



Legislation Text

File #: 60605, **Version:** 1

The proposed resolution authorizes the City's application to the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) for an Our Town grant. The grant amount is \$75,000 for fiscal year 2021. The Urban Community Arts Network has agreed to raise funds to match the Our Town grant dollar for dollar as is required by the NEA. No City appropriation is required to apply for the proposed grant. A separate resolution amending the Planning Division's operating budget will be proposed if the grant is awarded to the City of Madison.

Supporting the application by the City of Madison to the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) for an Our Town grant to be used to help fund the consultant Sound Diplomacy in creating the "Greater Madison Region Music Strategy" and authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to enter into a contract with the NEA to receive and use these funds should they be awarded.

WHEREAS, to support a full creative life for all, the Madison Arts Commission commits to championing policies and practices of cultural equity that empower a just, inclusive, equitable city; and,

WHEREAS, the Madison Arts Commission and Urban Community Arts Network have collaborated on bringing the issue of Equity in Music and Entertainment to the fore for the last decade; and,

WHEREAS, on February 26, 2019 the Madison Common Council passed Legislative File 53956, Enactment # RES-19-00159 accepting the final report and recommendations from the Task Force on Equity in Music and Entertainment; and,

WHEREAS, the task force report recommendation #7 states, "Within two years, the City should hire a consultant to develop a plan to build music infrastructure to support independent artists. Venues should work closely with the newly created Entertainment Equity City staff position by no later than 2020 (refer to recommendation 1)."; and,

WHEREAS, budgetary constraints have prevented the City from hiring a full time Entertainment Equity Coordinator, but the Planning Division has assigned City Planner Angela Puerta to work with the Arts Program Administrator to advance the City's music infrastructure with an emphasis on improving equity; and,

WHEREAS, UCAN, in partnership with other regional stakeholders, took a leadership role in building a coalition, selecting Sound Diplomacy as the consultant, establishing goals for the consultancy, and advancing the work of the Task Force; and,

WHEREAS, This effort will impact economic recovery from COVID-19 for a broad segment of the community, especially those involved in the production and dissemination of Hip Hop; and,

WHEREAS, the Urban Community Arts Network has agreed to raise funds to match the Our Town grant award dollar for dollar as is required by the NEA,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Madison Common Council supports the application by the City of Madison to the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) for an Our Town Grant to be used to help fund the consultant Sound Diplomacy in creating the "Greater Madison Region Music Strategy" and authorizes the Mayor and City Clerk to enter into a contract with the NEA to receive and use these funds, should they be awarded, and to sign all documents related to receiving the grant.