



# Folsom City Council Staff Report

<b>MEETING DATE:</b>	12/9/2025
<b>AGENDA SECTION:</b>	Old Business
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	Resolution No. 11522 - A Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Execute a Professional Services and Consultant Agreement with Romo Studios, LLC for a Not-to-Exceed Amount of \$279,730 (Grant Funds) for the Fabrication, Installation, and Construction of Hello, I'm Johnny Cash on the Johnny Cash Trail Art Experience (PK1502) from California Department of Parks & Recreation Budget Act of 2023 Grant Funds and Acceptance of Grant and Appropriation of Funds
<b>FROM:</b>	Parks and Recreation Department

**RECOMMENDATION / COUNCIL ACTION**

Staff recommend that the City Council approve Resolution No. 11522 - A Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Execute a Professional Services and Consultant Agreement with Romo Studios, LLC for a Not-to-Exceed Amount of \$279,730 (Grant Funds) for the Fabrication, Installation, and Construction of Hello, I'm Johnny Cash on the Johnny Cash Trail Art Experience (PK1502) from California Department of Parks & Recreation Budget Act of 2023 Grant Funds and Acceptance of Grant and Appropriation of Funds.

**BACKGROUND**

The Johnny Cash Trail was finalized in 2017 as a Class I trail connecting to the Sacramento County trail system and providing access across the Folsom Lake Crossing. As part of the overall trail master plan, eight dedicated art experiences were identified for installation within the Johnny Cash Trail. As part of the project and funding available, it was determined that the first two art pieces to be constructed would be Johnny Cash Picks No. 1 & 2. Pick No.1 was completed and installed in November 2024.

In alignment with the adopted City of Folsom’s Strategic Plan Goal C: Economic and Community Development staff submitted a request letter to Assemblymember Josh Hoover, District 7, seeking \$425,000 in the State of California Budget Act of 2023 for the design, engineering, and art fabrication of Cash’s Pick No. 2. In July 2023, Assemblymember Hoover notified staff that the request had been included in the state budget, with funds to be administered

through California State Parks and the Office of Grants and Loans and expended by January 2027. On April 24, 2024, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 11183, approving the submission of the grant application.

The planned location for Pick No. 2 was on property owned by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. During the site licensing process, Bureau staff determined that the proposed installation constituted a monument and, pursuant to 43 CFR 423.28, monuments are prohibited on federal land (Attachment 4). As a result, staff discontinued efforts to construct Pick No. 2 and evaluated alternative art experiences that could be delivered within the grant timeline and budget. The “Hello, I’m Johnny Cash” art experience was identified as the next viable project. Staff met with artist Adan Romo of Romo Studios LLC to discuss project requirements. In coordination with the foundry, the artist confirmed an estimated eleven-month fabrication schedule, which would allow for installation by December 2026, meeting the grant obligations.

### **POLICY / RULE**

In accordance with Chapter 2.36.090 (A)(1) and 2.36.120 of the Folsom Municipal Code, professional services are not subject to competitive sealed bidding requirements, and those costing \$75,049 or greater shall be awarded by the City Council.

City Council adopted Resolution No. 7479- Guidelines Regarding Permanent Artwork in Public Spaces.

### **ANALYSIS**

On October 10, 2025, the City received formal written notification from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation denying the City’s request for a site license to install Cash’s Pick No. 2 on Bureau property. Based on this determination, staff evaluated alternative locations and art concepts and identified “Hello, I’m Johnny Cash” as the most feasible art experience to construct on the eastern end of the trail. Staff have confirmed with the California Department of Parks and Recreation that the existing grant funding may be redirected to this installation. In addition, Assemblymember Josh Hoover was contacted and expressed his support for applying the awarded grant funds toward the “Hello, I’m Johnny Cash” art experience.

