
CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE (COW)
New Item for Review and Consideration

Meeting Date: 05/05/2016
Agenda Item: 4B3

Issue Description: Research the benefits and feasibility of utilizing local partners to facilitate and provide free arts programming in neighborhood parks.

Presented by: Councilmembers Schapira and Navarro

What are you looking to accomplish? A Committee of the Whole Working Group should be formed to explore how the city might facilitate a program of free arts programming within neighborhood parks by utilizing partnerships with education partners, the business community, and local nonprofit organizations.

Background Information: The current Tempe Arts Plan includes six focus areas for fulfilling the community's vision for cultural development, one of which is "Arts Programming Throughout the Community". The recommendations for how to develop more community-level arts programming include the following:

- Increase and promote community-initiated arts projects.
- Support expansion of Tempe's live music scene.
- Convene an arts education collaboration including the school districts, the City, ASU, and arts educators.
- Continue and enhance informal arts programming provided in community settings.
- Develop a comprehensive, communitywide arts and cultural marketing program.

By working with local performing arts students and community partners, the City could greatly expand its arts programming and bring it directly to residents within their own neighborhood parks.

What stakeholders should be engaged with this process? City staff, East Valley Institute of Technology, school districts, ASU, Tempe Chamber, Childsplay, other community organizations.

Anticipated Timeframe and Staff Resources: Approximately 10-15 hours of staff time is needed to gather and evaluate stakeholder feedback.

The Tempe City Council is committed to:

1. *Ensuring a safe and secure community through a commitment to public safety and justice.*
2. *Developing and maintaining a strong community connection by emphasizing the importance of open government, customer service and communication with community members.*
3. *Enhancing the quality of life for all Tempe residents and workers through investment in neighborhoods, parks, the arts, human services, and city amenities, with an emphasis on equity and diversity.*
4. *Implementing sustainable growth and development strategies, including improving Tempe's public transit system to meet future needs, by actively seeking innovative technologies and leading the way in creating a more sustainable community.*
5. *Maintaining long term financial stability and vitality by focusing on economic development, business retention and generating employment to create a robust and diverse economic base.*