



## **Annual Internal Review**

**This report covers the time period of 7/1/2021 to 6/30/2022**

### **Arts Commission** **(Official Name of Board or Commission)**

**The Commission mission statement (per the City Code) is:**

Advise the city council in all arts-related matters, including long-range planning, allocations process, and coordination with the comprehensive plan; promote close cooperation between the City and all private citizens, institutions, and agencies interested in or conducting activities relating to the arts in the city, so that all art resources within the city may be coordinated to maximize promotion and support of the arts in the city; facilitate communication between arts organization, and foster and assist the development of the arts in the city

- 1. Describe the board's actions supporting their mission during the previous calendar year. Address all elements of the board's mission statement as provided in the relevant sections of the City Code.**
  - a. Submitted the following recommendation to City Council:
    - i. recommendation in support of a single FTE for Economic Development Department for Community Engagement
    - ii. 20210816-6.b.iv: to support Arts, Music & Culture through the land development code
    - iii. 20210816-5.b.i-ii: regarding FY 22 Budget Items relating to funding for the Arts and ARPA relief programs for the arts
    - iv. 20210920-4.a.i: Arts Commission Recommendation for ARPA funds allocation
    - v. 20211018-6b.ii: Recognize the resilience and the hard work of the staff in the economic development department and the cultural arts division

vi. 20220327-003a: FY 23 Budget Recommendation

- b. Held one Special Called Meetings:
  - i. Work session with consultant MJR Partners and the Arts Commission
    - 1. Presentation from MJR Partners regarding the Cultural Funding Review Process and the CFRP Interim Report
- c. Two Arts Commission Working Groups were established to review and present recommendations on the following items:
  - i. Equity Working Group with Community Arts leaders of the BIPOC/LGBTQIA/Disabilities Community/Women to create a communications pipeline to inform our work pre-, during, and post-cultural arts funding goals for this year with Commissioners Polgar, Castillo, and Keeton (chair)
  - ii. Public-Private Partnership (P3) working group to consider how the AIPP Ordinance is applied to a new process of acquiring City facilities through public/private partnerships with Commissioners Barnes (Chair), Schmalbach, Flores, and Mok as a backup and other community members and AIPP Members
- d. Two Arts Commission Working Groups presented reports:
  - i. Equity Resource Working Group with Commissioners Polgar, Castillo, and Keeton (chair)
  - ii. AEDC Nomination Committee with Commissioners Flores (chair) and Polgar
- e. Accepted the framework of the Cultural Funding Review Process as stated on June 29, 2022, with staff bringing forward recommendations consistent with the Arts Commission's priorities on how to appropriate any additional funds brought into the program.
- f. Approved the following Art in Public Places processes/ prospectuses/ designs/ recommendations:
  - i. Selection Process Recommendation for the Del Valle Austin Fire Department and Austin-Travis County Emergency Medical Services (AFD/EMS) Station
  - ii. Selection Process Recommendation for the Travis Country AFD/EMS Station
  - iii. Selection Process Recommendation for the AFD22/EMS12 (East Riverside) Station
  - iv. Selection Process Recommendation for the AFD1/EMS6 (Downtown) Station
  - v. Final Design by Veronica Ceci for the TEMPO 2021

- vi. Final Design by Anthony "Mobley" Watkins II, Adrian Armstrong, Dawn Okoro for the TEMPO
  - vii. Final Design by Olaniyi Akindiya for the TEMPO 2021
  - viii. Selection Process Recommendation for the Gus Garcia Recreation Center
  - ix. Final Design by Jonas Criscoe and Mai Gutierrez for the TEMPO 2021
  - x. Final Design by Lys Santamaria for the TEMPO 2021
  - xi. Final Design by Victoria Marquez for the TEMPO
  - xii. Final Design by Rey Alaniz for the TEMPO 2021
  - xiii. Final Design by Seven Mile Media for the TEMPO 2021
  - xiv. Prospectus for the Spicewood Springs Road Regional Mobility
  - xv. Selection Process Recommendation for the William Cannon Corridor Construction Program
  - xvi. Selection Process Recommendation for the Austin Convention Center Warehouse
  - xvii. Prospectus for the Brush Square
  - xviii. Selection Process Recommendation for Barton Springs Bathhouse Rehabilitation
  - xix. Joint Prospectus for the Colony Park Pool, Givens Park Renovation and Givens Pool Renovation Phase II
  - xx. Prospectus for the Dove Springs Public Health Facility
  - xxi. Prospectus for the Comal Pocket Park
  - xxii. Selection Process Recommendation for the Burnet Road Corridor Construction Program
  - xxiii. Joint Prospectus for the Brownie, Highland, and Duncan Parks
  - xxiv. Prospectus for the Longhorn Dam Bridge
  - xxv. Final Design by Agustina Rodriguez for the TEMPO 2021
  - xxvi. Prospectus for the Oertli Neighborhood Park
  - xxvii. Prospectus for the Emma Long Metropolitan Park
  - xxviii. Prospectus for the Redbud Trail Bridge and Isle
  - xxix. Final Design by Mery Collette and Luis Gutierrez for the Austin Fire Department Phase 6 Renovations
  - xxx. Final Design for the Austin Fire Department/Austin Travis County EMS Embedded Artist Art in Public Places Project (Stations 1, 13/23)
  - xxxi. Final Design for the Austin Fire Department Phase 6 Renovations
  - xxxii. Selection Process Recommendations for the Dove Springs Health Facility
  - xxxiii. Selection Process Recommendation for the Brush Square
- g. Reviewed one proposed artwork donations or loans to the City of Austin:
- i. Artwork Loan, entitled Reflections of You, by Ian Ingram and Becky Wittsche, located beneath Barton Springs Bridge at the Zilker Park mini-train track, loaned by Austin Parks Foundation

