

AGENDA
Gig Harbor Arts Commission Meeting
Tuesday, July 21, 2026 at 11:00 a.m.
Community Rooms A/B or via Zoom

Zoom link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/97936452399>
Call-in: (253) 215-8782 Meeting ID: 979 3645 2399

Call to Order / Roll Call

Approval of Minutes: May 19, 2026

Discussion Items:

- 1) Waterfront Alliance Project Proposal
- 2) Love Locks
- 3) Harbor Arbor Art
- 4) Brandani-Killilea Creative Endeavor Grant
- 5) Signage

Commissioner Reports & Comments

Public Comment

Adjourn

Memorandum

TO: Tiffany Aliment, City Clerk
FROM: Jennifer Haro, Parks Manager
DATE: 7/10/2026
SUBJECT: Parks Commission Recommendation - Waterfront Alliance Art Proposal

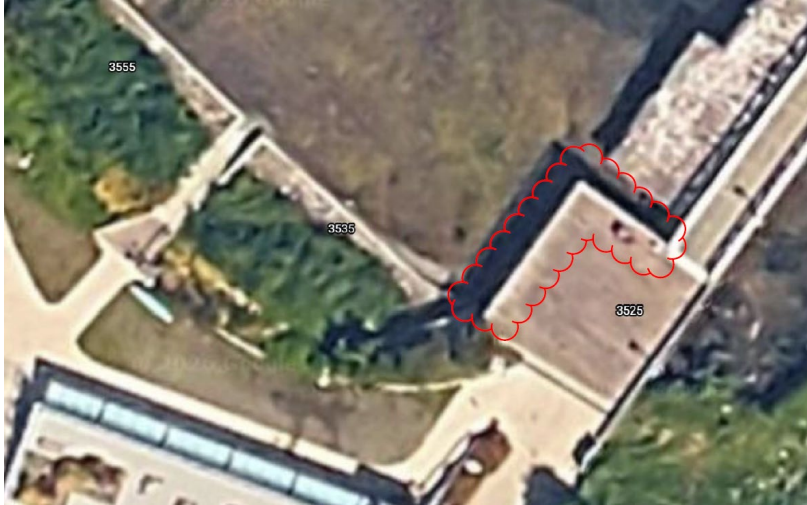
The Parks Commission met on July 1, 2026 and considered the proposal as presented by Clare Dunis, Executive Direct of the Gig Harbor Waterfront Alliance.

The Waterfront Alliance has historically hosted a Chalk the Harbor art event, where the community uses sidewalks throughout downtown Gig Harbor to display chalk art done by all skill levels. This year's event is scheduled for August 15.

The Waterfront Alliance received a donation of a fishing net. They are proposing having small wooden ornaments that Chalk the Harbor visitors could decorate, then attached them to the net, rather than the buoy art suggestion, as shown in the AI-generated image below. After consulting with city administration, the preferred location is at Ancich Park, as shown below.



AI image of art concept, provided by Gig Harbor Water Front Alliance



Preferred location for buoy art.

The parks commissioners expressed some concerns with future construction of the Commercial Fishing Homeport, and possible litter (from broken ornaments or hangers), damage to the ornaments, or vandalism but staff indicated that there was daily use of the paddler's dock, and we would be notified quickly of any damage.

At the July 1 parks commission meeting, the commissioners voted 6-0 in favor of allowing the art display at Ancich Park.

Please let me know if you or the arts commission have any further questions or concerns.



Gig Harbor Arts Commission 2026 Creative Endeavor Grant Application

- Please submit the completed application as an attachment to an email and send to cityclerk@gigharborwa.gov.
- Applications must be received by **March 2, 2026**.
- Funding recommendations will be announced at the Arts Commission meeting on March 17, 2026.

