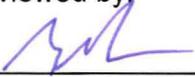
CONCLUSION:

Staff recommends City Council introduce the First Reading of an ordinance creating a new chapter 2.87 of the La Mesa Municipal Code to establish the Arts and Culture Commission.

If approved, the ordinance would be scheduled for the October 12<sup>th</sup> Council meeting for Second Reading and adoption.

Report to Mayor and Council Members  
Date: September 28, 2021  
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Reviewed by:



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Greg Humora  
City Manager

Respectfully submitted by:



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Carlo Tomaino  
Assistant City Manager



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Susan Richardson  
Community Services Director

Attachment A: Draft Ordinance

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-\_\_\_\_\_

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LA MESA  
ADOPTING A NEW CHAPTER 2.87 OF THE LA MESA MUNICIPAL CODE TO  
ESTABLISH THE ARTS AND CULTURE COMMISSION

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THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LA MESA DOES ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1: A new Chapter 2.87 is hereby added to the La Mesa Municipal Code to read as follows:

“Chapter 2.87

ARTS AND CULTURE COMMISSION

- 2.87.010 Creation – Members – Vote
- 2.87.020 Appointment
- 2.87.030 Terms of office
- 2.87.040 Filling vacancies
- 2.87.050 Administrative services
- 2.87.060 Resignation and removal of members
- 2.87.070 Mission, duties, and functions
- 2.87.080 Compensation
- 2.87.090 Meetings
- 2.87.100 Election of Chairperson
- 2.87.110 Decorum at Meetings

2.87.010 Creation--Members--Vote.

There is hereby created the Arts and Culture Commission (“Commission”) of the City of La Mesa. The Commission shall consist of seven appointed members as follows: two members to be art educators (one kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grade, one 9<sup>th</sup> grade through college); one member to represent the visual arts; one member to represent the performing arts; one member to represent the musical arts; and two members to be at large.

If these particular appointments cannot be made and consequently vacancies occur, the remaining vacancies may be appointed at large. All seven members shall be resident electors of the City or be employed at a place of business in the City with a direct relationship to the Commission membership categories listed above, or serve in a volunteer capacity at a non-profit organization in the City with a direct relationship to the Commission membership categories listed above. Each member is entitled to vote on matters before the Commission.

2.87.020 Appointment.

The Mayor shall appoint all members of the Commission with approval of the City Council.

2.87.030 Terms of office.

The term of office for each appointed member shall be four years which shall commence on July 1 and terminate on June 30 four years thereafter or when the successor is appointed. Members' terms shall be maintained so that not more than three terms expire in any given year; therefore, initially two members shall be appointed for a two-year term, two members shall be appointed for a three-year term, and three members shall be appointed for a four-year term.

2.87.040 Filling vacancies.

Each vacancy on the Commission shall be filled for the unexpired portion of the term vacated in the manner set forth in Section 2.87.020.

2.87.050 Administrative services.

The City Manager shall designate the department to provide clerical and administrative services as required.

2.87.060 Resignation and removal of members.

Three consecutive absences shall constitute resignation of the member unless permission is secured before the third meeting or absence granted by the vote of not less than four members of the Commission. If a member seeks to resign before their term has ended, the member shall submit a written notice to the City Clerk. Commission members shall serve at the pleasure of the City Council and may be removed at the discretion of the City Council by a majority vote.

2.87.070 Mission, duties and functions.

(a) The mission of the Arts and Culture Commission is to promote the arts, along with the historical, aesthetic, and cultural aspects of the community by using the arts as a mechanism to promote diversity, equity, and inclusion.

(b) The commission shall have the following duties and functions:

- (1) Serve in an advisory capacity to the City Council on policies relating to public art;
- (2) Promote, encourage and increase support for the arts;
- (3) Make recommendations on new ways to integrate arts and culture into community life;
- (4) Plan, participate in, and/or help sponsor events showcasing art throughout the City;
- (5) Consult and work with community organizations to coordinate activities of the Commission.

2.87.080 Compensation.

Members of the Arts and Culture Commission shall serve without compensation, provided that the City Council may authorize reimbursement of reasonable expenses incurred by the members in the performance of their duties.

2.87.090 Meetings.

The Commission shall meet at least four times per year and shall adopt by majority vote such rules as it shall deem expedient for the conduct of business not contrary to other provisions and policies heretofore adopted by the City Council.

2.87.100 Election of Chairperson.

The Commission shall, in January of each year, elect one of its members as Chairperson and one of its members as Vice Chairperson. Each elected member shall hold office for one year. The Chairperson and the Vice Chairperson shall not serve for more than two successive terms.

2.87.110 Decorum at Meetings.

Decorum at meetings shall be in accordance with Sections 2.08.350 through Section 2.08.380 of the La Mesa Municipal Code.”

SECTION 2: This Ordinance shall be effective 30 days after its adoption and the City Clerk shall certify to the adoption of this Ordinance. The City Clerk is hereby authorized to use summary publication procedures pursuant to Government Code Section 36933 utilizing a newspaper of general circulation published in the City of La Mesa.

INTRODUCED AND FIRST READ at a Regular meeting of the City Council of the City of La Mesa, California, held the 28th day of September 2021 and thereafter PASSED AND ADOPTED at a Regular meeting of said City Council held the 12<sup>th</sup> day of October 2021, by the following vote, to wit:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
MARK ARAPOSTATHIS, Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
MEGAN WIEGELMAN, CMC, City Clerk

CERTIFICATE OF CITY CLERK

I, MEGAN WIEGELMAN, City Clerk of the City of La Mesa, California, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of Ordinance No. 2021-\_\_\_\_, duly passed and adopted by the City Council of said City on the date and by the vote therein recited and that the same has been duly published according to law.

MEGAN WIEGELMAN, CMC, City Clerk

(SEAL OF CITY)

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