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Recommendation #2.

May 15, 2018

Quality of Life Budget Recommendation Worksheet
Latino Recommendation #1 Equitable Funding for Latino Arts Organizations

1. Which Strategic Outcome Area will your recommendation primarily impact?
 - o Culture and Lifelong Learning
2. Refer to the Strategic Direction document. Identify your Outcome Area's Indicators, and select one primary and one secondary Council Indicator your recommendation will address:
 - o D Housing—primary
 - o E Homelessness—secondary
3. Which of the Metrics are applicable to your recommendation:
 - o A Employment, numbers 5 (small and minority business contracts with COA) and 6 (number of small businesses supported by COA programs)
 - o E Homelessness, number 1 number of persons experiencing homelessness (point-in-time count) and number 2, number and percentage of persons who successfully exit from homelessness
4. Which one or two strategies align with your recommendation?
 - o Number 7: Acknowledge Austin's history of racial segregation and counter it by applying an equity perspective to the City's land development code and associated programs and policies, aligning with community priorities as articulated in Imagine Austin, and ensuring affordable housing options throughout Austin.
5. Which characteristics should apply to the department, community-based organization, and/or vendor that would put your recommendation to work?
 - o "Cultural responsiveness," e.g. being respectful of, and relevant to, the beliefs, practices, culture and linguistic needs of diverse consumer/client populations and communities whose members identify as having particular cultural or linguistic affiliations.
 - o Alignment of founding mission with the community proposed to be served (creation of mission was historically based in serving communities experiencing racism) and alignment with the outcomes desired by the program.
 - o Intimate knowledge of lived experience to the community.
 - o Multiple formal and informal channels for meaningful community engagement, participation and feedback exists at all levels of the organization (from service complaints to community participation at the leadership and board level)
 - o Commitment to a diverse and highly skilled workforce by employing robust recruitment, hiring and leadership development practices
6. What is your recommendation?

Presently, Latino arts organizations are funded inequitably. Our recommendation is that the City of Austin increase the dollar amount granted to each Latino arts organization starting in FY 18 – 19 to the amount that will ensure Latinos receive an equitable portion of the City's arts funding by FY 22/23.

Our Latino artists and their organization are facing very adverse economic circumstances, due to the rapid escalation of both residential and creative space rentals. We therefore also recommend that staff ensure that every Latino arts organization that pays rent and is funded this FY receive \$1000 additional per month to cover rising rents for another year.

7. Provide evidence to support your recommendation.

Although Latinos represent around 37% of the Austin population, our arts groups routinely receive less than 5% of the total of funding for all Austin arts organizations. As a result, our community members who are skilled artists must do any and all of the following to make their minimal funding carry on critical arts programs:

- 1) Hold additional jobs besides those using their arts skills, experience and training;
- 2) Fail to pay visiting or contract artists their value, their cost of transportation, or what they need to stay in Austin for an exhibit, show, or presentation;
- 3) Move their studios and residences frequently seeking affordable rents; and
- 4) Even living homeless and having no studio or practice area at all.

It is for all these reasons that we maintain that increasing the program funding, particularly staff salaries, plus increasing the funds for rents for both artists and their creative spaces, will have the greatest impact on housing and homelessness among our community.

8. How much money is necessary to support your recommendation?

- \$850,000

9. This recommendation is ongoing funding to maintain Latino arts organizations at an equitable level as other Austin artists.