- h. (Re-)Appointed the following people to the Art in Public Places Panel:
  - i. Tammie Rubin
  - ii. Jacob Villanueva
  - iii. Sarah Carr
- i. Elected Commissioner Acia Grey as the Arts Commission's Art in Public Places Liaison
- j. Appointed Commissioner Mok to the Downtown Commission
- k. Elected Commission Zisman as Chair, and Commissioner Schmalbach as Vice Chair
- l. Arts Commission received the following Staff Briefings:
  - i. Monthly Hotel Occupancy Tax Update – Sylnovia Holt-Rabb, Economic Development Department
  - ii. American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Update - Sylnovia Holt-Rabb, Economic Development Department
  - iii. Monthly Cultural Funding Review Update – Meghan Wells, Cultural Arts Division Manager
  - iv. Regular Arts and Culture Non-Profit Relief Grant Update – Laura Odegaard, Cultural Arts Division, Project Manager
  - v. Live Music Fund Update – Kim McCarson, Music and Entertainment Division
  - vi. Art in Public Places Program Update – Sue Lambe, Art in Public Places Program Manager
  - vii. Intergovernmental Relations update – Brie Franco
  - viii. Capital Improvements Projects updates – Laura Esparza, Museums and Cultural Programs Division Manager
  - ix. Legal Consideration Related to Equity in Economic Development Department Hotel Occupancy Tax Funded Programs – Neal Falgoust, City of Austin Law Department Attorney
  - x. Fiscal Sponsorship Update – Jesús Pantel, Cultural Funding Supervisor
  - xi. Art in Public Places Year in Review – Marjorie Flanagan, Acting Art in Public Places Manager
  - xii. Community Navigators Update – Donald Jackson, Economic Development Department Business Process Consultant
- m. Arts Commission received the following special presentations:
  - i. Visit Austin Foundation by Mary Kay Hackley, Visit Austin Foundation Executive Director
  - ii. Pat Buchta, Austin Texas Musicians

- iii. Creek Show 2021 at Waterloo Park – Melissa Ayala, Community Engagement & Government Relations Director, Waterloo Greenway
- iv. Austin Film Society – Rebecca Campbell, Chief Executive Officer
- v. The New Philanthropists – Paulina Artieda, Executive Director
- vi. AEDC update - board nominations due by mid-January 2022 – David Colligan, Acting Chief Operating Officer, Austin Economic Development Corporation
- vii. Public City – Miriam Conner, The Pillars Project round two opening event
- viii. Creative Consortium Presentation – Cory Baker, President and Chief Executive Officer, The Long Center
- ix. Austin Cultural Trust RFP—Anne Gatling Haynes, Austin Economic Development Corporation
- x. Miriam Conner for Public City - Public City Project Update
- xi. Ground Floor Theatre – Lisa Scheps, Founder & Co-Artistic Director
- xii. Airbnb – Luis Briones, Texas Public Policy and Government Affairs Director
- xiii. Austin Community College Nonprofit Center Community Space launch – Barry Silverberg, Executive Director, Center for Nonprofit Studies and Nonprofit Austin at ACC and Chris Servini, Associate Vice Chancellor for Community and Public Affairs
- xiv. Cultural Funding Review Process Final Report - Margie Reese, MJR Partners

n. Approved 2022 Arts Commission Meeting Schedule

o. Approved Arts Commission FY 21 Annual Internal Review and FY 22 Goals

**2. Determine if the board's actions throughout the year comply with the mission statement.**

The Arts Commission's actions are in compliance with the mission statement.

The Commission continues to advise Council on arts related matters and provide oversight of the Cultural Arts Funding Programs and the Art in Public Places Program.

**3. List the board's goals and objectives for the new calendar year.**

**Incorporate the FOUR PILLARS into all Arts Commission Programs**

- i. Cultivate Leadership – develop current and emerging leaders
- ii. Ensure and Encourage Equity – reflect the growing diverse population of Austin
- iii. Foster Collaboration – contribute to Austin's robust arts ecosystem
- iv. Inspire Evolution – achieve advancement through innovation and resiliency

**GOAL I. COUNCIL RELATIONS**

Increase communication between Commission and Council in order to keep Council abreast of Arts Commission duties and actions.

