



## Culture, Arts and Heritage Commission Meeting Agenda

October 9, 2025  
12:00 PM

### City Hall

Aspen Room, 1st Floor  
415 W. 6th St  
Vancouver, WA 98660

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1. **Call to Order and Roll Call**
2. **Approval of Minutes**
  - a. August 14, 2025
3. **Action Items**
  - a. New Member Appointment
  - b. Vancouver Cultural Access Program Name
4. **Workshop**
  - a. Vancouver Cultural Access Program Workplan
5. **Community Forum**

To provide public testimony, please see instructions below.
6. **Commission and Staff Reports**
  - a. Cultural Services Manager
  - b. Commission President
  - c. Clark County Art Commission
7. **Open Discussion & New Business**

## Culture, Arts and Heritage Commission

### MEMBERS

Brad Richardson, *President*

Linda Reid, *Vice President*

Lee Rafferty  
Rebekah Percival  
Ricky Gaspar  
Rosalinda Mendoza  
Michelle Tan  
Shon-Lueiss Harris  
Russell Ford, CACC

### Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services

415 W. 6<sup>th</sup> Street  
Vancouver, WA 98660  
TTY: 711  
[www.cityofvancouver.us](http://www.cityofvancouver.us)

## 8. Next Meeting - November 13, 2025

Cultural Access Program Grants, VAMF Report and 2026 Preview, America 250

## 9. Between Now & Then

Volunteer for Dia de Muertos event

## Adjournment

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### Community Forum Instructions

Time is reserved at each Commission meeting for Community Communications. During this time, the public may speak on any issue. Each speaker will have three minutes to address the Commission. Community members who wish to submit detailed testimony that may exceed three minutes of speaking time are encouraged to email their comments so they can be included with the meeting materials.

Community Communications participants are encouraged to pre-register by email at [kirsten.hull@cityofvancouver.us](mailto:kirsten.hull@cityofvancouver.us) or by phone at 1-360-487-8307, but may comment during this period without pre-registration; options for Community Communications are:

1. In Writing: Public comments can be submitted in writing via email to [kirsten.hull@cityofvancouver.us](mailto:kirsten.hull@cityofvancouver.us) by 5pm the day before the meeting.
2. Remotely: attend the Microsoft Teams meeting online; be prepared to speak online during the Commission meeting at the time of Community Communications.
3. In Person: Fill out a Public Comment form in person prior to the start of the Community Communications portion of the meeting.

City Hall is served by C-TRAN. Route information and schedules are available online at [www.c-tran.com](http://www.c-tran.com). You also may reach C-TRAN at (360) 695-0123 for more information on times, fares, and routes.

Anyone needing language interpretation services or accommodations with a disability at a Vancouver City Council meeting may contact the City Manager's staff at (360) 487-8600 (RELAY: 711). Assistive listening devices and live Closed Captioning are available for the deaf, hard of hearing and general public use. Please notify a staff person if you wish to use one of the devices. Every attempt at reasonable accommodation will be made. To request this agenda in another format, please also contact the phone numbers listed above.

## Meeting Minutes

Thursday, August 14, 2025

12 p.m.

Vancouver City Hall

Aspen Room

415 W. 6th Street

Vancouver, WA

### Commissioners Present:

Richardson, Reid, Gaspar, Ford, Mendoza, Harris and Tan

### Commissioners Absent:

Percival and Rafferty

### Item 1: Call to Order

President Richardson called the August 14, 2025, special meeting of the Culture, Arts & Heritage Commission to order at 12:03 p.m. The Commission met in Aspen Room at Vancouver City Hall and via Microsoft Teams.

### Item 2: Approval of Minutes

**Motion** by Reid, seconded by Gaspar, and approved unanimously to adopt the minutes from June 12, 2025.

### Item 3: Community Forum

None presented.

### Item 4: Workshops

#### a. Performing Arts Center Update

Tan presented updates from the Performing Arts Stakeholder Group. The group has been tasked with reviewing the various feasibility studies for the project and advising on AMS Planning's analysis of a potential mid-sized multipurpose performance space downtown.

