

Cultural Council: 2025 Annual Update

October 27, 2025

Jen Martin, Chair



Commerce
CITY



Cultural Council Members

Jen Martin
Ronna Sanchez
Kelly Reyos
Nick Gonzales
Augusta Jonhart
Deana Hall

Jackie Riggs-Gonzales
Tyler Vitello
Jade Humphries-Graves
Emily Perez
Councilmember Douglas
Mayor Pro Tem Noble

***3 vacancies as of 10/1/2025**



About Cultural Council

- Up to 15 members (13 residents, 2 City Council members)
- Meetings are on the third Tuesday of each month at the Civic Center at 6 p.m.
- Cultural Council is a 501 (c)3 nonprofit

Mission:

To bring together the community by embracing and creating experiences through art, music, theatre, dance and culturally diverse efforts. The Cultural Council facilitates this by encouraging, promoting and developing programs, for the arts, heritage and cultural enrichment of Commerce City and partnering communities.

2025 Goals



Goal #1: Increase attendance at the Music in the Park series by 10% (2,700+ total attendees).

Welcomed 3,920 attendees across 4 concerts!
(45% increase from last year)



2025 Music in the Park - Overview

- Hosted in partnership with Parks, Recreation and Golf
- Funded by SCFD & QCF grants
- Concerts were held at 4 different parks in June and July
- Free food at all four events, free youth activities and crafts, dancing, raffles and resource tables.



2025 Music in the Park - Challenges

- Cost increases:

2018: \$14,500

2019: \$13,500

2020: \$15,200

2021: \$11,050

2022: \$21,423

2023: \$21,677

2024: \$25,775

2025: \$24,435

- Event budget has been supplemented in recent years with rollover unused funds from the 2020 pandemic.
 - Rollover funds have been expended and will not be available for 2026

2026 Music in the Park - Vision

- Continue to increase attendance and expand concert programming.
- Pursue additional grant, fundraising, sponsorship, and other funding opportunities to sustain the concert series long-term.
- 2026 City Council Music in the Park Sponsorship ask:
 - Increase sponsorship from \$5,000 to \$12,000 to account for increased costs. (On Dec.1 City Council agenda.)
 - Sponsorship ties directly with the city's Strategic Plan (Objective 5.2.7)

2025 Goals



Goal #2: Maintain community engagement efforts and recruitment by conducting outreach to local community groups, businesses and nonprofits.

- Participated in the DEI Commission's annual Juneteenth event.
- Sponsored the city's annual Hispanic Heritage Celebration.
- Pursued a car show at PRG's Fall Fest (Canceled due to conflict with Adam City High School homecoming events).

SPADES TOURNAMENT

AT JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION

THURSDAY, JUNE 19
4:30 – 7:30 p.m.
Pioneer Park, 5950 Holly St.



Hispanic Heritage Celebration

- Sponsored entertainment, face painting, bounce house, and pinata.
 - Third year of partnership with city organizers
- Hosted and supplied the crafts area at the event



2025 Goals



Goal #3: Establish inclusive and sustainable guidelines for public art funding, selection, and maintenance processes that also adhere to the public art master plan.

- Installing three new public art pieces in Q4 following inclusive guidelines.
- Subcommittee currently revising the Public Art Master Plan.
 - Cultural Council vote – Nov. 18
 - City Council Study Session – Dec 8.



Public Art Maintenance



Monaco Park Mural Rewrap

Artist: Wey Mnky

Monaco Park

Vandalism - Vinyl Wrap Cut



Sculpture Repair

Artist: John Wilbar

Turnberry Park

Weather damage – hole patching, resealed seams, and new paint



Mural Repair & Upgrades

Artist: Ratha Sok

Adams City High School
underpass

Vandalism – Graffiti tagging

2025 Goals



Goal #4: Refresh the Art Exhibition program to heighten participation and engagement, as well as reach new community members.

- Mobile art show at Music in the Park at Veterans Memorial Park.
- Community art building projects at Music in the Park and Hispanic Heritage events.
- New social media series highlighting public art pieces and artists.

Questions?



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