

**CITY OF ALBANY
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA
STAFF REPORT**

Agenda Date: September 5, 2023
Reviewed by: NA

SUBJECT: Arts Committee Public Art Projects Plan Funding Allocation

REPORT BY: Jeremy Allen, KALB Media Administrator
Isabelle Leduc, Assistant City Manager

SUMMARY

The action before the City Council is to approve an allocation of Art in Public Places funds not to exceed \$160,750 for the creation of Public Art in Albany as outlined in the Arts Committee Public Art Project Plan (PAPP).

ARTS COMMITTEE AND STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the Council approve Resolution No. 2023-63, to allocate Art in Public Places Funds in an amount not-to-exceed \$160,750 for the creation of Public Art as outlined in the proposed Public Art Project Plan.

BACKGROUND

The Art in Public Places Ordinance was adopted in 2007. The purposes of the Ordinance are to promote the acquisition, construction, installation, restoration, and maintenance of public art pieces in Albany. The Ordinance provides for a 1.75%-for-art fee on most new developments over \$300,000. This fee requirement can be satisfied with inclusion of public art in each project directly, or if there is not a possible public space for Public Art at the project site, the development must contribute equal to 1.75% of project costs to the Art in Public Places Fund, to be used in focused areas throughout the city.

The Public Arts Master Plan was adopted in July 2010 and revised in 2016 to provide additional detail of the workflow, categories, and selection process related to the development of public art in Albany. The core of the Public Arts Master Plan is a survey of sites that identifies public art opportunities across the City and a list of art programs actively pursued and managed by the Arts Committee.

DISCUSSION

Public Art Projects Plan (PAPP)

The Public Art Projects Plan is the document that the Arts Committee uses to make a recommendation to Council for the selection of projects funded by the Art in Public Places fund. Upon review of the site inventory and programs in the Public Arts Master Plan, the Art in Public Places Fund balance, and public art projects underway, the Arts Committee creates a biennial (every 2 years) PAPP that is forwarded to the City Council for approval. The PAPP is reviewed periodically by the Arts Committee for possible revisions and amendments to be approved by Council. All projects included in the PAPP are subject to the Public Art Review process as describe in Section J of the Public Arts Master Plan with final approval by the City Council.

The previous Public Arts Projects Plan (2021-2023) is attached to this staff report as Attachment 2, along with the status updates as follows:

- Creative Justice Art Project - \$30,000
A call for artist was release on November 8, 2021. A panel reviewed the submission received in September 2022 and made a recommendation to the Arts Committee. In November 2022 the Arts Committee selected to move forward with Susan Moffat’s project “Path to Belonging”. Community outreach for the project is currently ongoing at the Community Center with a description of the proposed project on display until the end of September.
- Heron Sculpture - \$8,250
No update available
- Sculpture Loan Program - \$10,000
A sculpture by Jeff Downing entitled “Barred Spiral” was installed at Masonic Avenue & Washington Avenue on the Ohlone Greenway on May 9, 2022 for a period of 2 years.
- Community Projects – Mural “Set Aside Fund” - \$20,000
No project implemented under this category.

Public Art Projects Plan

The current proposed draft Public Art Projects Plan 2023-2025 (Attachment 3) consists of project recommendations to be funded with the Art in Public Places Funds including the following:

- \$30,0000 for Creative Justice Art Project currently underway
- \$81,500 for murals in the commercial district in support of the outreach conducted by the Arts Committee Mural subcommittee
- \$5,000 to the Sculpture Loan program for the installation of a sculpture at the designated location at Masonic Avenue and Solano Avenue on the Ohlone Greenway.
- \$8,250 to pursue investigating options for the rehabilitation, relocation or removal of the Herons Sculpture at the Albany waterfront.

- \$36,000 for small scale community projects of less than \$10,000. In accordance with the Public Arts Master Plan, the Arts Committee may propose to set aside funds from the Art in Public Places Fund every two years to support public art projects originated by individuals or groups in the Albany community following a process outlined in the Public Arts Master Plan, Section K: Community Participation. Up to 20% of the Art in Public Places fund balance as of January 1, 2023 can be set aside for Community Projects.

SOCIAL EQUITY AND INCLUSIVITY CONSIDERATIONS

Public Art fosters creativity, freedom of expression, cultural awareness, civic pride, and strong sense of community.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The estimated FY 2022-23 year-end balance of the Art in Public Places fund is \$180,456. The Arts Committee's funding request to support the projects outlined in the Public Art Projects Plan is \$160,750.

