

Introduced by: Councilmember Seamens

CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-23

RESOLUTION RELEASING THE HOLD ON THE PUBLIC ARTS BUDGET

WHEREAS, the City of Takoma Park celebrates the rich mix of cultural expression of its residents and its multicultural heritage; and

WHEREAS, the Council adopted the City's five-year cultural plan, titled *Empowering A Creative Community* in December 2018, which seeks to expand the City's art efforts through new and existing programming, public outreach efforts, and an emphasis on multicultural understanding, providing guidance to local policymakers and community leaders as they consider the allocation of resources and encourage the strategic development of programs and partnerships; and

WHEREAS, the City's Arts and Humanities Division presented to Council a new Public Art Works initiative to incorporate public art into new public works and public space projects, and to maintain existing public art installations; and

WHEREAS, the plan involves proactive planning between several City departments; and allows for greater distribution of public art throughout the City as part of the City's racial equity emphasis; and

WHEREAS, the Council shares the Commission's interest in making the arts and humanities, in their many forms, a part of daily life in Takoma Park; and

WHEREAS, Ordinance No. 2020-23, FY 2021 Budget Amendment No. 1, approved by Council on July 29, 2020, the Council appropriated \$49,000 for Public Art funds with the following requirement: "Public Arts funds will not be expended without Council discussion and direction;" and

WHEREAS, staff presented the Public Art Works proposal to Council on September 23, and discussed the work plan for the expenditure of the funds for installation and maintenance of public art in the City; and

WHEREAS, part of the presentation included discussion of a proposal to pay for the cleaning and restoration of the damaged mural in the B.Y. Morrison Park gazebo, but Council indicated a reluctance to undertake the work at this time so staff recommends removing the mural for its protection.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Takoma Park approves expenditures for public art installations in FY21 as detailed in the Public Art Works installation and maintenance plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the City Council authorizes the removal of the deteriorating mural at B.Y. Morrison Park.

Adopted this 14th day of October 2020.

Attest:

Jessie Carpenter, CMC
City Clerk