

**Meeting Date: May 5, 2026**  
**Agenda Item No. 14**  
**Distribution Date: May 6, 2026**  
**Batch No. 02**

Dear Chairwoman and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

On behalf of Vision Culture Foundation, we write to express our strong support for Agenda Item 14 (File #26-260) and the proposed \$1.3 million investment in creative economy and cultural initiatives across San Diego County.

We commend the County for recognizing the importance of investing in programs such as Artist-in-Residence opportunities, the Black Arts & Culture District, and the Binational Creative Economy, all of which play a critical role in strengthening cultural equity, economic development, and community identity throughout the region.

As a community-based nonprofit rooted in National City, Vision Culture Foundation has seen firsthand how culturally responsive programming can transform public spaces, empower youth, and foster long-term community wellbeing. The initiatives outlined in Agenda Item 14 reflect the type of forward-thinking investment that is necessary to support communities that have historically been underserved in the arts and creative industries.

Our organization is currently working to bring Meeting of Styles, a globally recognized street art movement, to National City—an initiative that aligns directly with the goals of this agenda item. This effort would bring international artists, activate large-scale public spaces, and leave behind permanent cultural assets that contribute to both economic activity and community pride.

In addition, we are advancing an Adopt-A-Highway initiative that integrates public art, environmental stewardship, and infrastructure activation. This approach demonstrates how creative programming can intersect with transportation corridors, community engagement, and long-term maintenance of public space—further aligning with the County’s goals of regional impact and cross-sector collaboration.

We believe that initiatives such as Meeting of Styles and our Adopt-A-Highway program are strong examples of how the County’s investment can be implemented on the ground—particularly within District 1 communities. These efforts have the potential to contribute meaningfully to the Binational Creative Economy, strengthen neighborhood identity, and expand access to arts and cultural participation.

We also strongly support the County’s emphasis on Artist-in-Residence programs, which create pathways for artists to engage directly with communities, and the continued development of the Black Arts & Culture District, which represents an important commitment to cultural preservation and recognition.

To fully realize the impact of these investments, we encourage continued partnership and coordination between the County of San Diego, the City of National City, CalTrans, and community-based organizations. Collaborative approaches such as these ensure that resources are not only distributed, but activated effectively in ways that create lasting public benefit.

Vision Culture Foundation stands ready to partner with the County in advancing these initiatives and helping to ensure their success within our communities.

We respectfully urge the Board to approve Agenda Item 14 and continue investing in the creative economy as a vital component of San Diego County's future.

Thank you for your leadership and commitment to our region.

Sincerely,

Ryan Johnson

Vision Culture Foundation