

Resolution No. 31155

A RESOLUTION endorsing the work of the Cultural Overlay District Advisory Committee that developed recommendations to preserve and create affordable space for arts and culture in Seattle, and affirming the City Council's commitment to address and act upon those recommendations.

Related Legislation File: _____

Date Introduced and Referred: 8-10-09	To: (committee): Culture Civil Rights Health + Personnel
Date Re-referred:	To: (committee):
Date Re-referred:	To: (committee):
Date of Final Action: 8-17-09	Date Presented to Mayor:
Date Signed by Mayor:	Date Returned to City Clerk:
Published by Title Only _____	Date Returned Without Concurrence:
Published in Full Text _____	

The City of Seattle - Legislative Department

Resolution sponsored by: *[Signature]*

Committee Action:

Date	Recommendation	Vote
<i>pass 3-0</i>	<i>NL, JG, TR</i>	<i>8/12/09</i> <i>(CA)</i>

This file is complete and ready for presentation to Full Council. _____

Full Council Action:

Date	Decision	Vote
<i>8-17-09</i>	<i>Adopted</i>	<i>9-0</i>

Law Department

RESOLUTION 31155

1
2 A RESOLUTION endorsing the work of the Cultural Overlay District Advisory Committee that
3 developed recommendations to preserve and create affordable space for arts and culture in
4 Seattle, and affirming the City Council's commitment to address and act upon those
5 recommendations.

6 WHEREAS, in response to urgent calls for action from community members, on April 2, 2008, five
7 City Councilmembers participated in a public forum, attended by over 200 people, titled
8 "Make Room for Art: Cultural Overlay Districts for Seattle," which addressed community
9 concerns about the loss of affordable space for arts and cultural uses in Capitol Hill ; and

10 WHEREAS, Councilmembers Nick Licata and Sally Clark responded and established the Cultural
11 Overlay District Advisory Committee (CODAC), a volunteer advisory committee charged
12 with identifying and recommending to the City Council creative incentives and regulations
13 that can help preserve and promote spaces and activities for art, culture, and entertainment
14 city-wide, beginning with the Capitol Hill neighborhood; and

15 WHEREAS, the City Council greatly appreciates the expertise and commitment of CODAC,
16 whose membership represents neighborhood residents, business and property owners, land
17 developers, legal and finance professionals, individual artists and arts administrators; and

18 WHEREAS, over the course of nine months, between July 2008 and April 2009, CODAC worked
19 to develop and present a set of preliminary recommendations to the City Council in
20 September 2008 and a final comprehensive set of recommendations in June 2009;

21 WHEREAS, the Seattle Comprehensive Plan strongly supports many of the arts elements contained
22 in the CODAC recommendations; and

23 WHEREAS, the City Council is prepared to implement practices, policies and programs involving
24 several City departments that are consistent with the CODAC recommendations; and

25 WHEREAS, the City Council recognizes the economic and cultural benefits of coordinating efforts
26 throughout City departments, including but not limited to the Offices of Arts & Cultural
27 Affairs and Economic Development, and the Departments of Neighborhoods, Planning &
28 Development, and Fleets & Facilities, in order to work toward efficiently and effectively
preserving and creating affordable opportunities for the creative workforce, for the arts and
for cultural activities in Seattle; NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEATTLE:

Section 1. The City Council hereby formally accepts the Cultural Overlay District Advisory
Committee's (CODAC) final recommendations, dated April 30th, 2009, which identify actions to



1 the City can take to prioritize promoting, preserving, and creating affordable space for arts and
2 culture in Seattle, and which are attached as Attachment A.

3
4 Section 2. The City Council endorses the inclusion of cultural overlay districts in the Seattle
5 Comprehensive Plan goals and policies, as described in Attachment B.

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8 Section 3. The City Council hereby acknowledges and appreciates CODAC's six
9 recommendations and will begin exploring implementation of them during the 2009 budget
10 process. It is the Council's intent to collaborate with the Executive on pursuing implementation.
11 The six recommendations from the CODAC final report, "Preserving & Creating Space for Arts
12 & Culture in Seattle," are as follows:

- 13
14
15 1. Allow for the creation of designated cultural districts within Seattle's
16 neighborhoods, to preserve and enhance space for arts and culture.
- 17
18
19 2. Create a cultural districts manager staff position to work specifically on behalf
20 of cultural districts and to liaise on behalf of cultural district programs and
21 activities with institutions, organizations, foundations, government agencies,
22 individuals, and City departments.
- 23
24
25 3. Develop and promote an arts and cultural space 'brand' through the City's
26 financial and land use incentives and its regulatory tools and processes.