The Folsom Arts and Culture Commission reviewed the history of the Johnny Cash Trail Art Experience on November 20, 2025. The Commission recommends that the City Council approve the use of the grant funding to initiate project development for “Hello, I’m Johnny Cash” as the next installation along the Johnny Cash Trail. The selected site for this art experience is located on City-owned property. Staff anticipate that the \$425,000 in grant funding will be sufficient to cover the sculpture fabrication, installation, and associated landscape design. Any remaining grant funds would be allocated toward construction-related costs.

The proposed sculpture will be located to the west of the Johnny Cash Bridge, as noted in the Johnny Cash Trail Art Experience Master Plan. The sculpture features Cash holding his guitar at his side, symbolizing both his musical legacy and his deep connection to American storytelling and folk traditions. Seated on a stool, the bronze figure holds his guitar casually on his lap. Fabricated using traditional bronze casting methods, the sculpture is designed for long-term durability in an outdoor environment. Its scale is intended to be visually impactful along the trail while remaining accessible to trail users who may wish to view or photograph the artwork up

close. Overall, the sculpture is intended to serve as a distinctive cultural landmark, honoring Cash’s lasting influence and creating a meaningful point of interest within the Johnny Cash Trail Art Experience (Attachment 5).

If the City Council approves staff’s recommendation, staff will begin coordination with RRM Landscape Architecture and will prepare a contract for design and construction documents, along with a contract with Romo Studios, LLC, for fabrication of the art sculpture. Both contracts are expected to exceed the City Manager’s approval authority. Therefore, the RRM Landscape Architecture contract will be presented to the City Council for consideration at a future meeting. Based on preliminary review of fabrication, installation, and required site improvements, staff have determined that the estimated project costs will utilize the full amount of available grant funding. In review of the art fabrication, installation, and site work of the “Hello, I’m Johnny Cash”, staff have determined estimates would be 100% of the grant funding available as follows:

	<b>Project Cost Estimate</b>	<b>Grant Funding</b>
<b>Art Fabrication and Installation</b>	\$ 279,730	\$ 279,730
<b>Design and Site work</b>	\$ 145,270	\$ 145,270
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 425,000</b>	<b>\$ 425,000</b>

**FINANCIAL IMPACT**

For the “Hello, I’m Johnny Cash” art experience on the Johnny Cash Trail, the City of Folsom has received a grant allocation of \$425,000 from the Budget Act of 2023, which is administered by the California Department of Parks and Recreation in the Office of Grants and Local Services (OGALS). The grant funding is identified explicitly for the Johnny Cash Trail Art Experience. Romo Studios, LLC has submitted a scope of work for the fabrication and installation of “Hello, I’m Johnny Cash”, in the amount of \$279,730. The remaining grant money will be identified for additional art experience expenses, including construction at the project site. The total project will not exceed the \$425,000 to be received from the grant funds.

An appropriation of \$425,000 is needed from the Johnny Cash Trail Art Experience Fund (Fund 414) for the grant.

**ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW**

In 2018, a California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Initial Study with Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) for the Johnny Cash Trail Art Experience was prepared by Helix Environmental Planning, Inc., which includes the “Hello, I’m Johnny Cash” art piece. The IS/MND identified that the project would result in less than significant impacts to the environment.

**ATTACHMENTS**

1. Resolution No. 11522 - A Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Execute a Professional Services and Consultant Agreement with Romo Studios, LLC for a Not-to-Exceed Amount of \$279,730 (Grant Funds) for the Fabrication, Installation, and Construction of Hello, I'm Johnny Cash on the Johnny Cash Trail Art Experience (PK1502) from California Department of Parks & Recreation Budget Act of 2023 Grant Funds and Acceptance of Grant and Appropriation of Funds

2. Romo Studios Scope of Work
3. Johnny Cash Trail Art Experience Masterplan
4. Bureau of Reclamation Letters
5. Hello, I'm Johnny Cash Art Experience Concept Image and Design
6. November 20, 2025 - Arts and Culture Commission Staff Report

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelly Gonzalez, Parks & Recreation Director