



ARTS COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION 20190415-6.b

Date: April 16, 2019

Subject: Recommendation to Council for approval of the proposed Dougherty Arts Center redevelopment site at Butler Shores Park

Motioned By: Commissioner Amy Mok

Seconded By: Commissioner Lulu Flores

Recommendation

The Arts Commission recommends the approval of the proposed Dougherty Arts Center redevelopment site at Butler Shores Park.

Description of Recommendation to Council

The Arts Commission supports the Parks and Recreation Department's proposed Dougherty Arts Center redevelopment site at Butler Shores Park.

Rationale:

Austin is losing creative working, performance and exhibition space at an alarming rate. Indeed, access to affordable creative space is one of the largest crises we face as a creative community. Multiple arts venues have been eliminated or are under threat. Among those is the Dougherty Arts Center, which is in desperate need of repair and eventual relocation. With a failing roof, a location in the flood plain, and intense pressures placed on the facility to meet increasing community need, time is of the essence. With the Parks and Recreation Department's examination of multiple location options, we believe that the relocation of the Dougherty Arts Center to the Butler Shores Park is a thoughtful, practical and economical solution.

As this project moves forward, the Arts Commission encourages continued conversations around equity, access, mobility and parking solutions related to the new site.

The Dougherty redevelopment is one piece in a much larger ecosystem. We seek the appropriate tools and policies to support artists and art organizations in Austin. We continue to emphasize the need to apply an equity lens across all policies, and we encourage continued focus on providing access to arts and cultural venues throughout the city.

Vote 7-3, 1 absent

For:

Mayor's Appointee - Vice Chair Michelle Polgar

District 1 – Mary Latouf

District 2 – Chair Jaime Castillo

District 3 – Felipe Garza

District 8 – Celina Zisman

District 9 – Lulu Flores

District 10 – Amy Mok

Against:

District 4 – Brett Barnes

District 5 – Megan Moten

District 6 – Bears Rebecca Fonte

Abstain:

None

Absent:

District 7 - Krissi Reeves

Attest:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jaime Castillo". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and "C".

Jaime Castillo
Chair, Arts Commission
