

Attachment C: Arts, Cultural, and Festivals Process

Staff recommend updating the Arts, Culture and Festival Process based on the intent to a) support as many eligible programs as possible; b) recognize that such programs are more challenging to evaluate alongside each other due to their diverse goals/intents; c) the programs contribution to the County's overall quality of life rather than meeting a basic Governmental service need; and d) scale administrative burden to the size of funding awards and the overall program.

Staff is requesting Board decision on four facets of the Arts, Cultural and Festivals process:

Decision Point #1: Program Timing & Allocation

Option 1: Adjust Program Timing

The Arts, Cultural and Festivals process would begin imminently following the appropriation of the FY 28 budget. The Board's adopted budget would include a total amount for the program, to be allocated in the subsequent months.

Proposed schedule:

- April – Budget Process determining total amount available for Arts, Cultural & Festivals funding
- May – Development of Program Materials by Staff
- June – Solicit for Proposals
- July – Proposal Evaluation by Staff
- August – Board Review & Approval of Awards
- September – Awards Disbursed

Option 2: No Change

Keep the timing of the Arts, Cultural and Festivals process as is, with non-profits submitting applications in October, individual awards made through the County's budget process, and awards issued to non-profits beginning July.

Decision Point #2: Funding Formula

Option 1: Establish Funding Formula

Staff will recommend funding for eligible programs in proportion to the amount each program requests. If the Board approves this method, staff's initial recommendations will allocate funds proportionally based on each organization's request, without exceeding the total funding available.

For example, if the Board allocates \$20,000 for Arts, Cultural, and Festival programs and receives three requests of different amounts, each award would be calculated as the same percentage of the amount requested, up to the total \$20,000 available:

Program	Funding Request	Award Amount (95% of request)
Art Festival	\$3,500	\$3,325
Theater Co.	\$7,000	\$6,650
County Fair	\$10,000	\$9,500
	TOTAL:	\$19,475

The approval of grants from the Arts, Cultural, and Festivals process would continue to remain solely with the Board of Supervisors.

Option 2: No Change

Keep the current evaluation process for the Arts, Cultural and Festivals process as is, and do not establish a funding formula.

Decision Point # 3: Funding Cap

Option 1: Funding Cap Establishment

A maximum funding amount of \$5,000 per organization is available. This maximum is published at the start of the process.

Option 2: No Change

Keep the timing of the Arts, Cultural and Festivals process as is, and do not establish a funding cap.

Decision Point # 4: Proposal Review Process

Option 1: Simplified Review Process

Reviews are based on whether or not the program is eligible using the criteria in Attachment A, and if they are, they are recommended for funding.

Option 2: No Change

Keep the full program evaluation process as is.

