



City of Sunnyvale

Agenda Item

20-0130

Agenda Date: 2/27/2020

2020 COUNCIL STUDY ISSUE

NUMBER

LCS 20-01

TITLE Include Diverse Groups of People in the Art Creation Process

BACKGROUND

Lead Department: Department of Library and Community Services

Support Departments: Office of the City Manager
Office of the City Attorney

Sponsor(s): Arts Commission

History: 1 year ago: N/A
2 years ago: N/A

SCOPE OF THE STUDY

What precipitated this Study?

The Arts Commission feels there is currently a lack of diversity being displayed in the artists selected for the public art projects in Sunnyvale. Members of the Commission feel that Sunnyvale should acknowledge and include Veterans, Native Americans, African-Americans, Hispanic-Americans, Asian-Americans, Seniors, disabled and those with special needs in its process of commissioning artworks.

What are the key elements of the Study?

The purpose of this Study is to consider requiring the public art projects in Sunnyvale to include specific populations or demographics in the consultation, design or commission phases. The key elements of this Study are as follows:

- 1) Analyze the current collection to identify potential gaps in representation from each population.
- 2) Review and identify best practices used by benchmark organizations that may have a similar requirement;
- 3) Recommend policy changes or program investments to fill identified gaps in service and/or policy;
- 4) Analyze costs and resources, including but not limited to: dedicated staff, operating budget and organization oversight;
- 5) Identify grants, donations and/or other outside resources available to advance cultural inclusion initiatives in public art projects; and
- 6) Seek input on best practice recommendations.

Estimated years to complete Study: 1 year

FISCAL IMPACT

Cost to Conduct Study

Level of staff effort required (opportunity cost): Minor

Funding Required for Non-Budgeted Costs: \$ 0

Funding Source:

The Study would require minor staff time from the Department of Library and Community Services to conduct policy research and analysis on the Study. Staff time would also be required from the Office of the City Manager and Office of the City Attorney to review and advise on a draft policy to be developed by staff.

Cost to Implement Study Results

Unknown. Study and development of draft policy would include assessment of potential costs.

EXPECTED CITY COUNCIL, BOARD OR COMMISSION PARTICIPATION

Council-Approved Work Plan: No

Council Study Session: Yes

Reviewed by Boards/Commissions: Arts Commission

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Drop. This policy issue does not merit discussion at a Study Issues Workshop.

The Arts Commission's current process already includes opportunities for the Commission to select diverse artists for public art projects. There is currently a study issue (LCS 19-03, Explore Strategies to Promote Cultural Inclusion in City Programs and Services) in progress, which will identify opportunities to include and reflect the City's diverse communities. Additionally, the Master Plan for Public Art will recommend "public art to better reflect the cultural diversity of the City." Finally, staff could work with the Arts Commission to develop an additional policy statement to clarify their intent to encourage diverse people in the art creation process to bring forward to Council without completing a Study.

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Reviewed by: Cherise Brandell, Director, Department of Library & Community Services

Reviewed by: Teri Silva, Assistant City Manager

Approved by: Kent Steffens, City Manager