



## Legislation Text

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**File #:** 21-374, **Version:** 1

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**SUBJECT:** Approval of the Arts and Culture Advisory Commission Recommendation of Local Artists, Artwork, and Location Process for the Utility Box Art Project

### REPORT IN BRIEF

Considers approving the Arts and Culture Advisory Commission recommendation of local artists, artwork, and location process for the utility box art project.

### RECOMMENDATION

**City Council** - Adopt a motion approving the local artist, artwork, and location process as recommended by the Arts and Culture Advisory Commission.

### DISCUSSION

On January 4, 2021, Mayor Serratto presented a Downtown Art project and obtained authority for the Arts and Culture Advisory Commission (ACAC) to facilitate the implementation of the project.

At the January 21, 2021 Arts and Culture Advisory Commission meeting, the Commission approved moving forward with a request for qualifications (RFQ) to solicit local artists to paint utility boxes on Main Street. The RFQ was established based on the adopted criteria outlined in the Public Art Policy. A selection committee was nominated and approved with the following ACAC members serving on the panel: Dob Francise, Robert Hypes, Kim Garner and Patricia Pratt.

The RFQ was released on February 2, 2021 and closed on March 8, 2021. A total of fifteen proposals were received. The Selection Committee reviewed and ranked the proposals based on the criteria outlined in the RFQ.

At the March 18, 2021 Arts and Culture Advisory Commission meeting, the Commissioners reviewed the Selection Committee's artist recommendations and voted to approve all fifteen proposals and requested final art submissions from the artists.

The fifteen approved local artists were asked to submit their final artwork for approval from the Arts and Culture Advisory Commission, fourteen of the fifteen artists turned in their final artwork.

The Arts and Culture Advisory Commission held a Special Meeting on April 28, 2021 to review the final artwork. The Arts and Culture Advisory Commission adopted a motion to approve the final artwork submitted, to do a lottery to assign an artist to a specific downtown utility box, and to allow the Merced County Arts Council directly pay the artist the commission for their work of \$750 from the donations gathered for the project.

Staff are seeking City Council approval on the recommendation adopted by the Arts and Culture Advisory Commission to begin the Utility Box Art Project.

**ATTACHMENTS**

1. Final Art Submissions
2. Map of Utility Boxes
3. Request for Qualifications