



City of Coral Gables
CITY COMMISSION MEETING
December 15, 2009

ITEM TITLE:

An Ordinance of the City Commission of Coral Gables amending the zoning code, Article 3, Division 20, entitled "Art in Public Places," in particular Section 20-102, entitled "Definitions"; Section 20-103, entitled "Art Funds"; and Section 3, entitled "Applicability of the Ordinance" to allow for collection of funds to the Historic Public Art Fund and Art Acquisition Fund; providing for severability, repealer and effective date.

RECOMMENDATION OF THE CITY MANAGER:

Approval

BRIEF HISTORY:

The City Commission on October 23, 2007, considered on First Reading the Art in Public Places Ordinance and recommended approval by a 5 – 0 vote to approve the Ordinance.

The City Commission on December 11, 2007, considered on Second Reading the Art in Public Places Ordinance and recommended approval by a 5-0 vote to approve the Ordinance.

The Public Art Master Plan, as defined in the ordinance, "means a five-year plan developed to further define the City of Coral Gables as a unique city of artistry and beauty while insuring open access to public art. The document at a minimum will identify locational placement priorities, standards for installation, detailed criteria for artist and artwork selection, and a conservation/maintenance protocol."

At the August 19, 2009, Cultural Development Board meeting members discussed the progress of the Public Art Master Plan and urged that efforts be made to amend the ordinance to allow for the collection of Art in Public Places funds prior to development of the Public Art Master Plan.

In support of this, the Nationally recognized organization Americans for the Arts (AFTA) responded; while strongly supporting the City's decision to have a public art master plan, AFTA recommends removal of the applicability clause and related clauses, which prevent current collection of funds until after development of the public art master plan.

Whereas development has slowed and will ultimately pick up, there is an opportunity not to lose monies in the interim that could be dedicated to Public Art and therefore, dedicated to the further cultural beauty and economic vitality of the City.

At the November 18, 2009 Cultural Development Board meeting, members reviewed an amendment to the Ordinance proposed by the City Manager's office, which, if approved by the Commission, would enable the City to begin collecting the percentage for art as established in the Ordinance. A motion was passed to recommend City Commission approval of an amendment to the Art in Public Places Ordinance.

The Commitment of the Board and financial resources are now in place to complete the initial Public Art Master plan within the current fiscal year.

The proposed amendment allows funds to be in place upon completion of the Public Art Master Plan, and also to be available to the extent that additional funds are needed to complete the master plan process and initial public art project.

Submitted for your consideration in the attached ordinance are amendments updating the Art in Public Places Code to allow for current collection of funds to the Historic Public Art Fund and the Art Acquisition Fund.

APPROVED BY:

Department Director	City Attorney	City Manager

ATTACHMENT(S):

1. **Ordinance Amendment**
2. **Ordinance Amendment marked**
3. **Excerpt minutes of the August 19, 2009, Cultural Development Board**
4. **Excerpt minutes of the November 18, 2009 Cultural Development Board**
5. **Letter to the Cultural Development Board from Americans for the Arts**