The Committee has held two meetings so far. The first meeting was a project kick off on June 18<sup>th</sup>, which included an introduction to the project, upcoming milestones, and proposed locations. Tan shared the

## Members

**Brad Richardson**  
President

**Linda Reid**  
Vice President

Lee Rafferty  
Michelle Tan  
Rebekah Percival  
Ricky Gaspar  
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Russell Ford, CCAC  
Shon-Lueiss Harris

**Parks, Recreation and  
Cultural Services  
Department**

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slides from that meeting, calling attention to the project stakeholders, proposed location, and project timeline. AMS Planning and Research hosted the second meeting. Tan provided feedback to the consultant team on the survey, noting that of the 11 responses, only two responses represented culturally specific artforms. AMS stated that groups representing western art forms had a much higher response rate and a committee member suggested leveraging the Culture, Arts, & Heritage Commission's network for additional outreach. Tan added that the Reser Center for the Arts was reviewed as a comparable model and that comparison also generated questions. The next meeting is scheduled for August.

Richardson thanked Tan for volunteering her time to act as the Commission's liaison to the project. He opened the floor for comments and questions, directing staff to request written responses from the project's leadership as follow-up. Several commissioners had questions and concerns about the engagement done to date and the accelerated timeline. Richardson asked what issues were driving the accelerated timeline given the delays to the arts hub project. He also asked about funding for both projects. Richardson noted that this project feels out of step with the community's needs at the moment and had further questions about the future operator of the facility and how this project will integrate with already established venues and cultural providers. Tan shared these concerns and noted that not enough time was dedicated to discussion at the committee meetings.

Perlick thanked Tan as well and offered to coordinate a response from the project team and to invite them back for another workshop with the Commission.

#### **b. VCAP Program Name**

Donovan presented options for the name of the Vancouver Cultural Access Program proposed by the VCAP Task Force. Each option was researched for trademark and other conflicts, but no significant concerns were found. The Commission and the Task Force will have the opportunity to rank the names in a survey due at the end of this month and the highest ranked name will be presented as the program name at City Council on September 8. Inspire Vancouver was a popular choice among the Commissioners.

Richardson added that significant outreach will be needed as the program kicks off and the Commission will be responsible for that outreach in addition to grant review. The Commission's workload will expand outside of the monthly commission meetings.

### **Item 5: Commission and Staff Reports**

#### **a. Cultural Services Manager**

Donovan gave the following updates:

- The Vancouver Arts and Music Festival was held July 31-August 3. Donovan will give a full report at the September meeting.
- The City's Interstate Bridge Replacement Program team sent a memo to the Commission with an update on upcoming project milestones and public engagement opportunities.
- Former Commissioner Beth Harrington has a documentary premiering on September 28 at the Kiggins.
- The terms of Reid, Harris, and Tan will be up at the end of this year. Harris and Tan are eligible to reapply and the application period opens tomorrow. The City will host an open house for applicants to learn more about its Commissions on September 6 and Perlick will represent both CAHC and PRAC. The Commission will review applications and make recommendations to City Council in October, and the candidates should be appointed by the end of the year.

#### **b. Commission President**

Richardson thanked everyone for being a part of the Commission and emphasized how impactful the Cultural Access program will be for nonprofits in the community. He encouraged newer Commissioners to reach out to

himself or Linda Reid for advice about getting involved in Commission leadership or on anything else that would help new members participate fully going forward.

**c. Clark County Arts Commission (CCAC)**

Ford gave the following updates:

- The Clark County Arts Commission has sent out invitations for Karen Madsen’s Lifetime Achievement award event hosted at Art at the Cave. Each Commissioner should have received one.
- Aqua Gallery opened on the waterfront at Terminal 1. Russ Ford and Marilla Guilliams are featured artists this season.
- A new art collective has opened at C St and McLoughlin Blvd at the former Cobalt studio space.

**Item 7: Open Discussion and New Business**

Reid commented that the Vancouver Arts and Music Festival will look different in 2026 due to loss of startup funding. Reid encouraged the team to assemble stakeholder groups to recruit new sponsors and partners. Richardson agreed and encouraged staff to reach out to businesses before October to align with their budget cycles. Donovan stated that this year’s sponsors will be approached next week and offered to set up a fundraising subcommittee meeting for mid-September to identify and recruit new sponsors. Reid requested a basic budget to use in outreach. Tan encouraged offering multi-year sponsorship opportunities to help the community take ownership of the event.

Mendoza gave an update on the Flag Selection Committee. The committee has met twice and narrowed down the 138 submissions to 10 recommended flags. The Committee will set another meeting and then present their proposal to City Council.

**Adjourned**

This meeting adjourned at 1:09 p.m.



