



Staff Report

File #: 20-449

Version: 1

Date: 11/9/2020

Item #: 7.1a.

TO: Mayor and City Council

THROUGH: Steve Powers, City Manager

FROM: Peter Fernandez, PE, Public Works Director

SUBJECT:

Proposed revisions to Public Art Fund Allocations listed under *Salem Revised Code* Chapter 15 - Public Art (SRC 15) and Salem Public Art Commission Guidelines, Policies, and Procedures (SPAC Guidelines).

Ward(s): All Wards

Councilor(s): All Councilors

Neighborhood(s): All Neighborhoods

Result Area(s): Welcoming and Livable Community.

ISSUE:

Shall the City Council advance Ordinance Bill No. 13-20, which removes existing percent allocations within the Public Art Fund under SRC Chapter 15 (Public Art) and revises SPAC Guidelines, to second reading?

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the City Council advance Ordinance Bill No. 13-20, which removes existing percent allocations within the Public Art Fund under SRC Chapter 15 (Public Art) and revises SPAC Guidelines, to second reading.

SUMMARY:

Salem Revised Code Chapter 15, establishes and governs the Public Art Fund. Specifically, SRC 15.030 sets limitations on the amounts that can be allocated to maintaining the City-owned art collection. While there is money in the Fund, the limitations make it difficult to address current maintenance needs.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. The proposed revisions to SRC 15 remove the existing percent allocations (i.e., 70 percent for acquisition, 20 percent for management and administration, and 10 percent for maintenance) from within the Public Art Fund.
2. Removal of the percent allocations will allow more funds to be utilized for care and maintenance of the existing Public Art Collection.
3. Consideration of continued maintenance needs has been incorporated into Public Art Selection Guidelines in the Salem Public Art Commission Public Art Collection Guidelines, Policies, and Procedures.

BACKGROUND:

Salem's Public Art Fund supports the Public Art Collection and is funded by donations, grants, and through the dedication of one-half of one percent of eligible publicly funded capital improvement project costs. As part of the City of Salem's 2020-21 Budget, the Public Art Fund was allocated \$10,000 from the Transient Occupancy Tax fund to help support future acquisition, management, and maintenance of art in the City's Public Art Collection. The October 2020 balance of the Public Art Fund is \$60,024.

Per *Salem Revised Code* 15.030, 70 percent of these funds are to be used for acquiring public art, 20 percent are to be used for the purposes of managing the Public Art Collection to include program management and community education, and 10 percent are to be used to support maintenance, conservation, and deaccessioning of artworks in the Public Art Collection.

The present percent allocations within the Public Art Fund mean that minimal funding is available to care for and repair existing artwork in the Public Collection. At present, this means funds are available for new acquisition, but not for maintenance. With an aging collection and growing maintenance needs, this makes caring for the City's valued collection a challenge. The proposed revisions to SRC Chapter 15 remove the existing percent allocations to allow the existing funds to be used for maintenance and care of the existing collection.

Future expenditures of the Public Art Fund will be determined through the City's normal budgetary process.

Heather Dimke
Management Analyst

Attachments:

1. Ordinance Bill No. 13-20
2. Exhibit A. SRC Chapter 15 Proposed Fund Revisions
3. Exhibit B. SPAC Guidelines Proposed Fund Revisions