

**OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER
CITY OF DES MOINES, IOWA**

**CITY COUNCIL
COMMUNICATION:**

02-552

AGENDA:

OCTOBER 21,
2002

SUBJECT:

STOREFRONT
ART PROJECT

TYPE:

RESOLUTION
ORDINANCE
RECEIVE/FILE

SUBMITTED BY:

RICHARD CLARK
DEPUTY CITY
MANAGER

SYNOPSIS —

It is proposed that the City enter into an agreement with the Downtown Community Alliance, Inc. (DCA) to administer the storefront art project, and that the City Council establish a seven member advisory panel to make recommendations on appropriate downtown storefronts for the public display of art, and on the selection of Iowa artists and artwork to display in the storefronts.

FISCAL IMPACT —

\$50,000 available in the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Budget approved for public art in storefronts.

RECOMMENDATION —

Approval.

BACKGROUND —

On August 19, 2002, by Roll Call No. 02-2113, the City Council adopted a recommendation of the Des Moines Public Arts Commission to allocate \$50,000 from the funds available in the CIP for public art in the current fiscal year, to the project titled, *Changing Faces: A Storefront Public Art Project*.

Changing Faces is a storefront exhibition designed to enliven the streetscape of downtown Des Moines and offer both artists and the public an opportunity to explore the transitional nature of the area. The display of commissioned art in vacant commercial storefront windows will bring more imaginative attention to the area.

It is proposed that the City enter an agreement with DCA whereby the DCA will contact the owners of the selected storefronts and seek a license for the use of the storefronts for the project; and the DCA will seek to contract with the selected artists for the display of artwork approved by the City. By administering the project in this manner, DCA's insurance operates to protect the City against potential claims from the property owners for loss or damage to their property, and potential claims from the artists for any injuries or loss or damage to their artwork resulting from the project.

The City funds would be placed into a trust account by the DCA to be used exclusively to pay the artists and for other project expenses hereafter approved by the City, and all withdrawals from the trust account are subject to prior City approval.

By a second roll call, the City Council would establish an advisory panel to

	<p>recommend appropriate storefronts and appropriate Iowa artists and artwork for use in the project. The Public Arts Commission has recommended appointment of the seven individuals identified in the roll call.</p>
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