Attachments

1. Resolution No. 2023-63
2. Public Art Projects Plan 2021-2023
3. Current proposed draft Public Art Projects Plan 2023-2025

1 **RESOLUTION NO. 2023-63**

2 **A RESOLUTION OF THE ALBANY CITY COUNCIL TO APPROVE**
3 **AN ALOCATION FROM THE ART IN PUBLIC PLACES FUND**
4 **NOT TO EXCEED \$160,750.00 FOR THE CREATION OF PUBLIC ART**
5 **AS OUTLINED IN THE PUBLIC ARTS PROJECT PLAN**

6 **WHEREAS**, the Art in Public Places Ordinance was adopted in 2007 to promote the
7 acquisition, construction, installation, restoration, and maintenance of public art pieces in
8 Albany that will foster creativity, freedom of expression, cultural awareness, civic pride,
9 and strong sense of community; and

10 **WHEREAS**, the ordinance provides for a 1.75%-for-art fee on most new
11 developments over \$300,000, this fee requirement can be satisfied with inclusion of public
12 art in each project directly, or a contribution equal to 1.75% of project costs to the Art in
13 Public Places Fund, to be used in focused areas throughout the City; and

14 **WHEREAS**, the Public Art Master Plan consists of a survey of sites for public art
15 opportunities and programs was approved by the City Council in 2010 and revised in 2016;
16 and
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18 **WHEREAS**, the Public Art Projects Plan was drafted upon review by the Arts
19 Committee of the site inventory and programs included the Public Arts Master Plan, the
20 Art in Public Places fund balance, and public art projects underway the Arts Committee is
21 proposing to work on projects and programs proposed in the Public Art Projects Plan; and
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23 **WHEREAS**, the Arts Committee is requesting an allocation from the Art in Public
24 Places fund not to exceed \$160,750.00 for the creation of Public Art Projects as outlined
25 in the Public Art Projects Plan.
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1 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Albany City Council does
2 hereby approve an allocation from the Art in Public Places Fund not to exceed \$160,750.00
3 for the creation of Public Art Projects as outlined in the Public Art Projects Plan.
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8 AARON TIEDEMANN, MAYOR
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Albany Arts Committee
Public Art Projects Plan 2021-2023

CITY PROJECTS	ART IN PUBLIC PLACES FUND RECOMMENDATION	COMMENTS/DECISIONS
Public Art Project in Support of Black Lives and Social Justice	\$10,000	Make a recommendation on potential project(s) and funding allocation. Provide input on a socially engaged project beyond a mural that still conforms to the Art in Public Places Ordinance and is in support of the movement for Black lives, Asian and Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) and social justice.
Hérons Sculpture	\$8,250	Committee will investigate options for the rehabilitation, relocation or removal of Herons Sculpture at Albany Bulb. Cost based on 2012 estimate plus 10%.
Sculpture Loan Program	\$10,000	Rollover of funds from 2019 - 2021 PAPP for installation of two identified sculptures. Cost reflects construction of two concrete pads, artist stipends and plaques.
TOTAL CITY PROJECTS	\$48,250	

OTHER PROJECTS	ART IN PUBLIC PLACES FUND RECOMMENDATION	COMMENTS/DECISIONS
Community Projects - Mural Program "Set Aside Funds"	\$20,000.00	<p>City-suggested locations (\$10,000) – Fund for the creation of murals on locations identified by City Staff for the purpose of beautification.</p> <p>Community-suggested locations (\$10,000) - <i>Debunking Stereotypes through Muralism</i> (in progress) or other project. Funds from 2019-21 PAPP have been rolled over.</p>
TOTAL OTHER PROJECTS	\$20,000	

GRAND TOTAL ALL PROJECTS	\$68,250	Recommendation made by Arts Committee on May 3, 2021. Revised on October 4, 2021.
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**Albany Arts Committee
Public Art Projects Plan 2023-2025**

CITY PROJECTS	ART IN PUBLIC PLACES FUND RECOMMENDATION	COMMENTS/DECISIONS
Public Art Project – Creative Justice Art Project	\$30,000	Rollover from 2021-2023 PAPP. A call for artist was release on November 8, 2021. A panel reviewed the submission received in September 2022 and made a recommendation to the Arts Committee. In November 2022 the Arts Committee selected to move forward with Susan Moffat’s project “Path to Belonging”. Community outreach for the project is scheduled to begin at the end of July 2023 for a period of 60 days.
Murals in Commercial District	\$81,500	Installation of murals in commercial district.
Sculpture Loan Program	\$5,000	Installation of one new sculpture. Cost reflects artist stipend and plaque.
Heron Sculpture	\$8,250	Investigate options for the rehabilitation, relocation, or removal of the Herons Sculpture at Albany Waterfront. Cost based on 2012 estimate plus 10%.
Community Projects “Set Aside Fund”	Not to exceed \$36,000	Small scale community projects of less than \$10,000.
GRAND TOTAL	160,750	Recommended by the Arts Committee on July 10, 2023.