

AGENDA



Recommendation for Council Action

AUSTIN CITY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting: November 15, 2018

Item Number: 007

Economic Development Department

Approve revisions to the City of Austin Artwork Donation and Loan Policy which governs the review of proposed artwork donations and loans to the City.

Lead Department	Economic Development.
Fiscal Note	This item has no fiscal impact.
Prior Council Action	August 16, 2012 - Council passed Resolution No. 20120816-061 directing the City Manager to collaborate with the City of Austin Arts Commission to develop a consistent and efficient artwork donation policy that enables the City to respond to artwork donations or loan requests in a centralized way; March 21, 2013 - City Council approved the policy; September 25, 2014 - Council passed Resolution No. 20140925-085 directing the City Manager to engage staff and the Arts Commission in a comprehensive review of the City's Artwork Donation & Loan Policy process; December 11, 2014 - City Council passed a motion on consent to approve the revisions to the City of Austin Artwork Donation and Loan Policy; approved on consent on Council Member Spelman's motion, Mayor Pro Tem Cole's second on a 7-0 vote.
For More Information	Rebecca Giello, Interim Director, Economic Development Department, 512-974-3045; Meghan Wells, Cultural Arts Division Manager, Economic Development Department, 512-974-9314.
Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action	September 17, 2018 - Arts Commission approved the Artwork Donation and Loan Policy Working Group recommended revisions to the City of Austin Artwork Donation and Loan Policy (All

	Commissioners present).
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Additional Backup Information:

The current Artwork Donation and Loan Policy has been in place since 1985, with the most recent version adopted by Council in December of 2014. The Arts Commission appointed an Artwork Donation and Loan Policy working group to review the policy and make recommendations. This was done in accordance with Artwork Donation and Loan Policy, **Section V. Revisions to the Artwork Donation and Loan Policy**, which states “The Arts Commission may review and make revisions to this policy annually, and may seek input from the Art in Public Places Panel, as needed.”

The working group was made up of Arts Commissioners and Art in Public Places Panel members. Parks and Recreation Department staff and Economic Development Department staff attended meetings of the working group as needed. The recommended policy revisions are intended to improve customer service, improve city processes, and make Austin more affordable for creatives. The policy revisions are focused on four main areas.

The first revision seeks to make the policy simpler for the public to understand, set minimum requirements to ensure responsible use of City resources, and clarify the process for a donation versus a loan. The second revision states that short-term loans will be considered on a case-by-case basis for the Butler Hike and Bike Trail. The third revision edits policy language to make it easier to discern between art and a marketing proposal so that City property is not used to promote a brand or an organization or institution. And the fourth revision establishes a process to allow any City department to engage visual arts professionals for public art or creative interventions without having to seek approvals through the Artwork Donation and Loan Policy.

The following City Departments were invited to review and provide comment on the Arts Commission Working Group’s proposed revisions: Parks and Recreation Department, Aviation, Austin Public Library, Austin Police Department, Austin Fire Department, Public Works Department, Austin Transportation Department, Austin Convention Center, and Planning and Zoning Department.