

## STAFF REPORT

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**Date:** April 26, 2023

**To:** Mayor and City Council

**Thru:** Doug Thornley, City Manager

**Subject:** Staff Report (For Possible Action): Acceptance of a Grant Award from the National Endowment for the Arts to support the planning and design process and public art installation at the North Valleys Regional Park roundabout in the amount of \$35,000. (Room Tax Fund)

**From:** Megan Berner, Senior Management Analyst

**Department:** City Manager's Office – Arts and Culture

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**Summary:**

On April 13, 2023, the National Endowment for the Arts recommended funding of \$35,000 for a Grants for Art Projects grant application that the Arts & Culture staff requested in September of 2022 for the planning and design process and public art installation at the North Valleys Regional Park roundabout. Staff is requesting acceptance and approval of the funding. This requires additional matching funding of \$35,000, which is available in the City of Reno Public Art Budget (Room Tax).

**Alignment with Strategic Plan:**

Arts, Parks, and Historical Resources

**Previous Council Action:**

There is no recent Council action relevant to this item.

**Background:**

Staff applied for a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts for a public art project at the new roundabout going in at the intersection of Sky Vista Parkway and Silver Lake Road with recommendation from the Reno Arts & Culture Commission. Silver Lake Road is one of two main entrances into the North Valleys Regional Park, owned and operated by Washoe County. The Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) of Washoe County is currently doing a widening and rehabilitation project on Sky Vista Parkway. Part of this project includes installation of a new roundabout that will include footings and conduit for public art installation. The project also includes new street lighting for safety, eight-foot-wide sidewalks, and five-foot-

wide bike lanes on both sides of Sky Vista Parkway. Washoe County has also expressed interest in being a partner in the public art process to assist with public engagement, space for community meetings at the park, and potential additional funding for the artwork.

**Discussion:**

There is a required match for this grant of \$35,000. This match will be available in the annual budget for Public Art. This grant funding allows the City to leverage public art funds and to meet goals of getting public art into more areas of our city while engaging the community in the process. The period of performance for the grant is June 1, 2023 – May 31, 2025. The proposed timeline for the project is as follows:

- August 2023: Public input surveys and sessions
- October 2023: Call for artists opens (RFQ)
- December 2023: 3 finalists selected
- January/February 2024: Finalists site visit and public engagement
- April 2024: Finalist proposal presentations and public input
- May 2024: Finalist artist/team selected
- June 2024: Artwork approval
- May 2025 (or before): Artwork installed

**Financial Implications:**

Funds are budgeted in the Room Tax Fund for the \$35,000 required match in the City of Reno Public Art Budget.

**Legal Implications:**

Legal review completed for compliance with City procedures and Nevada law.

**Recommendation:**

Staff recommends Council approval and acceptance of the grant funding of \$35,000.

**Proposed Motion:**

I move to approve staff recommendation.

**Attachments:**

NEA Offer Letter North Valleys Roundabout Art  
NEA General Terms and Conditions for Grants to Organizations