Agenda Action Form Overview

The Board is requested to adopt the attached Resolution Establishing A Public Art Program.

Background/Justification

Durham County understands that cultural opportunities not only lead to an increased sense of community and a better understanding of the world, but they also are powerful economic drivers that spur local growth and make the community a more attractive place to live, visit, and do business.

In December 2017, Commissioners directed Staff to investigate development of a Public Art Policy. A Public Art Study was presented in November 2018 and Commissioners directed staff to investigate the possibility of adopting a joint process with the City of Durham Public Art Program while continuing to maintain separate funding resources.

County and City Staff collaborated to develop a public art administration strategy that will serve both programs and provide a predictable process for any Artist interested in creating public art in our community. As a result of the collaboration, revisions to the existing City of Durham Resolution To Establish A Public Art Policy, originally approved on November 21, 2011, are scheduled for adoption by the City Council on September 16, 2019.

Policy Impact

The goal of the County's public art program is to use art in public places to enhance the County's identity and the quality of public spaces, increase the quantity and quality of public art in the County, and create integrated public art, which is art that is designed to relate to or be incorporated with the design of public facilities. The public art program's mission is to provide a sense of meaning and beauty to places in our community; to enliven our streets and neighborhoods; to celebrate our unique history, diversity, and creativity; to engage, enlighten, inspire, and educate all citizens now and in the future.

Procurement Background

N/A

Fiscal Impact

This policy implements the Resolution Establishing A Public Art Program, which provides that the County will budget up to one percent (1%) of the annual CIP budget for eligible projects for public art.

Recommendation

The County Manager recommends that the Board adopt the attached Resolution Establishing A Public Art Program.