

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: PUBLIC ART COMMISSION BUDGET CARRYOVER REQUEST

BACKGROUND:

The Public Art Commission (PAC) is seeking City Council approval to carry forward **\$14,523** in unspent funding from its 2015/16 budget allocation. The carryover funding would be used for two purposes.

Within its **Neighborhood Sculpture program**, the PAC would like to carry forward an unspent balance of **\$4,600**. The Commission notes that, with the increasing cost of purchasing sculptures from the Ames Annual Outdoor Sculpture Exhibition, it is not always possible to purchase three each year as has been done previously. Looking at the current exhibition, the Commission notes that the costs of those pieces are again relatively large. By carrying this balance over, the PAC would hope to be able to purchase three sculptures during the 2016/17 budget year.

From the original Neighborhood Sculpture funding of \$13,500 last year, the PAC purchased, installed and secured signage for two sculptures – one located at 30th and Hoover and the other located on Park Avenue by Brookridge. In addition, using 2014/15 funding that Council previously authorized to carry over to last year, the Commission purchased, installed and made signage for “Dog and Cat.” That sculpture is located at the Animal Shelter next to the road to the Hunziker Sports Complex where it is enjoyed by many citizens and visitors to Ames.

The **Art in the Parks program** traditionally has its unspent balance carried forward over several years to accumulate enough to fund the expense of an Art in the Parks project. These projects involve bringing in an artist to work with the community creating larger scale art that is typically more expensive. Previous sculptures include Patrick Dougherty’s “Restless by Nature” and Peter Irniq’s Inuksuk sculptures.

This past summer “Resonance” was installed in Tom Evans Park as a part of this ongoing program. Since that sculpture did not require all of the accumulated Art in the Parks appropriation, the Commission is asking to carry over the **\$9,923** unspent balance for future projects. The next projected Art in the Parks project is anticipated in Spring/Summer 2019.

Overall, the unspent ending balance from the PAC’s approved 2015/16 budget is \$29,543. Of that amount, PAC is requesting to carry over a total of **\$14,523** for these two programs.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the Public Art Commission's request to carry forward \$14,523 in unspent funding to the 2016/17 budget for its Neighborhood Art and Art in the Parks programs.
2. Deny this request and direct the Public Art Commission to address these needs by reprioritizing other programs within the approved 2016/17 budget.

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

The requested funding has previously been appropriated for public art purposes, and both of these PAC programs will benefit from retaining these funds for future sculpture acquisitions.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council approve Alternative No. 1 as described above.