



GARLAND

NOTICE OF MEETING

CITY OF GARLAND, TEXAS

**Community Multicultural Commission
Work Session Room, City Hall
200 N. Fifth Street
Garland, Texas
June 18, 2026
6:00 PM**

A meeting of the Community Multicultural Commission of the City of Garland, Texas will be held at the aforementioned location, date, and time to discuss and consider the following agenda items.

Community Multicultural Commission Meeting

AGENDA:

- 1. CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME**
- 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - a. Consider Approval of Minutes from the March 19, 2026 Meeting**
- 3. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Persons who desire to address the Commission on any item on the agenda are allowed three minutes to speak.
- 4. COMMISSION REPORT UPDATES, PAST AND FUTURE**
- 5. ITEMS FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION**
 - a. Financial Update**

Staff will provide the Commission with an update on the CMC Budget.
 - b. Monthly Calendar Update**

Staff will provide an update to the Commission on the updated CMC calendar.
 - c. 25th Anniversary Celebration Discussion**

Discuss details regarding the upcoming 25th Anniversary Celebration.
- 6. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**
- 7. ADJOURN**

NOTE: A quorum of the City Council may be in attendance and may or may not participate in the discussions of the Commission.



GARLAND

MINUTES

The Community Multicultural Commission of the City of Garland convened in regular session at 6:00 PM on March 19, 2026, in the Work Session Room at the William E. Dollar Municipal Building, 200 North Fifth Street, Garland, Texas, with the following members present:

Present: CorSharra Pernell, Chair
Commission Member, Steven Flores
Commission Member, Rene Granado
Commission Member, Kymberlaine Banks
Commission Member, Merrill Balanciere
Commission Member, Arthur Gregg
Commission Member, Glenna Saygidia
Commission Member, Charles Leonard

Absent: Christopher Johnson, Vice Chair
Moses Uvere, Commission Member
Jennifer Nguyen, Commission Member

Staff Present: Oswaldo Rodriguez, Sanitation Operations Services Administrator
Darci Pickel, Public Information Coordinator

1. CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME

Chair Prenell called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. Consider Approval of Minutes from the January 15, 2026 Meeting

Commission Member Banks made a motion to approve the January 15, 2026 meeting minutes. Commission Member Gregg seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Persons who desire to address the Committee on any item on the agenda are allowed three minutes to speak.

There were no speakers on this item.

4. 25TH ANNIVERSARY SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

Chair Johnson of the 25th Anniversary Subcommittee, will provide a report from the January 15, 2026 Subcommittee meeting.

Subcommittee Member Gregg provided a report summarizing the Subcommittee Meeting held earlier.

Key points included:

- 25th Anniversary Subcommittee met on March 19, 2026, at 5:00 PM.
- Discussion focused on potential 25th Anniversary Event planning.
- Consideration of a partnership with Project Unity – “Together We Dine.”
- Topics included:
 - Event structure (dinner + facilitated conversation)

- Marketing, sponsorships, and catering
- Need for budget development (not yet discussed)

Noted that Chair Johnson was not present for this report.

5. COMMISSION REPORT UPDATES, PAST AND FUTURE

Commission Members reported participation in various activities:

- Attendance at City Council meetings (general development updates noted).
- Participation in community clean-up events.
- Attendance at Fire & EMS Stakeholder meetings.

Additional discussion included:

- Fire & EMS Stakeholder Committee updates, including:
 - Proposed schedule change (24/48 to 24/72 shifts)
 - Potential EMS privatization
 - Possible financial/tax impact on residents
 - Encouragement for Commission Members to attend stakeholder meetings

6. ITEMS FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION

a. Project Unity Presentation on Together We Dine

Charlene Edwards with Project Unity will give a presentation to the Commission on Together We Dine for the 25th Anniversary Celebration potential partnership.

State Representative Rhetta Bowers and Charlene Edwards, Director of Programs and Events at Project Unity, provided a presentation to the Commission.

Presentation highlights:

- Program established in 2017 promoting deeper level questions that provoke intentional dialogue following community tensions.
- Structured 90-minute sessions with trained facilitators.
- Small group discussions (4–7 participants per table).
- Focus on:
 - Listening exercises
 - Guided questions (8–10 per topic)
 - Shared experiences and perspectives
 - Call to action and reflection
- Program supports:
 - Community connection across diverse backgrounds
 - Conversations on topics such as race, civility, and lived experiences
 - Partnerships with cities, schools, and organizations
- Impact noted:
 - Thousands of participants annually
 - Use in municipalities and educational settings

- Positive engagement outcomes

Discussion points:

- Opportunity for Garland to partner for the 25th Anniversary event.
- Planning sessions would be required.
- Chamber and staff may assist with logistics and refreshments.
- Partnership fee to be discussed further.

The Commission concluded that Charlene Edwards with Project Unity will return to a Subcommittee Meeting for further discussion.

b. Website/Communication Update

Staff will present an update on improvements to the Community Multicultural Commission Website and QR code.

Ms. Pickel updated the Commission Members on the redesigned Community Multicultural Commission page on the City of Garland website and new business cards with updated QR code.

Updates included:

- Website redesign and improved layout.
- QR code linking directly to CMC webpage.
- Updated meeting information and contact access.
- Added community resource links.

Discussion included:

- Suggestion to add Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ).
- Consideration of adding resource links (e.g., Chamber directory).
- Clarification on limitations regarding promotion of private businesses.

c. Kid's Talent Show Event Update

Commission Member Uvere will update the Commission on the upcoming Bussy Middle School Talent Show and Sellers Middle School Talent Show Events.

Item tabled for next meeting due to absence of reporting member.

d. Discussion on Garland's 4th Annual Asian Pacific American Heritage Festival

Discussion regarding planning, programming, partnerships, and community engagement efforts for Garland's 4th Annual Asian Pacific American Heritage Festival.

Event is scheduled for May 16, 2026.

Discussion included:

- Participation by the Commission (table and/or parade)

- Need to confirm:
 - Event time
 - Participation expectations
 - Any associated costs

The Commission supports participation pending additional details, provided costs do not exceed \$100.00.

7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Continue discussion of:

- Kid's Talent Show Event Updates.
- Project Unity partnership.
- Continued evaluation of event structure and partnership details.

8. ADJOURN

Commission Member Banks made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commission Member Gregg seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Motion carried. Chair Prenell adjourned the meeting at 7:38 p.m.

Submitted By:

CorSharra Prenell, Chair

Darci Pickel, Public Information Coordinator