



City of Costa Mesa

Agenda Report

77 Fair Drive
Costa Mesa, CA 92626

File #: 25-334

Meeting Date: 6/5/2025

TITLE: ARTS GRANT PROGRAM REVIEW OF GUIDELINES
DEPARTMENT: PARKS AND COMMUNITY SERVICES
PRESENTED BY: LAURETTE GARNER, ARTS SPECIALIST
CONTACT INFORMATION: LAURETTE GARNER, ARTS SPECIALIST, (714) 754-5322

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the Arts Commission review examples of other cities' missions, values and objectives, to compare to the current City of Costa Mesa Arts Grant program guidelines, and make edits and recommendations.

BACKGROUND:

One of the Arts & Culture Master Plan's recommendations was to create a new mission and guidelines for the Arts Grant Program.

On February 2, 2023, staff provided the draft for the Arts Grant Program Guidelines handbook for the Arts Commission to review, collect input, and make any adjustments.

After suggestions were made by the Arts Commission, the edited version was brought back on March 4, 2023, for a final review and approval.

At the March 6, 2025, Arts Commission meeting, a suggestion was made by Chair Alisa Ochoa to bring the Arts Grant Program Guidelines back for further review and possible edits.

At the April 3, 2025 Arts Commission meeting, minor edits were suggested; to increase the amount of allowable funding for each Arts Grant applicant, and a recommendation was made to bring back more information about the financial background of each arts grant awardee for the 2024-25 fiscal year.

At the May 1, 2025 Arts Commission meeting, a suggestion was made to bring back examples of other cities' mission, values and objectives, to compare with the current City of Costa Mesa Arts Grant program guidelines.

ANALYSIS

The Arts Grant Program Guidelines (Attachment 1) may be brought back to the Arts Commission at any time for review and edits.

Staff has provided four examples of other California cities' missions, values and objectives (Attachment 2).

Staff also included a City Council Policy created in 1991, regarding funding for local arts organizations and projects (Attachment 3).

FISCAL REVIEW:

The funding for the Arts Grant program is available in the Arts and Culture operational budget and was increased from \$10,000 to \$20,000 for the Fiscal Year 2024-25. The budget per council's direction for the next fiscal year of 2025-26 is currently pending.

LEGAL REVIEW:

The City Attorney's Office has reviewed the guidelines and application and approves them both as to form.

CONCLUSION:

Staff recommends the Arts Commission review examples of other cities' missions, values and objectives, to compare to the current City of Costa Mesa Arts Grant program guidelines, and make edits and recommendations.