



## I.D.E.A. ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

January 21, 2025

- Present: Sunni Armstrong, Kelsea Ashenbrenner, Kolini Fusitu'a, Winnie Lo (virtual), BJ Park, Chris Paul, Erinn Stimson, Councilor Cyndy Hillier
- Absent: Destini Barajas, Angelica Butler, Evelin Hooper, Rebekah Morgan, Gerry Preston
- Public: None
- Staff: Jerianne Thompson, Library Director  
Betsy Rodriguez Ruef, Community Engagement Coordinator  
Megan George, Deputy City Manager
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**A. CALL TO ORDER**

Chris Paul called meeting to order at 6:10 PM.

**B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Chris Paul asked if there were any revisions to the December meeting minutes. The minutes were approved by consensus.

**C. COMMUNICATIONS**

**1. Co-Chairs:** Chris Paul read a personal statement reaffirming a commitment to the values of inclusion, diversity, equity, and accessibility in our community.

**2. Council Liaison:** Councilor Cyndy Hillier reported on the recent swearing-in of city councilors for another 4-year term, including Council President Valerie Pratt, Councilor Christen Sacco, and herself. Hillier discussed the recent City Council meeting where Metro representatives presented information about the proposed supportive housing services reform measure. She highlighted concerns about potential gaps in the proposed approach, particularly regarding services for people experiencing homelessness. The Council emphasized the importance of providing services to keep people housed and help them transition into stable housing, rather than solely focusing on building new housing units.

**2. Staff:** Jerianne Thompson informed the committee about recently approved proclamations for the year, including Black History Month, Pride Month, Juneteenth, and Hispanic Heritage Month. She announced the city's

participation in a point-in-time count for homeless and houseless community members.

Betsy Ruef added information about her involvement in the point-in-time count event and her recent outreach efforts with the Latino community. She mentioned upcoming events at the library to provide resources and answer questions for the Latino community.

**3. Public:** None.

**E. NEW BUSINESS**

**1. Community Engagement Incentives Policy:** Megan George presented a draft city policy on community engagement incentives. She explained that the policy aims to create additional tools for city staff to reduce barriers preventing people from participating in city community engagement events and activities. George outlined the policy's structure, which includes five categories of incentives and provides guidance on implementation.

Committee members discussed potential negative impacts and assumptions of the policy and strategies to mitigate those. The committee emphasized the importance of community education, making information accessible through various channels, and involving community members in outreach efforts. They also discussed the need for consistency in incentive offerings across different city departments and events.

**D. OLD BUSINESS**

**1. Workplan Topic Prioritization:** Tabled.  
**2. Land Acknowledgement:** Tabled.

**F. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

**1. Community Resources Webpage**

**G. COMMUNICATIONS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Chris Paul suggested informal meetups with committee members to foster better connections. BJ Park echoed Chris's sentiments about meeting outside of the committee setting to get to know each other better. Kolini Fusitu'a thanked Chris and BJ for their leadership roles in the committee. The committee discussed the possibility of organizing social events and incorporating more opportunities for connection and self-care into their work.

**H. ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting was adjourned at 7:56 PM.

Minutes prepared by Jerianne Thompson & Betsy Ruef, staff