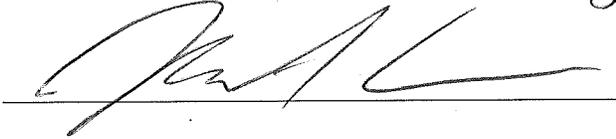


- 1 4. Provide technical assistance for neighborhoods to ensure the most effective
2 use of the above-mentioned tools.
- 3
- 4 5. Conduct outreach and build awareness about how neighborhoods can provide
5 arts and cultural space to encourage economic sustainability, express
6 community identity, provide community building through participation in the
7 arts and culture, and enhance overall quality of life.
- 8
- 9
- 10 6. Identify and pursue partnerships with institutions, organizations, foundations,
11 government agencies and individuals with the intent of achieving goals
12 contained in CODAC's final recommendations.
- 13
- 14

15 Section 4. The City Council chooses the Capitol Hill neighborhood, as defined by Attachment
16 C, as the first Seattle neighborhood for cultural overlay district designation. Additional priority
17 neighborhoods will be considered for future designation.

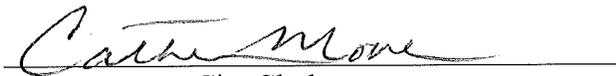


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2 Adopted by the City Council the 17th day of August, 2009, and signed by me
3 in open session in authentication of its adoption this 17th day of August, 2009.

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6 President _____ of the City Council

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10 Filed by me this 18th day of August, 2009.

11
12 
13 City Clerk

14 (Seal)

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18 Attachment A: Cultural Overlay District Advisory Committee Recommendations.

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20 Attachment B: Seattle Comprehensive Plan Goals and Policies relating to Arts and Culture, as of
May 2009.

21 Attachment C: Map of Proposed CODAC Boundary with Cultural Spines
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Proposed Changes to the Land Use Element of the Comprehensive Plan, Section C

May 2009

Amendments to Existing language (shown with proposed new wording underlined and deletions ~~crossed-out~~):

Section C—Location-Specific Land Use Policies

Discussion

The basic zoning categories described in Section B, are augmented here by policies that respond to specific characteristics of an area. For example, historic districts are governed by a basic zoning category as well as regulations that respond to the unique historic characteristics of an area. This section provides the policy foundation to guide how the City adjusts its regulations to respond to unique environments, particularly those created by: major institutions, historic districts and landmarks, arts and cultural districts, environmentally critical areas and shorelines.

Goal

LUG31: Provide flexibility in, or supplement, standard zone provisions to achieve special public purposes where circumstances warrant. Such areas include shoreline areas, airport height districts, historic landmark and special review districts, major institutions, arts and cultural districts, subarea plan districts, areas around high capacity transit stations, and other appropriate locations.

Proposed New Section C-5

C-5 Cultural Overlay Districts

Policies

LUXXX Encourage the preservation and enhancement of space for arts and culture by providing for the creation of cultural districts.

LUXXX Encourage significant community involvement in the development, monitoring, implementation and amendment of cultural districts.

LUXXX Allow for the designation of areas as cultural districts, to protect, enhance, and perpetuate the cultural identity of the area. Recognize that cultural designations help protect significant resources and qualities that distinguish these resources, and encourage stability, rehabilitation, restoration and planned development.

LUXXX Allow regulations and incentives to be adopted specifically for a designated cultural district. Allow adopted guidelines or regulations to modify, exempt, or supersede the standards of the underlying zone to encourage arts and cultural uses. For elements not included in the district guidelines, the standards of the existing zone designation shall continue to apply.

Recognize the significant economic benefits arts and cultural uses in the city and the region and their contributions to employment growth.



