



GENERAL SERVICES AGENCY

COUNTY OF TULARE AGENDA ITEM

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

KUYLER CROCKER
District One

PETE VANDER POEL
District Two

AMY SHUKLIAN
District Three

J. STEVEN WORTHLEY
District Four

MIKE ENNIS
District Five

AGENDA DATE: September 25, 2018

Public Hearing Required	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Scheduled Public Hearing w/Clerk	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Published Notice Required	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Advertised Published Notice	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
County Counsel Sign-Off	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Meet & Confer Required	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Electronic file(s) has been sent	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>
Budget Transfer (Aud 308) attached	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Personnel Resolution attached	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Agreements are attached and signature line for Chairman is marked with tab(s)/flag(s)	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

CONTACT PERSON: Maria Benavides PHONE: 559-205-1124

SUBJECT: County Public Art Projects

REQUEST(S):

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Receive a presentation regarding Public Art displays at County buildings and the Mooney Grove Park Lily Pond art project in conjunction with the Tulare County Arts Consortium.
2. Recognize the top three artist proposals and select the final Lily Pond art project design.
3. Approve the installation of the selected Lilly Pond art project at Mooney Grove Park.
4. Direct staff to proceed at other identified County buildings and develop a public art policy in conjunction with the Arts Consortium.

SUMMARY:

Introduction & Background

During his State of the County address in January 2018, Chairman Worthley initiated the first Countywide Beautification Competition, inviting County employees to submit their best ideas to improve the outside appearance of County-owned buildings and facilities. This competition drew attention to the need to continuously improve the appearance of County-owned buildings, particularly exterior conditions and landscaping.

To further this initiative and consider other beautification possibilities for County buildings, General Services Agency staff met with the Tulare County Arts

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Consortium to explore the installation of displays in the lobbies of various County locations, and to pursue other art partnerships as may be practical. The Tulare County Arts Consortium is the official arts council for Tulare County and has worked with the County on several other programs. The Arts Consortium also has a well-established network of local artists available throughout various different media.

During those early discussions, the Arts Consortium identified several opportunities to improve the appearance of County facilities through the installation of public art. Some of these possibilities are as simple as dedicating wall space within County-owned buildings for local artists, others include installation of murals, permanent installations, or installation of cases to display locally-created artwork.

Mooney Grove Park Lily Pond Art Project

To kick-off this public art initiative, on July 17, 2018, a presentation was given to the Board of Supervisors to promote a Call for Proposals to design, create, and install a public art project to repurpose the non-functional Lily Pond and fountain at Mooney Grove Park. Historically, the Lily Pond was a popular feature of Mooney Grove, which included water lilies, fish, and a fountain. However, due to the need for repairs and the high cost of ongoing maintenance, the pond now sits empty and in a state of disrepair.

This is the first partnership between the County and the Arts Consortium to complete a collaborative public art project at a County-owned property as part of this public art initiative. The County established a contract with the Arts Consortium to cover the artist's costs and other expenses related to the Lily Pond project. This initial project gave both the County and the Arts Consortium insight as to what can be realistically expected going forward with future public art projects.

On September 4, 2018, the Visalia Arts Consortium, two Board members, a member of the Parks Advisory Committee, and staff reviewed submissions for the project, which included a written statement and 24" maquette from each artist. The art projects were judged based on their ability to incorporate the history of the pond and other elements honoring Tulare County.

It is requested that the Board of Supervisors recognize the three artist proposals and select the winning design for the Lily Pond public art project. Additionally, it is requested that the Board approve the installation of the awarded Lilly Pond art project at Mooney Grove Park. Once completed, Parks staff and the Arts Consortium will host an event unveiling the piece.

Expanding County Public Art

To expand the initiative and identify additional public art possibilities going forward, staff recommends further partnering with the Tulare County Arts Consortium at the locations listed below. These buildings are County-owned, receive regular visitors, and have available space for public art display projects. Initially, it is recommended

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to display visual art, such as paintings, drawings, and photographs in the public areas of these buildings and to install hanging hardware that allows for regular rotation of these exhibits. The County could also partner with other organizations, such as the Office of Education, to obtain pieces for these proposed spaces.

- Government Plaza
- County Administrative Office and Board of Supervisors
- Human Resources and Development
- Burrel Plaza (former TCOE building)

Staff and the Arts Consortium will develop a formal program concept in the form of a brief program outline or statement to be approved by the Board later this year. This outline will provide formal guidance and structure for the County's public art initiative. For example, the County could adopt a policy to undertake one new public art project annually highlighting a unique element of Tulare County, and the Board could also establish a fixed funding amount for public art at County facilities.

It is recommended that the Arts Consortium take the lead finding artists and installing the identified pieces at the locations listed above. GSA and the Arts Consortium will consult with departments located at each of the proposed facilities. Other partners could include the Tulare County Historical Society or Museum Board – both of which have many historic documents and photographs in their files.

Representatives from the Arts Consortium will be assisting with this presentation and will be able to provide additional public art concepts and other information.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:

It is projected that costs will be minimal to install public art at the identified facilities. Potential costs associated with installing hardware or restoring walls after removing hardware, would be covered by the Capital Projects Park Improvement Fund, Budget No. 030-086-3200-8125.

The Lily Pond Public Art Project will also be covered by the Capital Projects Park Improvement Fund which is contributing \$18,000 to cover the cost.

Pending further analysis after the completion of this pilot project, it is possible that funds could be allocated annually within the Capital Projects budget for public art projects throughout the County.

LINKAGE TO THE COUNTY OF TULARE STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN:

The County's Strategic Business Plan includes the Quality of Life initiative to promote the natural resource management and improvement of environmental quality. The beautification of County facilities supports this initiative in that it enhances public spaces for County employees and the community.

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ADMINISTRATIVE SIGN-OFF:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Brooke Sisk", written over a horizontal line.

Brooke Sisk
Assistant General Services Agency Director

cc: County Administrative Office

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF TULARE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

IN THE MATTER OF)
COUNTY PUBLIC ART PROJECTS) Resolution No. _____
)
)

UPON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR _____, SECONDED BY
SUPERVISOR _____, THE FOLLOWING WAS ADOPTED BY THE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, AT AN OFFICIAL MEETING HELD _____
_____, BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT:

ATTEST: MICHAEL C. SPATA
COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER/
CLERK, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

BY: _____
Deputy Clerk

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1. Received a presentation regarding Public Art displays at County buildings and the Mooney Grove Park Lily Pond art project in conjunction with the Tulare County Arts Consortium.
2. Recognized the top three artist proposals and select the final Lily Pond art project design.
3. Approved the installation of the selected Lilly Pond art project at Mooney Grove Park.
4. Directed staff to proceed at other identified County buildings and develop a public art policy in conjunction with the Arts Consortium.