



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Mayor and Council

**FROM:** Kevin Johns, Director  
Economic Development Department

**DATE:** March 7, 2017

**SUBJECT:** Update on Cultural Arts Service Contracts Labor Standards

On October 6, 2016, Council authorized cultural arts service contracts for Fiscal Year 2016-17. During that discussion, Council amended the agreement to include language requiring the Contractor to work with the City to develop labor standards and criteria to use for evaluation of eligibility for the next funding cycle. The purpose of this memo is to provide an update on that directive.

Page 6, #17(E) of the contract reads as follows:

Contractor agrees to work with the City to develop labor standards and criteria to use for evaluation of eligibility for the next funding cycle. Council shall consider in February 2017 how much weight, if any, to give Contractor's conduct thereafter regarding subsection D above in evaluation applications for future cultural arts funding agreements.

In response to this directive, the Arts Commission created a Working Group at their meeting on November 21, 2016, and appointed four Commissioners to the Group: Chair Lulu Flores, Commissioner Brett Barnes, Vice-Chair Michelle Polgar, and Commissioner Chris Bryan. Members of this Arts Commission Working Group met with the amendment sponsor on January 23, 2017, to discuss the intent and goals of Council's directive and to help guide parameters. The Arts Commission Working Group will move forward by inviting the affected arts organizations whose cultural contracts include the new labor peace agreement provision to provide input to the Arts Commission. This Working Group meeting is in the process of being scheduled and is anticipated to meet in May 2017, pending participants' availability. Staff will return with an item for Council consideration as soon as the stakeholder process is complete.

Please feel free to contact me at (512) 974-7802 or Meghan Wells, Cultural Arts Division Manager, at (512) 974-9314 if we can provide any additional information.

**Cc:** Elaine Hart, Interim City Manager  
Sue Edwards, Assistant City Manager  
Sylvia Holt-Rabb, Assistant Director, Economic Development Department  
Meghan Wells, Cultural Arts Division Manager, Economic Development Department