



ARTS COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION 20220327-3.a

Date: 3-27-2022

Subject: Arts Commission FY23 Budget Recommendation

Motioned By: Commissioner Lulu Flores

Seconded By: Commissioner Jaime Castillo

Recommendation

Recommendation to approve two Full Time Employees (FTE) for the Economic Development and the Cultural Arts Division in the FY23 budget.

Description of Recommendation to Council

Our Commission recommends that the City include two additional full time employees (FTE) in the FY23 budget for Economic Development Department (EDD). One FTE will be a Business Process Specialist for EDD to support the department's divisions that manage HOT funds. The other will be a Community Engagement Specialist/ Consultant for the Cultural Arts Division.

Rationale:

The Economic Development Department is launching HOT funded programs in three different divisions. The successful rollout and execution of these programs will require coordination, monitoring, data collection and ongoing review. It will also require robust and coordinated community outreach and engagement. A Business Process Specialist will provide critical support in program integration and execution across all three divisions.

Members of the Arts Community, especially those from historically underrepresented and underfunded groups, are facing continuing financial challenges such as housing, affordable creative spaces, low incomes and access to opportunity and growth.

Cultural Arts Division (CAD) programs provide opportunities to alleviate some of the challenges. The information is complex and dense. New applicants usually require assistance in determining their eligibility and meeting milestones throughout the process.

CAD administrators conduct Information Sessions and Open Office Hours to provide applicant assistance. Invitations depend on channels that reach existing applicants or potential applicants that are already knowledgeable about the programs.

A Community Engagement Specialist (or Consultant) will provide the communication and outreach skills needed to inform and assist potential applicants. Thus, relieving CAD administrators of these additional tasks to focus on their primary job functions.

The Community Engagement Specialist will also bring additional strategies to address equitable access to EDD programs.

Vote 6-0

For:

Commissioner Michelle Polgar, Chair

Commissioner Celina Zisman, Vice Chair
Commissioner Jaime Castillo
Commissioner Lulu Flores
Commissioner Acia Gray
Commissioner Amy Mok

Against: none

Abstain: none

Absent:

Commissioner Brett Barnes
Commissioner Felipe Garza
Commissioner kYmberly Keeton
Commissioner Heidi Schmalbach
Commissioner Rick van Dyke

Attest:

Jesus Pantel,
Arts Commission Staff Liaison