

AGENDA



Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council	Item ID	38154	Agenda Number	31.
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Meeting Date:	12/11/2014	Department:	Economic Development
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Subject

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.

Amount and Source of Funding

Fiscal Note

There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

Purchasing Language:

Prior Council Action:

August 16, 2012 – Council approved Resolution No. 20120816-061 directing the City Manager to collaborate with the 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 – Council approved the revised Artwork Donation and Loan Policy.
 September 25, 2014 – Council approved Resolution No. 20140925-085 directing the City Manager to engage staff and the Austin Arts Commission in a comprehensive review of the City's Artwork Donation and Loan Policy process.

For More Information:

Kevin Johns, Director, Economic Development Department, (512) 974-7802; Megan Crigger, Administrator, Cultural Arts Division, Economic Development Department, (512) 974-9312

Boards and Commission Action:

December 8, 2014 – To be considered by the Austin Arts Commission.

MBE / WBE:

Related Items:

Additional Backup Information

This Request for Council Action is in response to Council Resolution No. 20140925-085 directing the City Manager to engage staff and the Austin Arts Commission in a comprehensive review of the City's Artwork Donation and Loan Policy process. The current Artwork Donation and Loan Policy has been in place since 1985, with the most recent version adopted by Council in 2013.

The recommended policy revisions are intended to allow for a refined process for coordinated reviews and improved customer service and are focused on three main areas. The first revision clarifies the difference between permanent donations and short-term loans, and introduces a shorter review process for short-term loans and temporary installations. The second revision more directly references City codes and ordinances in the review process for placement of artworks in Town Lake Park and on the Butler Hike and Bike Trail, especially with respect to sites with certain restrictions (such as sites in the process of master planning, and sites that would suffer negative environmental impacts from the siting of artwork). The third revision outlines additional exemptions to the policy, including proposed placements at City Hall and projects reviewed through the Neighborhood Partnering Program.

The Economic Development Department convened City departments to discuss these recommended changes to the policy. The following departments participated: Parks and Recreation Department, Aviation, Austin Public Library, Austin Police Department, Austin Fire Department, Public Works Department, Austin Transportation Department, Austin Convention Center, Austin Energy, and Planning and Development Review Department. A representative from the Austin Arts Commission served as liaison to the working group.

The Austin Arts Commission is scheduled to consider the revisions to the Artwork Donation and Loan Policy on December 8, 2014.