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**INFORMAL STAFF REPORT  
TO MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL**

**SUBJECT:**

Status update re: Secure the services of Margaret Chalfant, retired Executive Director of the Greater Denton Arts Council, to author Denton's first Public Art Master Plan, by way of a Professional Services Agreement.

**BACKGROUND:**

In Fiscal Year 2013-2014, the City Council allocated a total of \$80,000 to commission the creation of Denton's first Public Art Master Plan. At the February 10, 2015, Council Work Session, several City Council Members asked for an update on the status of the Public Art Master Plan.

The intent of the Master Plan is to coordinate the selection and guide the placement of public art, institute policies and procedures for the commission and acquisition of art, and establish the overarching vision that would integrate public art into the fabric of the City in a cohesive way. This information will be used to help guide the commission with the placement of Public Art, as funds become available, over the next five years for public art projects associated with CIP projects.

During the Parks and Recreation Department's search of prospective firms and review of various qualified professionals to author the City's first Public Art Master Plan, Margaret Chalfant, Executive Director of the Greater Denton Arts Council, announced her retirement from that organization. Margaret is a nationally recognized authority in the Art field and is well-known and respected as Denton's resident expert. Margaret's vast range of art knowledge, education, and experience, both local and national, are invaluable. She served as Executive Director of the Greater Denton Arts Council (GDAC) for nine years. She also served as the Executive Director of the Arts & Humanities Council of Southwest Louisiana and in an ex-officio role with the Denton Public Art Committee since its inception in June of 2006, a committee which she helped to establish.

**DISCUSSION:**

The intent to hire Margaret Chalfant to author the Public Art Master Plan was discussed with the Public Art Committee at the July 2014 meeting and we received a very positive response from the Committee. A proposed contract was sent to Purchasing and returned with comments and recommendations. Emerson Vorel is addressing both and a professional services contract will be placed on the consent agenda for Council to approve on April 7.

**STAFF CONTACT:**

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