



THE CITY OF NEW YORK  
MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD 3  
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Jamie Rogers, Board Chair

Susan Stetzer, District Manager

May 26, 2017

Mr. Tom Finkelpearl, Commissioner  
Department of Cultural Affairs  
31 Chambers Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10007

Dear Commissioner Finkelpearl,

At its May 2017 monthly meeting, Community Board 3 passed the following resolution:

**VOTE: Resolution regarding Summary Overview of comments on the NYC Cultural Plan**

**WHEREAS**, a Summary Overview of Community Input for the NYC Cultural Plan is presently online at CreateNYC.org. There is a two week window of opportunity to offer public comment before a final version of the NYC Cultural Plan is submitted to the NYC Council by June 30, 2017 for review and approval; and

**WHEREAS**, the NYC Council passed legislation requiring that NYC Dept. of Cultural Affairs develop a Cultural Plan for New York City no later than the end of the fiscal year of 2017; and

**WHEREAS**, the Summary Overview was reviewed by the Arts and Culture subcommittee who proposed that the following priorities would be of the most benefit to Community Board; and

**WHEREAS**, the Issue of Equity should support arts & cultural organizations with a primary mission of serving historically underrepresented and underserved communities by encouraging and facilitating the employment of people from diverse communities and supporting individual artists who are from or work with diverse communities, as well as encouraging and supporting increased language access, including ASL, for cultural programming and finding opportunities to reach broader, more inclusive audiences by providing information in multiple languages and formats, and supporting disability Arts as part of supporting culture and artists, supporting artists and community based cultural organizations that work with immigrant communities, cultures and artists and continue supporting free admission, membership or discounted programming with cultural organizations through the IDNYC program; and

**WHEREAS**, under Social and Economic Impact, including Arts and Culture in resiliency planning and preparedness by designating a City Liaison to help coordinate the participation of artists and arts, cultural and science communities in disaster preparedness and responses with support for cultural organizations that have a lower environmental impact; and

**WHEREAS**, Affordability is one of the major issues facing our arts and culture community. It is recommended that by preserving and developing long-term workspaces of the cultural community, advancing the affordable Real Estate for Artists (AREA) initiative, supporting nonprofit organizations in the development and operation of affordable workspaces in City-owned or public-private partnership facilities, consulting with local residents in the City's RFP's for new cultural facilities in order to better reflect community needs and priorities, as well as share and partner in the development of new models to develop and preserve affordable workspaces citywide—considering Community Land Trusts, fractional ownership, rent to own, deed restrictions, cross subsidization and mobile studios would best serve our community. To improve access to existing and newly developed affordable housing for artists and cultural workers by creating opportunities to increase the development of physically accessible affordable housing for artists that allows them to thrive in their own communities, inform NYC's artist and cultural communities about affordable housing opportunities and investigate how to allow for non-traditional income documentation review in affordable housing applications from artists and other freelance workers with variable income. Support long-term sustainability of artists, cultural workers and Arts & Culture and Science organizations including creating mechanisms for organizations to pool resources and encourage block buying of resources and materials such as goods and a city agency or not-for-profit 3rd party to pursue collective purchases of insurance; and

**WHEREAS**, Citywide Coordination should support culture across agencies partnering with other City agencies to ensure the needs of the cultural community in all community and economic development and planning processes, develop RFP's for mixed-use developments which give reference to proposals that include cultural organization on the development team, help artist and cultural organization stop navigate city government rules, regulations and permitting, hold sessions for cultural opera and City agencies to facilitate collaboration and share information on upcoming opportunities. Strengthen interagency and inter-governmental collaboration by formally coordinating efforts to support an integrate culture across City Agencies and facilitate collaboration between agencies, sector sea initiatives. by effectively communication cultural funding opportunities and programming citywide via exiting information systems such as th NYCH Journal and libraries; and

**WHEREAS**, Arts, Culture & Science Education needs to strengthen and promote high quality, diverse and sequential art culture and science education for every child in NYC Public schools by promoting and supporting arts instruction across grades K-12, integrate arts and culture in all subtexts, collaborate with arts and /or museum educators, expand the pool of arts and cultural organizations that deliver service in sand after school, expand free and affordable after school arts and culture programs citywide. Supporting professional development and fellowship for educators and teaching artists from under- represented groups, including people with disabilities; and

**WHEREAS**, Health of the Cultural Sector should support expanded employment opportunities for local artists and arts, cultural and science works by collaborating with partner organizations to support individual arts through direct grants, including vocally sponsored artist, help community based networks to learn from one another, coordinate their efforts and scale up through collective action, support increased marketing efforts by the City and other stakeholder

to promote the broad range of arts and cultural offerings citywide and work towns safe and open environments for DIY and alternative arts spaces in collaboration with City agencies and to streamline the grant application process; and

**WHEREAS**, Arts & Culture in Public Space should be increased opportunities for artist to work in NYC Government and public space by removing barriers and support stakeholders in navigating the permitting process for art and cultural programming in public space and create mechanisms for artist-led and artist -initiated project in public space and/or with City government, by inclusion of public story in all development projects on private sites; and

**WHEREAS**, Neighborhood Character should be maintained by supporting arts, cultural and science programs in all neighborhoods in all boroughs by incorporating local arts and culture organizations and priorities in neighborhood planning and re-zoning, collaborating with communities and researchers to identify cutler assets and distribution of funding, partner with City agencies and community stakeholders to support cultural preservation in neighborhoods across all five boroughs; so

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, Community Board 3 approves this Summary Overview of the NYC Cultural plan taking into consideration the above mentioned areas of concern as presented in this resolution and asks that the Department of Cultural Affairs release a copy of the proposed cultural plan to be submitted to the NYC Council prior to June 30 2017 for public review and comment and that data gathered from the many surveys conducted be made available to the general public and be sortable by zip code.

Please contact the community board office with any questions.

Sincerely,



Jamie Rogers, Chair  
Community Board 3



Carolyn Ratcliffe, Chair  
Arts and Cultural Affairs Subcommittee

Cc: Ryan Max, Department of Cultural Affairs  
Vincent Fang, Office of New York City Council Member Margaret Chin  
Andrew Lombardi, Office of Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer  
Jorge Jimenez, Office of New York City Council Member Rosie Mendez  
Ryan Gilliam, Downtown Art and FABnyc  
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