

**Budget Direction: Enhancement of Art Space Assistance Program (ASAP)****Council Priority: Culture & Lifelong Learning**

**Metrics:** A2: Percentage of creatives who report that they do not have access to creative space they require  
 B6: Number and percentage of creatives who report having access to affordable creative space

**Strategies:** 6: Leverage City-owned assets (buildings and land) to increase the amount of affordable creative space that is available to working artists, and incentivize the equitable and inclusive development, redevelopment, and use of other publicly and privately owned assets for creative space.  
 7: Assist artists and creatives in all disciplines in developing a roadmap to secure capital, patronage, and build capacity to ensure their long-term prosperity.

**Economic Development Department:**

Budgeted Dollars	\$400,000
Proposed Adjusted Dollars	\$1,000,000
<b>Funding increase to ASAP</b> (one time from EDD budget identified for new economic incentives program)	<b>\$600,000</b>

**Purpose: Increased funding and program scope is necessary to provide immediate assistance to save artist/musician space in the city, while other more extensive programs are developed and put in place.**

- The Art Space Assistance Program or ASAP was created by Council through the 2016 Music and Creative Ecosystem Omnibus Resolution as a program to provide assistance to local creative sector nonprofits facing financial difficulties due to rising property costs.
- ASAP received \$200,000 in one-time funds and served 11 local creative sector nonprofits, before running out of funds before the year's end.
- There were more than \$500,000 in requests from qualified applicants.
- Currently budgeted at \$400,000.

**Enhancement Direction:**

- Add additional \$600,000 to currently budgeted \$400,000 to provide \$1 million to ASAP.
- Expand the scope of the program to include provisions for grants and loans for gap funding down payments and to preserve existing and secure new creative properties.
- Provide framework to ensure efficacy and accountability, creating a technical assistance component as well as loan packaging product that supports the program.
- Enhancement of ASAP program should be done in a manner that will allow it to coordinate with other future efforts requiring longer implementation timelines, including Cultural Trust, local government corporation creation, development of a Capacity Building Program, land development code changes, and Economic Development Locational Enhancement Program.
- Increased funding and program scope is necessary to provide immediate assistance to save artist/musician space in the city, while other more extensive programs are developed and put in place.
- Access to funds shall be made available no later than January 2019.