

# Public Art Policy Review Ad Hoc Committee Quarterly Update

January – March 2023

## Purpose and Scope

The purpose of the Public Art Policy Review Ad Hoc is to explore options for expanding public art in the community. Creative Sonoma's original work plan, approved by the Board of Supervisors (Agenda Item Number: 47, June 24, 2014) includes a recommendation to consider enacting a percent for art ordinance. In FY2020, Creative Sonoma received grant funding that facilitated hiring a consultant to develop a public art master plan and a percent-for-art ordinance for Board consideration. Prior to hiring the consultant, Creative Sonoma staff held one-on-one briefings with the Supervisors, after which the consultant was hired. Subsequently, Supervisor Gore created the Public Art Policy Review Ad Hoc to work with Creative Sonoma staff to guide the work of the consultant. The process will include stakeholder interviews and community engagement activities designed to collect a wide range of input into the plan.

## Ad Hoc Members

- Supervisor Susan Gorin
- Supervisor David Rabbitt

## Attendees

County Staff:

- Creative Sonoma
- County Administrator's Office
- Public Art Consultant (Todd Bressi) as necessary
- As-needed subject matter support may also be provided by other departments and staff

## Meetings Held

10/27/22 – Agenda topics: recap of research and interviews completed to date; review of key factors driving recommendations (i.e., limited amount of public construction in County, narrow geographic focus of planned construction); presentation of preliminary recommendations including process for governance and decision making, potential partners within and outside of county government; preliminary funding recommendations.

11/17/22 – Agenda topics: Confirmed agreement on key steps for moving forward: 1% assessment on public construction projects budgeted at more than \$1 million; additional annual allocation for smaller scale public art projects across the county; TOT to be considered as the potential revenue stream; additional staff needs associated with the program; preliminary discussion re: the merits of adopting a policy vs. ordinance which will be further researched for the next meeting.

## Fiscal Impacts

The contract for this consultant is being paid for by a grant from the Hewlett Foundation. The contract amount falls within the EDB Director's signing authority. The policy or ordinance that will be presented to the full Board of Supervisors for consideration will include recommendations for funding the program going forward.

## Status

- The Public Art Ad Hoc was extended by Chair Coursey in January 2023.
- Three documents are being drafted for the Ad Hoc's review: Public Art Policy, Public Art Master Plan, Public Art Procedures manual. These documents will be posted to the Creative Sonoma website and community feedback will be solicited. Presentations on the Master Plan continue to be made to Municipal Advisory Councils.

- Staff provided a briefing to County Administrator Christina Rivera on February 3, 2023. Subsequently, additional work will be completed on the documents, including financial review.
- The March Ad Hoc meeting will be postponed to April.
- Presentation to the full Board of Supervisors is now anticipated to occur in August 2023.

#### **Upcoming Meetings**

- May 2023 – specific date pending confirmation.