

July 25, 2024

Dear Honorable Council Members,

The Public Art Commission is writing to express its opposition to the proposed change of the Redondo Beach Public Art Commission (PAC) to the Redondo Beach Cultural Arts Commission (CAC), as proposed by Mayor Jim Light at the City Council meeting on May 7, 2024. This matter was discussed at the PAC meeting on May 22, 2024, where it was unanimously voted against.

As residents of the City of Redondo Beach and avid supporters of the arts, we believe this change is unnecessary for the following reasons:

Necessity and Execution: The PAC is functioning effectively and does not require replacement. The formation of a CAC would demand additional time, effort, and potentially increase costs, contradicting the Mayor's justification for saving money.

Budget and Legal Considerations: The PAC's budget, sourced from a 1% developer fee, is legally earmarked for public art projects. It is unclear how this fund would be managed under a CAC. The legality and allocation of these funds need to be clarified.

Lack of Justification for a CAC: When the PAC was formed in 2009, the decision was made to avoid creating a CAC due to the absence of a robust arts entity in Redondo Beach. This situation remains unchanged. The city lacks a symphony, ballet, theatrical production company, choir, or literary function to justify the formation of a CAC.

Impact on Current and Future Projects: The PAC has a significant budget dedicated to public art projects, including the recently approved \$400,000 budget for an art space on Artesia Boulevard. Changing to a CAC could jeopardize this project and the funding structure.

Volunteerism and Costs: The PAC operates with volunteers, saving the city considerable funds. Introducing a CAC could increase administrative costs without providing clear benefits.

Timing: The proposed implementation date of October 2024 is too soon, especially with four PAC commissioners terming out in September 2024. New commissioners will require time to acclimate, complicating the transition to a CAC.

In conclusion, we urge the City Council to reconsider this proposal and maintain the PAC as it is currently structured. The PAC has a proven track record of success and operates efficiently without additional costs to the city. Introducing a CAC at this time would create unnecessary complications and financial burdens.

Thank you for considering our perspective on this matter.

Sincerely,



Kristina Christian-Kelly (Jul 25, 2024 1:52 PDT)

Kristina Christian-Kelly
Vice Chair






Letter to City Council Regarding Conversion of PACE-signature

Final Audit Report

2024-07-26

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