Date of Application			
Organization or Individual's Name		Non-Profit? ☐ Yes ☐ No	
Name of Contact			
<i>If applicant is under the age of 18, please provide the name of an adult willing sign an agreement with the city on the applicant's behalf.</i>			
Address			
Phone Number		Email	
Project Title			
Date(s) of Project <i>Final project report and invoice must be received by December 7, 2026.</i>			
Amount Requested	\$		
Total Budget <i>Attach detailed budget</i>	\$		
Admission Charged	\$		
Donations Accepted			☐ Yes ☐ No
Is there at least one free or "pay what you wish" performance?			☐ Yes ☐ No
Has the applicant/project received grant funding in the past?			☐ Yes ☐ No
If funding was received before, was the project successful?			☐ Yes ☐ No
Please list other sponsoring agencies to whom you have applied.			



Please limit responses to 500 words or less, per question.

1. Provide a summary of the project for which you are requesting financial support.

2. Describe the benefit to the community (see Funding Guidelines) and explain how this project will directly engage the audience and/or participants.



3. Explain how the city's funding will support this project. If the project can still be done without city funding, show how the requested funds will improve the project, even if only partially funded.

4. Explain how the project will target Gig Harbor residents or, if the event is designed to bring in visitors from outside the area, how you will advertise to potential visitors.



Venue Accessibility Information

If this project involves a venue – is the venue ADA accessible*? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If you answered no, what considerations for accessibility have been made?

**Accessible means that anyone in a wheelchair, scooter, walker, or on crutches or cane(s) can gain access and entry to and enjoy/participate in the event being held as can anyone who is temporarily able-bodied. This includes access to parking, building entry, and restroom/toilet facilities.*

Please direct questions about the application or application process to cityclerk@gigharborwa.gov.



Gig Harbor Arts Commission 2026 Creative Endeavor Grant

Funding Guidelines

The Arts Commission's goal is to support as many new artistic projects by individuals and organizations as possible. The decision on whether to fund a project is based on the following guidelines:

1. The applicant demonstrates the public benefit/value to the community and how the project will increase public access to the arts in Gig Harbor.
2. The project or event would not occur without Arts Commission funding. If the project could still be done without Arts Commission funding, the application explains how the requested funds will improve the project.
3. The target audience is Gig Harbor and adjacent communities, or the project is intended to bring in visitors from outside the area. Events outside of summer months/tourist season will be given preference. The applicant should demonstrate that the event will be broadly advertised to the community. If intended to bring in visitors, the advertising has been designed for that purpose.
4. The event is accessible financially so that members of the public are not excluded based on ability to pay admission.

For example: Will admission be charged? Will there be donations at the door? Will there be an opportunity to "pay what you wish"?

5. **Logo credit:** Grant recipient is required to acknowledge support from the City of Gig Harbor in all formats, including printed and digital materials, live and recorded performances, or media interviews.

Sample text: "This program is supported, in part, by a grant from the Gig Harbor Arts Commission."



The Commission funds for results (events, performances, exhibits, or workshops) - not general expenses.

Grants will only support the direct costs of an event or project. Direct costs include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Project-specific purchases: supplies, materials.
- Rentals: space, supplies, materials, equipment.
- Personnel costs directly related to the planning and/or execution of the event.
- Creation and/or documentation of the work, event, or performance.
- Production costs: events, installations, exhibits, programs.
- Travel necessary for the event.
- Marketing and promotion.

The following are generally not considered direct costs and are not eligible for funding:

- Permanent equipment.
- Overhead costs (such as general salaries, mortgage payments, etc.).
- Personal travel.
- Re-granting of the funds.
- Scholarships.
- Hospitality expenses: food, beverages, flowers, receptions, or similar items.

Additionally, the following types of projects or events are not eligible for funding:

- Brick and mortar projects.
- Events in which the sole purpose is political or religious.
- Events closed to the public.
- Events in which the purpose is fundraising.



Gig Harbor Arts Commission
2026 Creative Endeavor Grant
Funding Process and Procedures

1. Applicants submit a complete proposal, including a budget, for an event or project that will take place in calendar year 2026.
2. Proposals are reviewed by the Gig Harbor Arts Commission.
3. Discussion and funding recommendation will occur at the March 17, 2026 Arts Commission meeting.
4. Applicants are notified of award, partial award, or non-award of funds. *The Arts Commission may elect to award only a portion of the funding requested.*
5. City issues contracts.
6. Grant recipients complete proposed projects.
7. Applicants submit a final report to the city within two weeks after conclusion of the event, and no later than **December 7, 2026**. The final report should include the following:
 - Project Completion Form
 - Invoice
 - Receipts
 - Photo(s) from the Event or of the Completed Project
 - Promotional Material for the Event/Project
 - W-9
8. City issues payment after approval by the city council.



