



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:
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Agenda Item Number: {{item.number}}

Agenda Date: November 22, 2024

In Control: Community Health Committee

DEPARTMENT: Department of Arts and Culture

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Krystal Jones

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

Shade as Art – Art as Shade Briefing

SUMMARY:

Briefing on the Department of Arts & Culture initiative to include shade elements into public art projects and art into shade projects.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

On December 5, 2023, Councilmember Manny Pelaez (District 8) submitted a CCR to develop a citywide strategy to integrate shade in public art and art into shade structures informed by:

- An analysis of where shade and public art are most needed with equity top of mind
- The use of bus stops along high-traffic corridors where heat island effect is most severe
- The history and cultural characteristics of neighborhoods where shade and public art are most needed

- Public input
- Advice of local artists, designers, and arts organizations
- Goals established by the SA Tomorrow plan
- Best practices adopted by other communities throughout the world

The CCR proposed a citywide strategy to meet two challenges in San Antonio simultaneously. The first is extreme heat, which has increased the community's desire to see more shade structures installed in and along neighborhoods, commercial corridors, public spaces, and pedestrian right-of-way. The second is the community's ever-increasing desire to see more public art installed in and along neighborhoods, commercial corridors, public spaces, and pedestrian right-of-way.

ISSUE:

This briefing will include findings from best practices research on artistic shade structures, results of collaboration with City Departments and outside entities to identify areas in most need of shade and art, projects identified to meet this need, and opportunities for future projects.

As part of the Department of Arts & Culture's research and collaboration with other entities, the department identified the following strategies for combining public art with shade:

1. For the 2022 Bond, staff has identified the below projects which will include shade as part of the public art.
 - a) District 2: Lockwood-Dignowity Park
 - b) District 3: Harlandale Park (within Cool Neighborhood Pilot Program Area)
 - c) District 6: Intersection Improvements (Military Dr.)
 - d) District 8: Markson Park

Additional shade opportunities are continuing to be explored as project designs become available.

2. Seek funding sources outside of capital projects which would result in shade as art / art as shade opportunities. This includes grants as well as existing funding sources in the City of San Antonio like the Office of Sustainability managed Resiliency, Energy Efficiency, and Sustainability (REES) Fund. Staff has currently identified the following for opportunities as well as potential opportunities:
 - a) REES fund
 - b) National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) Project Grant
 - c) Bloomberg Philanthropies Grant

3. Continue to work collaboratively with the Office of Sustainability, Public Works, Parks and Recreation, and Planning.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This item is for briefing purposes only. Funding for suggested Shade as Art and Art as Shade projects have already been approved in the 2022 Bond.

ALTERNATIVES:

This item is for briefing purposes only.

RECOMMENDATION:

This item is for briefing purposes only.