

Arts and Culture Programs: \$250,000 (On-going)

The Measure X Community Advisory Board priority recommendations identified that the Arts and Culture Commission's signature and proposed new programs are part of a strategy to support mental/behavioral health, disabled, and the Contra Costa County community. As part of the *Equity in Action* goal, the Arts prioritize equity, remove structural barriers, serve as second responders, address collective grief, provide creative expression, increase educational outcomes, and uplift communities in which everyone can thrive. In addition, the Arts have a positive impact on local businesses and the economy.

Contra Costa County ranks last of all Bay Area counties in arts funding. The feedback from the California Arts Council (CAC) during a recent grant application stated that CAC is looking for organizations who demonstrate adequate community investment. In the Bay Area, the average arts funding is \$1.04 per person. California State-Local Partners average 2.94 full-time employees, 2.93 part-time employees, and 6.92 contractors. Contra Costa County has one part-time contractor.

An on-going Measure X investment of \$250,000 provides grant application leverage and supports new initiatives.

\$100,000 Support Staff:

- Supplement existing funding for a full-time Managing Director and part-time Communication and Marketing employees.

\$100,000 District Public Art Program:

- District Public Art Program: Contra Costa County's first public art program following Bay Area Counties (\$20,000 each District investment).
- Addresses District public art requests through an application process for artists and art organizations.

\$50,000 New Programs:

- Youth Advisor in each District: Expand equity and opportunity to every District.
- Arts Connection: Connect artists and art organizations for quarterly meetings for advocacy, opportunities, and data collection.
- AIRS (Artist-in-Residency in the School) pilot program: Place teaching artists in CCC schools to work with students to create art projects.

Recommendation:

The County Administrator's recommendation is that the program enhancements be fully funded with an on-going annual allocation of \$250,000.