Gig Harbor Arts Commission
2026 Creative Endeavor Grant

Sample Invoice

To:

City of Gig Harbor
Attn: City Clerk
3510 Grandview Street
Gig Harbor, WA 98335

From:

Name of Organization
Name of Event/Project
Date of Invoice

Item/Description of Line Item	Cost of Item
Item 1: A description of each item with a receipt for reimbursement.	\$000.00
Item 2: Repeat with a description of next item with a receipt.	000.00
Continue until all items are listed with receipts attached.	
Total Balance (this should total the amount of the grant)	\$000.00

Make checks payable to:
Name of Grant Recipient

Mail payment to:
Address Here



Gig Harbor Arts Commission
2026 Creative Endeavor Grant

Project Completion Form

If you or your organization has received a **Creative Endeavor Grant**, we ask you to complete this form within 14 days of the event or completion of your project. Your timely submission of this follow-up report is essential for prompt payment by the City of Gig Harbor. Once completed, please email the report to the cityclerk@gigharborwa.gov. Include copies of your receipts and at least one photo of your project or event.

NOTE: Reports/invoices will not be accepted after December 7, 2026.

Title of Project

Organization/Individual

Address

Phone | Email

Contact Person

Brief Description of Project as Completed

(If pertinent, compare the outcome with your own expectations.)

**Attendance Data**

(Include comparison with previous events/projects, if applicable.)

Summary of Expenses – Please Attach Receipts

(Such categories as materials, royalties, technical production, location rental, professional services, publicity.)

Summary of Revenues, if Applicable

(Sales, door receipts, awards, etc.)

Comments

**Attach one or more photos of the project/event to this report and
copies of promotional material showing the city's logo.**

FOR INTERNAL USE ONLY

CREATIVE ENDEAVOR GRANT SCORING MATRIX			
Applicant/Project:			
Non-Profit? Yes _____ No _____			
Project Summary and Timeline - 5 points			Score
The summary and goal of the project is unclear. There is no clear timeline or unsure if project can be done in allotted time. (0-1)	The summary and goal of the project is somewhat defined. There is a loose schedule, but the timeline is not clearly defined. (2-3)	The summary and goal of the project is clearly defined. There is a proposed schedule and assignment of duties. (4-5)	
Community Need - 10 points			Score
There is no need in the community or there is insufficient explanation of need. (0-3)	There is some need in the community but unsure if this project can sufficiently address the need. (4-7)	There is sufficient need in the community and this project will fulfill the need. (8-10)	
Funding Need - 5 points			Score
The project can still occur without funding. There is little to no need for funding. (0-1)	The project can still occur without funding, but it will not have as great of an impact on the community. There is some need for funding. (2-3)	The project will not occur without funding. There is a great need for funding. (4-5)	
Project Reach - 10 points			Score
This project will only reach those currently involved in the group and/or a small group of people. (0-3)	This project will reach a large group of people or provides for public participation. (4-7)	This project will reach across communities or will extend reach through collaboration with other community partners. (8-10)	
TOTAL SCORE			



2026 Harbor Arbor Art

Application Deadline: **May 1, 2026** ***Must be received by 4:30pm*

Project Completion Deadline: December 1, 2026

This application refers to stumps located within Grandview Forest Park, adjacent to Gig Harbor City Hall at 3510 Grandview Street, Gig Harbor. (see *pages 2 and 3*)

Project Overview

The Gig Harbor Arts Commission is sponsoring the artistic carving and/or embellishment of select tree snags. A “snag” is the term for a dead tree or a tree that has been cut down to a safe height and left to decay naturally. Most of the trees selected for this project will have been affected by laminated root rot, making the condition of the tree and the longevity of the art unknown.

