



October 26, 2020

Colorado Springs City Council
107 North Nevada Avenue, Suite 300
Colorado Springs, CO 80903

Dear City Council Members,

On September 15, during its regular monthly meeting, the Public Art Commission (PAC) voted unanimously to endorse and recommend for approval the proposed Public Art Master Plan. This plan is the result of an eighteen-month, communitywide dialogue about the future of public art. Both Sandy Friedman, vice-chair of the PAC, and I served on the master plan steering committee that guided the public input and drafting process. We and the other members of the PAC feel the document accurately reflects the thoughts and concerns of the roughly 1,000 community members and stakeholders that participated in the process. We strongly encourage you to vote in favor of adopting this plan.

Colorado Springs has a lengthy public art tradition dating back to the early 1980s when the PAC was established by City Council, but this is the city's first master planning effort intended to create an aspirational vision for the program. The need for such a document has been identified in the City's Strategic Plan, PlanCOS, and the Park System Master Plan. The document outlines seven broad goals and numerous tactics to enhance and expand public art offerings around the community. As your appointed representatives to the PAC, we are certainly interested in working with city staff to create an implementation plan that will maintain the forward momentum. We are eager to tackle recommendations calling on the PAC to be more proactive in developing and implementing art projects. We also echo the need for policies that better support and encourage "Olympic-level" public art programs.

There is much work to do, and the Public Art Master Plan creates a roadmap to help guide Colorado Springs toward a more creative future. I hope that you will join the PAC in approving this plan.

Sincerely,

Bernard Byers, Chair
Public Art Commission

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "Bernard Byers", is written over a long, thin horizontal line that extends across the width of the page.