

MOTION

In light of increased federal immigration activity, many Angelenos, particularly immigrant artists and their community, have sought refuge in creative spaces that honor culture and identity. Across Council District 14, community-organized art galleries have become places of education and celebration, often distributing immigration rights materials alongside art programming. Yet fear of enforcement continues to deter participation, even in these safe and welcoming environments.

The City of Los Angeles (City) has long recognized that public programming can foster safety, connection, and belonging, as demonstrated by successful initiatives like Summer Night Lights. Building on that model, there is an opportunity to activate City facilities, such as parks and recreation centers, as evening cultural hubs that strengthen public trust through art, storytelling, and shared experiences.

To promote true inclusivity in Los Angeles and ensure that every Angeleno can gather and express themselves without fear, the City should establish a pilot program that shall be developed and administered by the Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) and the Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA), in collaboration with the Community Investment for Families Department (CIFD) and Civil + Human Rights and Equity Department (LA Civil Rights), to transform select RAP facilities into evening art gallery and cultural engagement spaces.

This program will feature DCA curated art exhibitions, music, storytelling, and Know Your Rights workshops and material, with an emphasis on family-friendly, accessible programming in park spaces across the City.

This program will promote safety through community engagement, build trust in government institutions, and provide Angelenos with opportunities to connect through cultural expression in welcoming environments.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council instruct the City Administrative Officer, with the assistance of the Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) and the Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA) to report to the Council on the following:

- Feasibility of developing a pilot program in Council District 14 to further activate RAP facilities, including recreation centers, gymnasiums, outdoor stages, and bandshells as evening art and cultural gallery spaces focused on creative expression, cultural exchange, and Know Your Rights education.
- Identification of potential sites across the district suitable for implementation of the program, including recreation centers, gymnasiums, outdoor stages, and bandshells.
- Methods to identify and engage community-based artists, cultural organizations, and immigrant-serving nonprofits as program partners.
- A detailed program proposal and implementation plan, including budget estimates, staffing needs, and potential funding sources, with engagement and assistance from Council District 14 on programmatic development.

PRESENTED BY 
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SECONDED BY 

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