Objectives:

- i. Commissioners to meet face-to-face at least quarterly with appointing Council Member \*\* except during period of shelter in place orders in effect
- ii. Commissioners to communicate monthly with their Council Member's staff
- iii. Commission to monitor the activity of the Council Economic Opportunity Committee and become involved as needed
- iv. Educate new Council Members about the Cultural Arts Division and goals of its programs, including Civic Arts, Cultural Funding Programs and Art in Public Places

**GOAL II. CULTURAL ARTS FUNDING**

Maintain oversight of Cultural Arts Funding to ensure appropriate distribution and use.

Objectives:

- i. On a monthly basis, monitor Cultural Arts Funding to ensure appropriate use
- ii. Review and recommend for appropriate action all cultural funding program applications
- iii. Review all recommended Art in Public Places projects and Recommend appropriate action
- iv. Encourage collaboration among arts organizations through policies and guidelines to maximize resources, effectiveness, productivity and quality of work, minimize fracturing among arts groups, and increase the overall impact of cultural arts funding in

arts community

- v. Review funding program guidelines annually and revise as needed.

### **GOAL III. PUBLIC ART**

Maintain support for the Art in Public Places program

Objectives:

- i. On a monthly basis, take action on project or program recommendations from staff or the Art in Public Places Panel
- ii. Build a strong framework of understanding and communication between the Arts Commission and the Art in Public Places Panel

### **GOAL IV. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

Maintain a robust working knowledge and understanding of the role and responsibilities of the Arts Commission by all Commissioners

Objectives:

- i. Orient any newly appointed Commissioners on the role of the Arts Commission through the use of the Arts Commission orientation document upon appointment
- ii. Conduct an annual Arts Commission all-day retreat
- iii. Review goals quarterly to track progress

### **GOAL V. LIAISON GROUPS, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

Ensure appropriate representation and working relationship with all Liaison groups and other related Boards and Commissions through meeting attendance and presentations

Objectives:

- i. Select representatives to serve on the following groups:
  - a. Art in Public Places Panel
  - b. Downtown Commission
  - c. Other working groups and assignments as needed
- ii. Build and maintain a stronger working relationship with Arts in Public Places Panel, Music Commission and other Liaison groups
- iii. Each Commissioner will attend a related Boards & Commissions regular meeting, (i.e. Music Commission, Library, African American Quality of Life, etc.) at least once per year.



## **GOAL VI. CULTURAL CONTRACTORS**

Maintain a strong relationship and understanding of all Cultural contractors

Objectives:

- i. Each Commissioner will attend a minimum of 12 cultural Contractor performances/exhibits per year
- ii. Each Commissioner will attend a minimum of 1 Art in Public Places project dedication per year

## **GOAL VII. COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT**

Maintain a strong working relationship and increase engagement with local arts organizations and communities – especially historically underserved (BIPOC) and marginalized (including LGBTQ and Disability) communities.

Objectives:

- i. Increase communications about upcoming Commission meetings and cultural arts funding.
- ii. Establish better working relationships with various arts organizations around Austin including ACA, AMP, and Big Medium (others) by regular outreach and communication through social media and other means
- iii. Each Commissioner to invite at least 2 cultural contractors or new arts organization to attend and present at a regular Commission meeting
- iv. Conduct special outreach to historically underserved (BIPOC) and marginalized (including LGBTQ and Disability) Communities about opportunities and funding available through the Cultural Arts Division

## **GOAL VIII. ISSUES AND ADVOCACY**

Advocate on behalf of Arts constituents and increase their awareness of the function and role of the Arts Commission and of the importance of their own participation and engagement.

Objectives:

- i. Increase our understanding of the pulse of the arts community's needs and issues by attending community events
- ii. Raise awareness and increase communication with constituents through social media and face-to-face networking about issues before the Commission and City Council related to the Arts.
- iii. Encourage participation of all arts groups and communities on issues before the Commission and Council on an ongoing basis.



- iv. Bring concerns of the arts community before Council through appropriate actions and communications
- v. Address issues facing the arts communities including but not limited to affordability, transportation, quality of life, and venue preservation and propose comprehensive recommendations for solutions and actions to Council
- vi. Seek funding for the continuation of the Arts Space Assistance Program

**b. GOAL IX. DISTRICT ENGAGEMENT**

Deepen Relationship and responsiveness to representative districts

Objectives:

- i. Continue to propose suggestions for community outreach and inclusion aimed at making meetings more accessible and vital to the districts represented
- ii. Track and analyze the projects/artists funded by district as well as other demographics such as race, gender and sexual identity to best ensure equitable distribution of funding, projects, and programming throughout the districts to the extent possible