



Legislation Text

File #: 13-1530, **Version:** 1

Resolution Instructing the City Administrator to Allocate FY2015 Community Events Monies to the Benefit of The Ann Arbor Street Art Fair

Whereas, The Ann Arbor Street Art Fair, the Original ("AASAF") is one of four non-profit organizations that cooperate to produce four annual art fairs collectively known as "Art Fair";

Whereas, Every year Art Fair attracts thousands of artists and vendors and over 500,000 attendees to Ann Arbor;

Whereas, Every year Art Fair plays a central and vital role in Ann Arbor's cultural environment;

Whereas, Every year Art Fair plays an absolutely existential role in our downtown economy, making survival possible for many local restaurateurs, merchants, and vendors;

Whereas, Although the four organizations that provide the Art Fairs cooperate with each other, they are each separate entities, with separate revenue streams, costs, and missions;

Whereas, AASAF bears costs that are not shared by the other organizations, namely rent due to the University of Michigan ("University") for use of University property;

Whereas, AASAF has revenue constraints that are not shared by the other organizations, namely sponsorship and vendor limitations imposed by the University due to AASAF's location on University property;

Whereas, The satisfaction of AASAF's mission to provide community benefits reduces AASAF's ability to maximize revenue, namely by the use of otherwise sellable booth space for the Art Demo Zone, Art Activity Zones, Street Painting Exhibition, and the Fountain Stage;

Whereas, The cost and revenue challenges facing AASAF, as well as its ongoing use of potential booth space for children's, performance, and community events have resulted in annual deficits since 2010 ranging from \$5700 to approximately \$8000;

Whereas, The City of Ann Arbor charges Art Fair approximately \$60,000 a year to cover the cost of Art-Fair specific and requested City services, namely street barrier location, supplementary safety services, and solid waste removal;

Whereas, The annual cost of those services allocable to the AASAF is approximately \$8000.

Whereas, The Community Events Fund offers support to community events that would otherwise be required to pay monies to the City of Ann Arbor to offset the cost of event-specific City services;

Whereas, The other three organizations that cooperate with AASAF to produce Art Fair do not run

annual deficits, have not requested cost-offset assistance from the Community Events Fund, and have expressed their written support for the specific allocation contemplated in this resolution;

Whereas, The City Council does not wish this specific allocation to AASAF to reduce the monies that would otherwise be available to other community organizations; and

Whereas, This resolution is presented outside the ordinary process leading to the development of the City Administrator's FY2015 budget due to AASAF's need to budget and plan for the 2014 Street Art Fair;

RESOLVED, That the City Council directs the City Administrator to include in his recommended FY2015 budget, \$10,000.00 from the Community Events Fund to offset amounts otherwise payable by the AASAF;

RESOLVED, That the City Administrator shall hold the Community Events Fund harmless despite the foregoing allocation by increasing the FY2015 Community Events Fund in his recommended budget by \$10,000.00 over and above the figure that he would have otherwise provided but for this resolution.

Sponsors: Councilmembers Taylor and Lumm