

TO: City Council
FROM: Todd Anderson, Recreation Manager
DATE: November 7, 2022
SUBJECT: Draft Arts Strategy and Introduction of Arts Specialist Brittany Bowman

1) Recommended Action:

Staff is seeking approval to move forward with the Arts Strategy that will guide future arts and cultural activities along with the creation of an Arts Commission. Following the worksession discussion, the Strategy will move forward for adoption prior to the end of the year.

2) Background:

Following the creation of the Tumwater Metropolitan Parks District, the Parks and Recreation Department created an Arts Task Force to examine and discuss arts in the City. The Arts Task Force included over 35 community members, artists and youth in Tumwater. The efforts of the Arts Task Force led to the creation of a Tumwater Cultural Arts Survey. This survey was sent out to the community so that the City could gain a better understanding about what arts offerings and support were needed. The survey results were completed in 2021. The City of Tumwater, under the Parks & Recreation Department, hired a 0.5 FTE Arts Specialist position in June of 2022 with the goal of creating an Arts Strategy for the City.

3) Policy Support:

Priority: Build a Community Recognized for Quality, Compassion and Humanity

- Work with government, non-profit, and private partners to develop and implement a performance-based plan for affordable housing and to address homelessness
 - Pursue “quality of life” (e.g., trails, trees, parks, community gardens, events) and aesthetic improvements (hanging baskets, public art, specialty and wayfinding signs, landscaping)
 - Preserve and showcase Tumwater’s cultural heritage
 - Promote a community-based arts program with a plan and guiding commission.
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4) Alternatives:

- ☐ Approve Arts Strategy
 - ☐ Approve Arts Strategy with changes
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5) Fiscal Notes:

Funding for arts activities and staffing is provided in the General Fund Recreation budget

and the Metropolitan Parks District. Capitol Funding is provided in General Government CFP and the General Fund.

6) Attachments:

- A. Arts Strategy
- B. Arts Survey Results