

Capitola City Council

Agenda Report



Meeting: February 27, 2025

From: Community Services and Recreation Department

Subject: Public Art Fund Allocation

Recommended Action: Adopt a resolution allocating \$25,000 from the Public Art Fund as a matching contribution for an application for the National Endowment for the Arts Grant FY 2026 to support the creation of public art project at the Park at Rispin Mansion and amending the Fiscal Year 2024-25 Budget, as recommended by the Capitola Art and Cultural Commission.

Background: Chapter 2.58 of the Capitola Municipal Code (Funding the Public Art Program) establishes a Public Art Fund to enrich the City's cultural and aesthetic environment through public art initiatives. This fund is supported by commercial construction projects exceeding \$250,000, where developers contribute either 2% of the project cost for on-site public art or 1% directly to the Public Art Fund.

The Art and Cultural Commission, established by Capitola Municipal Code Chapter 2.56, advises the City Council on public art fund allocations and presents annual recommendations for cultural and artistic goals. The Commission has identified the Park at Rispin Mansion as a site for a public art project, prioritizing the Fountain Project as one of their goals for this year.

The Public Works Department seeks to apply for a National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) FY 2026 Grants for Arts Projects (GAP) to fund the enhancement of the historic fountain at the Park at Rispin Mansion. This project will transform the 800-square-foot historic fountain into a vibrant artist-designed mosaic, celebrating Capitola's cultural heritage, natural beauty, and community identity through historical themes, regional landscapes, and environmental motifs inspired by Soquel Creek.

Discussion: The NEA grant requires a 1:1 funding match, with \$50,000 provided through City in-kind staff time and resources. The Art and Cultural Commission recommends that the City Council allocate \$25,000 from the Public Art Fund to support this match. The total project budget is \$150,000, with \$75,000 coming from the NEA grant and \$75,000 in matched City funds (\$50,000 in-kind and \$25,000 from the Public Art Fund).

Proposed Grant In-Kind Costs:

- Mosaic Design & Installation: \$100,000 (Grant and Public Art Fund)
- Community Workshops & Outreach: \$11,000
- Project Management: \$10,000
- Grant Administration: \$9,000
- Interpretive Signage & Accessibility Features: \$5,000
- Public Works Staff & Materials: \$15,000

While the NEA GAP grant allows up to \$100,000 in funding requests, any additional match beyond \$50,000 would require other funding sources. Approval of this recommendation ensures \$75,000 in matching funds for the grant application. The \$25,000 from the Public Art Fund and the \$75,000 NEA award would cover all art-related expenses, excluding staff time provided by the City.

This 18-month project will involve artist selection, community workshops, design approval, fabrication, installation, and a public dedication event. It aligns with Capitola's cultural objectives by fostering community engagement. Should the grant application be unsuccessful, the \$25,000 Public Art Fund allocation will remain available for future projects.

Fiscal Impact: The current balance of the Public Art Fund is \$95,850, with \$50,000 committed to existing projects. Allocating \$25,000 for this grant match leaves \$20,850 for other public art initiatives. There are sufficient funds to support the recommended action.

Attachments:

1. Resolution Amending the FY 2024-25 Budget

Report Prepared By: Nikki Bryant; Community Services and Recreation Director

Reviewed By: Julia Gautho, City Clerk; Jim Malberg, Finance Director, Jessica Kahn, Public Works Director; Samantha Zutler, City Attorney

Approved By: Jamie Goldstein, City Manager