CITY OF  
**Vancouver**  
WASHINGTON

# Cultural Access Program Name

**Melody Burton**

Senior Communications Specialist  
Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services  
Oct. 9, 2025



# Program Name Goals

- Memorable, paired with Vancouver
- Unique in the region
- Relevant to program audiences
- Represents Cultural Access goals



# Taskforce Contenders

## Brainstorm Naming Exercise

Vancouver  
Creates

Inspire  
Vancouver

Spark  
Vancouver

Vibrant  
Vancouver

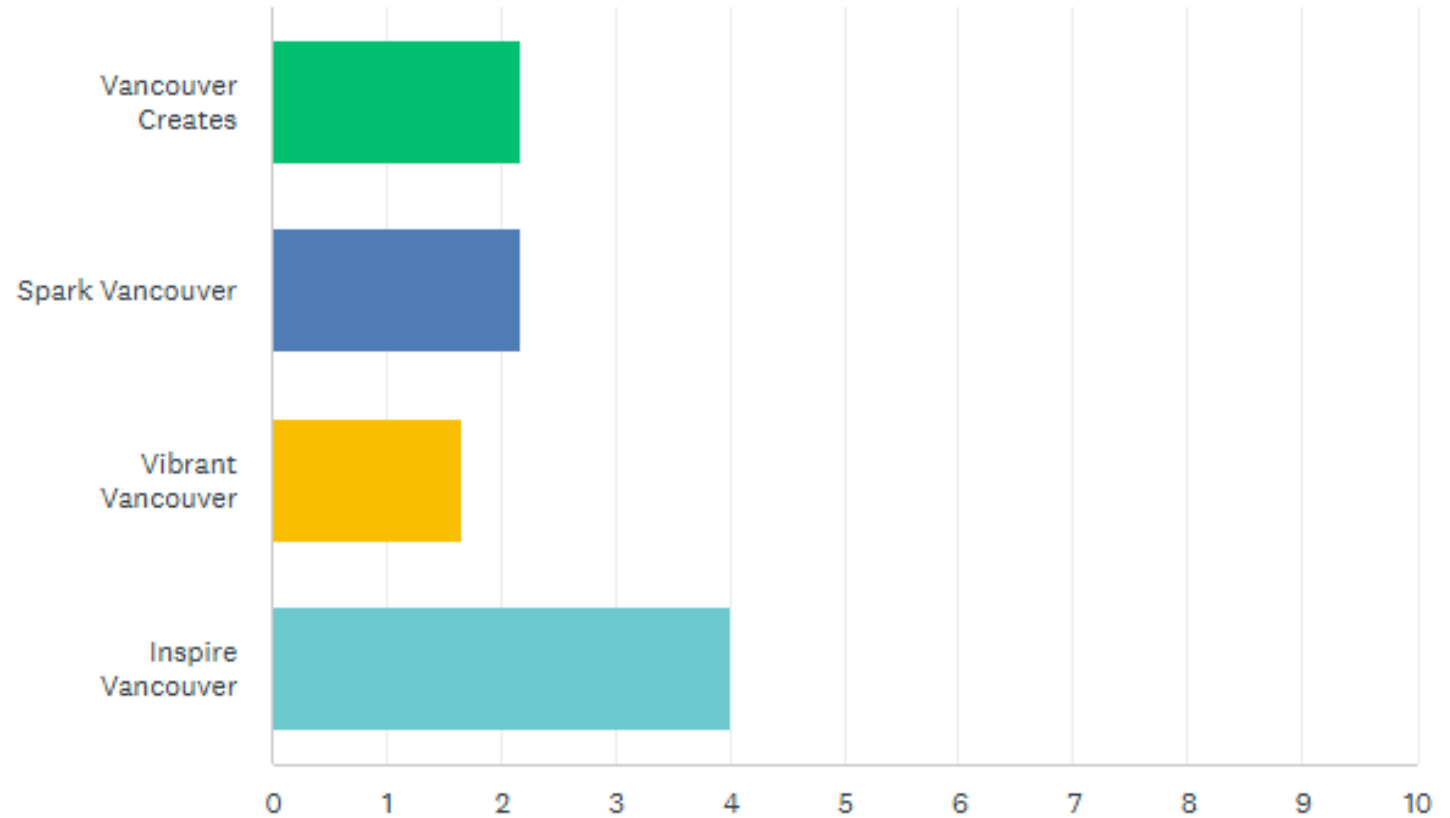


# Commission Direction

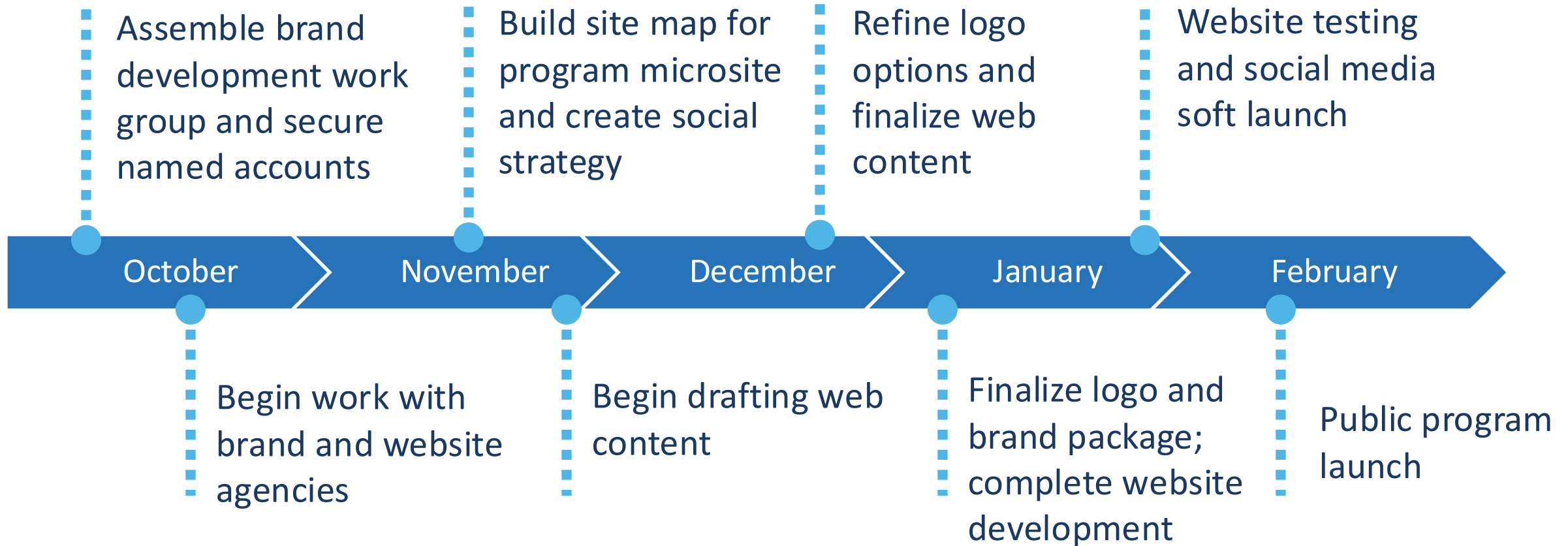
## Ranked Selections

Inspire Vancouver was ranked as the preferred choice by all respondents.

Spark Vancouver and Vancouver Creates were tied for second. Vibrant Vancouver was ranked last.



# Brand Development Timeline



Timeline based on tentative public program launch in March





## Next Steps

- Motion to approve “Inspire Vancouver” as the public program name for the Vancouver Cultural Access Program
- Assemble the brand development work group
- Provide monthly progress updates from the work group to the commission



# Cultural Access Program Workplan

**Dave Perlick**

Director

Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services

October 9, 2025



# Cultural Access Program Award Process



Proposed Annual Grant Cycle for Cultural Access Program



# Commission Role

## Program assigned to Culture, Arts & Heritage Commission

- Share the opportunity: announcements at other meetings you attend, digital flyers, conversations in your network
- Attend and support at application workshops
- Recruit grant review committee(s)
- Establish grant pool amounts
- Review committee work and award grants – YOU ARE THE DECISION MAKER
- Monitor program, hear feedback and recommend improvements



# What to Expect

## Program assigned to Culture, Arts & Heritage Commission

- Increase in materials to review before meetings
- Additional work in subcommittees
- Increase in engagement with the community at open houses, workshops
- New role as program ambassador within the community
- Consistent participation at monthly meetings
  - Increase in time-sensitive action items
  - RSVP is vital for agenda planning
  - In person attendance recommended, hybrid always offered to accommodate participation

