



REQUEST FOR ACTION

Council Initiated Action - Arts Economic Impact Analysis

MEETING DATE:

August 17, 2026

ORIGINATING DEPT:

City Administration

AGENDA SECTION:

Council Initiated Actions

PRESENTER:

Nick Miller

Action Requested:

Considering a Council Initiated Action (CIA) requesting that City Council allocate \$7,000 from 2026 Contingency Funds and direct staff to enter an agreement with University of Minnesota Extension for Economic Impact of the Operations of Arts Organizations in Rochester, Minnesota

Report Narrative:

Council Member Nick Miller brings forward this Council Initiated Action for consideration, with Council Member Patrick Keane supporting as the second, as required by the Council Rules of Procedure Ch. 2 - Internal Council Conduct, Sec 2.03 - Placing Items on the Business Meeting Agenda, subd. B. This request is as follows:

" We propose the Council approve \$7,000 from 2026 Contingency Funds and direct staff to enter an agreement with U of M Extension for an economic impact study of Rochester arts organizations, with the City as a client receiving the report and a presentation to the Council. The Rochester Arts and Cultural Strategic Plan Steering Committee, working with the U of M's CURA program, has identified 82 local arts organizations through initial mapping work; scope is in the attached proposal. Experience Rochester's recent U of M tourism study proved useful, and this would extend that insight to arts and culture and inform future Council work."

Priorities & Foundational Principles:

Social Equity

Policy Considerations & DEI Impact:

Council Initiated Actions help the Council prioritize its own initiatives through organized coalition building done in a public space and on the record. CIAs provide the Council with a public forum to consider their individual ideas with the body and decide if those ideas warrant prioritization for City teammates within the larger scope of the City's project load.

Prior Legislative Actions & Community Engagement:

No prior legislative actions.

Fiscal & Resource Impact:

There is an initial cost of \$7,000 for this request, plus staff time to work with the U of M and the Rochester Arts and Cultural Strategic Plan Steering Committee.

Alternative Action(s):

No alternative actions suggested at this time.

Prepared By:

Heather Reyna

Attachments:

[Council Initiated Action - Arts Economic Impact Study](#)

[Exhibit - Economic Impact of the Operations of Arts Organizations in Rochester - Project Proposal](#)