Guidelines

- The total budget is **not to exceed \$7,500**.
- All artistic themes are welcome for consideration, but final selection and approvals are at the discretion of the arts commission and the city council.
- Art materials must be eco-friendly and free of toxins, varnish, or other preservatives.
- Political, religious, or potentially offensive themes will not be considered.
- The snag will remain permanently rooted in place.
- The Artist is responsible for providing all materials.
- All successful artist(s) shall enter into a contract with the city, which at minimum will require general commercial liability insurance. (see *page 5*)

Requirements

Fill out and submit the form on page 4 with a minimum of three examples (photos) of your work and/or a concept sketch of the proposed idea.

- Via Email: Send completed application and samples to **cityclerk@gigharborwa.gov**
- Via Mail: Send completed application and samples to

Gig Harbor Arts Commission
Attn: Assistant City Clerk
3510 Grandview Street
Gig Harbor, WA 98335

Harbor Arbor Art Possible Options







Harbor Arbor Art Artist Application

Date _____

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

References

Please provide the name and phone number of two people familiar with your work.

1. Name _____ Phone _____

2. Name _____ Phone _____

Briefly describe your vision for this project and your reason for participating.

Given the nature of wood carving, along with the unknown condition of some snags, we understand that it may be difficult to know the exact outcome of the art piece, but please be as specific as possible.

Estimated fee to complete the project: \$ _____

Estimated number of days to complete the project: _____

(Project must be complete by December 1 of the application year.)

Attach three examples (photos) of your work and/or a concept sketch of the proposed idea.



Harbor Arbor Art Funding Procedure

1. Submit a completed application, including a budget and proposed timeline to be completed within the calendar year.
2. All applications are reviewed by the Gig Harbor Arts Commission, and an artist is selected.
3. Notification of award or non-award of funds.
4. City issues contract.
5. Artist submits invoice to the city no later than two weeks after completion.
6. Payment issued by city following the next city council meeting.

Insurance Requirement

Special Event insurance coverage is required for each Harbor Arbor Art project and must be obtained by the Artist and include release of liability for the City of Gig Harbor.

Harbor Arbor Art Examples/Inspiration





SONJA R. JOHNSON
11315 67th Avenue NW
Gig Harbor, WA 98332

Telephone: 312-823-2601
e-mail: sjohnson725@sbcglobal.net

July 20, 2026

BY E-MAIL ONLY

Mayor Pro Tempore Le Rodenberg
City of Gig Harbor
3510 Grandview Street
Gig Harbor, WA 98335

Gig Harbor City Council
City of Gig Harbor
3510 Grandview Street
Gig Harbor, WA 98335

Re: 2027 Gig Harbor Budget

Dear Mayor Pro Tempore Rodenberg,

I am writing on behalf of the Gig Harbor Arts Commission to request that funding for a Gig Harbor love locks structure be prioritized and included in the 2027 Gig Harbor budget.

I am the Chair of the Gig Harbor Arts Commission. In 2024, the Public Works Department presented information to the Arts Commission concerning the need for a love locks structure to be installed in Gig Harbor. Couples were fastening locks to bridges in Gig Harbor, particularly near Donkey Creek. This added weight to the bridges, which resulted in potential structural and safety issues. The Public Works Department recommended the installation of a love locks structure specifically built for the purpose of holding the locks. This would provide a place for these locks to be securely and safely affixed. A key box would be located nearby to reduce or eliminate the tossing of keys into Donkey Creek.

The Arts Commission enthusiastically supported this proposal as not only a way to safely hold thousands of locks, but to also serve as a public art piece. Former Commissioner Stephanie Killilea was especially interested in this idea. She researched different designs and love locks structures, which she presented to the Arts Commission in September 2024.

The Arts Commission suggests that not only should this structure be funded and installed in 2027, but that the structure be dedicated to Stephanie Killilea and Joanne Brandani, the 2 former Arts Commissioners who simultaneously lost their lives on the Key Peninsula in 2025. The structure could be installed in Donkey Creek Park, one of the sites proposed by the Public Works Department. This installation would serve as a lasting public art piece dedicated not only to love, but also in memory of our former Arts Commissioners.

Very truly yours,



Sonja R. Johnson
Chair, Gig Harbor Arts Commission