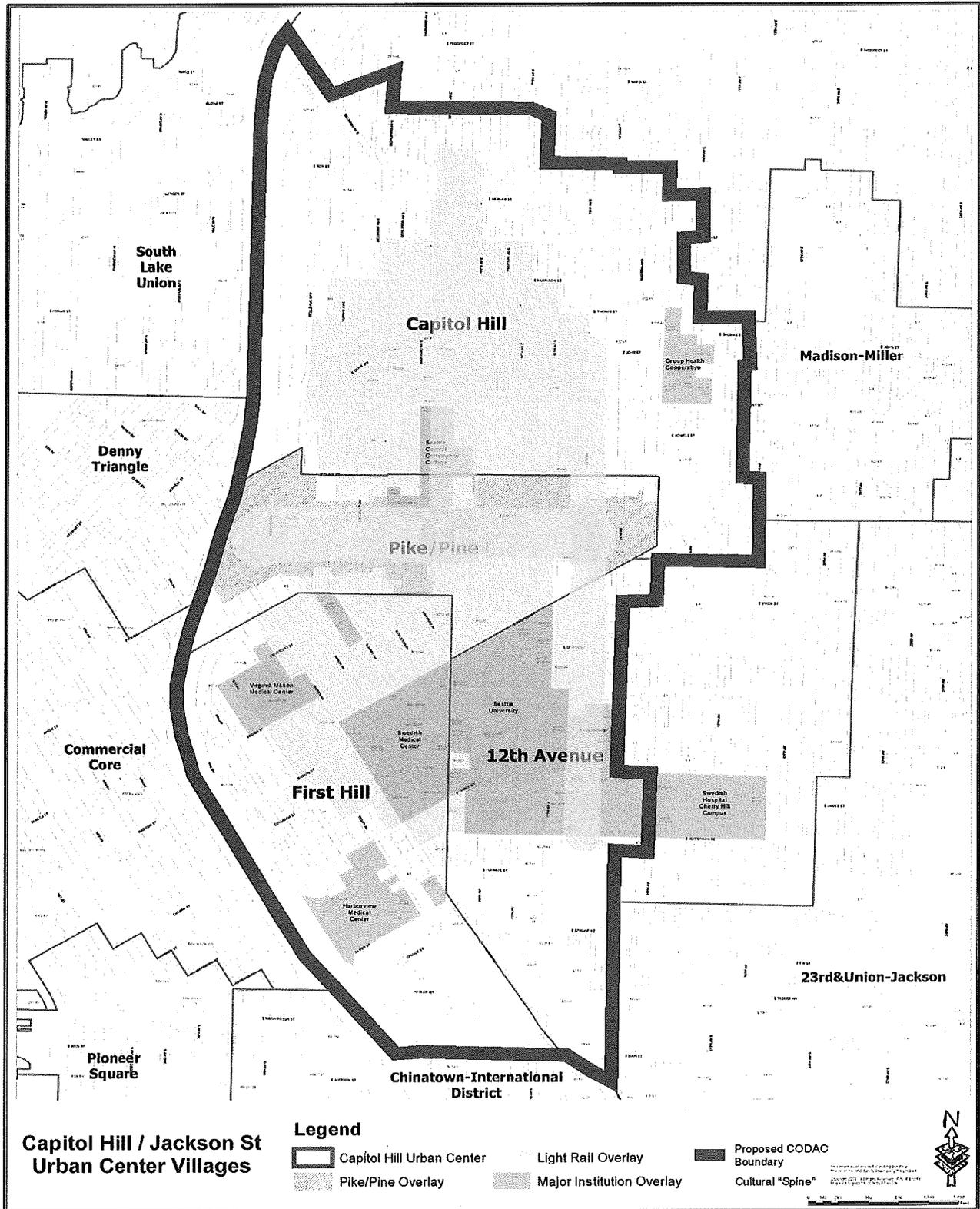
LUG35 Promote the integration of arts and cultural uses in cultural districts with the function and character of surrounding communities in the overall planning for urban centers.

Encourage economic activity and development of water-dependent uses by supporting the retention and expansion of existing water-dependent businesses and planning for the creation of new developments in areas now dedicated to such use.

Concentrate industrial and commercial shoreline uses by supporting the retention and expansion of existing water-dependent businesses, and planning for the creation of new developments in areas now dedicated to such use.



Map of Proposed CODAC Boundaries with Cultural Spines



Attachment C: Map of Proposed CODAC Boundaries with Cultural Spines



FISCAL NOTE FOR NON-CAPITAL PROJECTS

Department:	Contact Person/Phone:	DOF Analyst/Phone:
Legislative Department	Chris Godwin/206.684.8150	Not Applicable

Legislation Title:

A resolution endorsing the work of the Cultural Overlay District Advisory Committee that developed recommendations to preserve and create affordable space for arts and culture in Seattle, and affirming the City Council's commitment to address and act upon those recommendations

• **Summary of the Legislation:**

This council generated legislation endorses the work of the Cultural Overlay District Advisory Committee and states the City Council's intent to review and explore the committee's recommendations.

• **Background:**

The City Council established the Cultural Overlay District Advisory Committee (CODAC) in 2008. CODAC was charged with identifying and recommending creative incentives and regulations that can help preserve and promote spaces and activities for art, culture, and entertainment throughout Seattle.

CODAC met regularly for over a year and was comprised of artists, arts organizations, land developers and property owners. CODAC was also staffed by members of Council Central Staff, the Department of Planning and Development, and the Office of Arts and Cultural Affairs. The CODAC final report, "Preserving & Creating Space for Arts & Culture in Seattle," was presented to the City Council on June 1, 2009 and had six recommendations. This resolution accepts the final report and acknowledges and appreciates the recommendations.

• *Please check one of the following:*

X **This legislation does not have any financial implications.** *(Stop here and delete the remainder of this document prior to saving and printing.)*

