# Community Advisory Board 2025 Annual Report

#### INTRODUCTION

The Community Advisory Board (CAB) serves as a vital link between the City Council and the community, ensuring that community voices are heard and incorporated into City decision-making. This report showcases CAB's 2025 activities, accomplishments, and community engagement initiatives.

#### BACKGROUND

The COVID-19 pandemic significantly disrupted CAB's ability to engage with the community. In response, the CAB work plan and priorities underwent a comprehensive reframing and redevelopment to address community's emerging needs. This process included reassessing goals and aligning strategies with community priorities as well as Council goals to ensure a coordinated and impactful approach. The activities and achievements described in this report are in alignment with CAB's 2025-2027 Work Plan as well as Council Goal #4: Foster a safe, healthy, and inclusive community.

## **OBJECTIVE**

To meet the goals and key activities outlined in CAB's 2025-2027 Work Plan.

#### 2025 ACTIVITIES

#### a. Community Engagement and Education

CAB actively participated in major city events, including:

- Earth Day
- Cinco de Mayo
- Rose Parade & Festival
- Pride
- Juneteenth
- Through tabling and outreach, members promoted City programs and the Community Improvement Grant (CIG) program.
- CAB also attended neighborhood meetings to strengthen local connections.

### b. District Meetings

CAB hosted **five district-based community meetings** in collaboration with Councilmembers, CIRO, and City staff, with a total of **84 attendees**. These meetings surfaced key community concerns:

- Housing & Development: Affordable housing, senior housing, missing middle housing, large projects (3rd Street garage, 24-story towers, convention centers), unhoused community.
- Transportation & Parking: Downtown parking issues, bus delays (2+hours), SMART last-mile connectivity.
- Infrastructure: Sidewalk repairs, road diets, fire evacuation concerns, pedestrian and cyclist safety, green spaces downtown, play structures for families.
- Public Safety & Emergency Preparedness: Fire safety, evacuation routes, resilience hubs, communication for elderly and non-English speakers, inRESPONSE funding, e-bike safety.
- **Immigration:** Protection for immigrant communities.

**Top 10 words used by community members:** community, housing, new, parking, building, more, sidewalks, concern, unhoused, people.

The community meetings were promoted through multiple channels, including flyers, City Connections, the City's website, social media platforms, and trusted community partners.

## c. Community Improvement Grant (CIG) Program

Authorized by **Resolution No. 28686**, CAB oversees the CIG program to support neighborhood improvement and community-building projects.

- 2024: Awarded \$47,095.40 to 20 grant applicants, benefiting:
  - 30% underserved communities
  - 15% youth and children
  - 10% people with disabilities
  - 5% unhoused communities
- 2025 (to date): Awarded \$26,379.58 to 13 grant applicants benefiting:
  - 23% underserved communities
  - 8% youth and children
  - 8% people with disabilities

# o 8% unhoused communities

# **LOOKING AHEAD**

CAB will continue implementing its 2025–2027 work plan, focusing on:

- Strengthening community engagement
- Attending and hosting community and neighborhood meetings
- Promoting City programs and CIG opportunities
- Enhancing communication and trust between residents and City leadership