



**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**  
**TRANSFORMATIVE PUBLIC ARTS PROJECTS FUND**  
**Ordinance 895-2022**

Name of Requesting Entity:	City Planning Commission
Address of Requesting Entity:	601 Lakeside
Geographic Scope of Project:	City Wide
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**AMOUNT REQUESTED** **\$3,000,000**

**DESCRIPTION**

The Arts and Neighborhood Amenities strategy promotes policies that establish Cleveland as a flourishing place that values neighborhood vibrancy and the artists and culture makers who breathe life into the city. It aims to build more resilient and sustainable communities by funding initiatives that holistically advance vibrant neighborhood spaces and engage the mind, body, and spirit. Artwork that is representative of the Cleveland population is also empowering and uplifting. As a result, more people will choose to Cleveland for the location or affordability, but will want to stay because of the culture and sense of belonging.

This fund will stimulate capital investments in Cleveland’s neighborhoods by providing grants for transformative arts projects with capital needs. For example, several neighborhood plans call for physical arts centers that celebrate neighborhood communities with a focus in the arts and innovation. Other examples of transformative projects may include public art festivals that include a large scale of permanent art installations.

The city’s reviewers will evaluate projects based on demonstrated need, neighborhood (“public arts deserts”), installation timeline, and strategic alignment with citywide planning goals. The process will include the standard design review approvals required.

**TIMELINE**

October 2022: legislation adopted and announcement of funds  
Early December 2022: program and review process finalized  
January 2023: review and evaluation underway  
March 2023: first project awards with calls for proposals at regular intervals thereafter

Works will be permanently installed and continue to provide value to the community long after funds are disbursed. Capital projects will serve the community through programming, supported by philanthropy, CDCs & other orgs.

**IMPLEMENTATION**

The City will offer regular announcements about the fund. City Planning staff will lead the intake of projects and review them with Economic Development and Community Development. The administrative functions for all the Arts & Neighborhood Amenities funds will require one total additional administrator to assist with contracts.



## **PARTNERS**

Cleveland Neighborhood Progress / CDC network – communications and advocacy  
LAND studio – coordination with neighborhood development/CDCs  
Assembly for the Arts – communications and advocacy  
Cuyahoga Arts & Culture – communications and advocacy  
Urban Land Institute – communications with developers / arts integration into real estate

## **GOALS**

The fund encourages capital investments into neighborhoods that have arts deserts through larger scale public arts installation and “landmark” arts facilities in neighborhoods. The goals of this fund is to have physically identifiable areas with significant arts activity. The fund will accommodate 2-3 larger scale capital investments into buildings as well as 2-3 larger scale arts festivals with 40 or so mural installations.

## **EQUITY**

The fund may focus in areas of high BIPOC populations that have either lacked arts investment or are at risk of cultural displacement. Outreach will target east side & central west neighborhood CDCs, arts intermediaries, and the network of BIPOC artists in the Cleveland area.

## **COMMUNITY IMPACT**

- 20-50 local artists supported through commissioned works.
- 40 new works installed over three years
- 2,000-3,000 total residents (youth, elders) directly impacted monthly

## **DIFFERENTIATION**

People are attracted to vibrant spaces with arts and culture. Cleveland already has a reputation for a strong public funding commitment to the arts through our regional cigarette tax and the Cuyahoga Arts + Culture program – this funding will only enhance the City’s reputation as a place that values public art.

## **FINANCIAL LEVERAGE**

Funding will be leveraged by philanthropy which will support programmatic elements.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY**

Creating walkable areas through arts investments (arts festivals, landmark arts buildings directly in neighborhoods) will reduce carbon footprints.

## **ADDITIONAL COMMENTS**

No budget - RFP/application