



CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH CITY ARTS COMMISSION STAFF REPORT

December 11, 2025
Agenda Item No. 6

TO: CITY ARTS COMMISSION

FROM: Library Services Department
Melissa Hartson, Library Services Director
(949) 717-3801, mhartson@newportbeachca.gov

PREPARED BY: Rebecca Lightfoot, Library Services Manager

TITLE: Proposal for the 59th Annual Newport Beach Art Exhibition and 2026 Art in Park Event

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommend that the City Arts Commission review and approve a proposal from the Art Exhibition Ad Hoc Subcommittee to hold the 59th Annual Newport Beach Art Exhibition in conjunction with the Newport Beach Arts Foundation's 2026 Art in the Park event on Saturday, August 15, 2026, as the culmination of Art Week.

DISCUSSION:

The 2026 Newport Beach Art Week will conclude on Saturday, August 15, 2026, with the 59th Annual Art Exhibition, run by the Newport Beach Cultural Arts Division and the City Arts Commission. The Newport Beach Arts Foundation, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and the fundraising arm of the Newport Beach Cultural Arts Division, has proposed hosting their annual Art in the Park event on the same day. The events will take place from 12 p.m. – 5 p.m.

The Art Exhibition Ad Hoc Subcommittee has proposed the following division of responsibilities for the event:

The City Arts Commission and the Cultural Arts staff will be responsible for:

- Submitting, processing, and paying any fees associated with the special event permit for the 59th Annual Newport Beach Art Exhibition
- Selection and payment for the Exhibit Hall and Sculpture Exhibition décor
- Selection and payment of the entertainment and children's activities
- Reservation of and event logistics of the Community Room exhibition space
- Hiring janitorial services
- Acquiring additional parking for event attendees

The Newport Beach Arts Foundation will be responsible for the following:

- Submitting, processing, and paying any fees associated with the special event permit for the Art in the Park: Fine Art Artisan Fair

- Reservation of and event logistics of the Civic Green for artist booths and the Food and Beverage Pavilion
- Food and Beverage Pavilion: rental of furnishings and décor, hiring food and beverage vendors, and security
- Coordination and processing of art sales at Art Exhibition
- Additional trash services

By holding these two events on the same day, there is potential for savings of approximately \$10,000 for the Cultural Arts Division.

NOTICING:

This agenda item has been noticed according to the Brown Act (72 hours in advance of the meeting at which the City Arts Commission considers the item).