

Workplan to implement Cultural Overlay District Advisory Committee (CODAC) recommendations

Council SLI 6-1-A-1

Statement of Legislative Intent: It is the intent of the Council that Executive staff from the Office of Economic Development (OED), the Office of Arts and Cultural Affairs (OACA), and the Department of Planning and Development (DPD) work together with Council staff to develop a plan for implementing the final recommendations of the Cultural Overlay District Advisory Committee (CODAC), which were delivered to the Council on April 30, 2009.

Between July 2008 and April 2009, CODAC, a volunteer advisory group established by the Council, worked to identify incentives and regulations to preserve and promote affordable spaces for arts, culture, and entertainment uses across the City. CODAC made six recommendations for further action that the Council endorsed in Resolution 31155. These recommendations included establishing designated cultural districts, developing or strengthening other incentives to encourage the creation of arts spaces, and providing technical assistance both to arts organizations and to property owners and developers who are interested in providing space for arts-oriented uses. The recommendations also included hiring a cultural overlay district manager whose responsibilities would apply within and extend beyond any cultural overlay districts that may be established.

It is the intent of the Council that an interdepartmental team comprised of Executive staff from OED, OACA, and DPD, together with Council staff, review and develop a workplan for implementing the recommendations included in CODAC's final report. The workplan should include a proposal for seeking outside funding, such as foundation and philanthropic support, that could, in future years, fulfill CODAC's recommendation regarding the creation of a cultural overlay district manager position.

The interdepartmental team should consult with the Seattle Arts Commission as it moves forward with this work by including Commission members in meetings, seeking their advice, and incorporating such advice into the workplan. Additionally, the interdepartmental team should identify a key contact person who will serve as the team's primary liaison to department staff and the Council. The workplan, which is due to the Council's Housing, Human Services, Health and Culture Committee by Monday, March 1, 2010, should, at a minimum:

- Detail the amount of City staff time required to implement CODAC's recommendations, including the designation of a cultural overlay district;
- Identify which City departments should be responsible for managing and carrying out the workplan; and
- Provide a breakdown of how the staff time required to implement CODAC's recommendations should be allocated across these departments. Recognizing the limited funding resources that are currently available to support this work, this analysis should

not assume the near-term creation of any new City staff position(s). However, City departments are expected to allocate existing resources to this effort and encouraged to seek foundation and philanthropic funding to support this work in the future.

After March 1, 2010, the interdepartmental team should continue to meet on a monthly basis as it moves forward with the execution of the workplan. The interdepartmental team should also continue to report back to the Council on its progress and consult with the Seattle Arts Commission as appropriate.

Responsible Council Committee: Housing, Human Services, Health and Culture

Date Due to Council: Progress report and Committee briefing due by Monday, February 1, 2010; final workplan due Monday, March 1, 2010