

CITY OF NEWPORT

RESOLUTION NO. 3650

A RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT
FOR THE VISUAL ARTS CENTER
IN THE CITY OF NEWPORT

WHEREAS, the City of Newport's Visual Arts Center was built in 1982 by the Newport Development Commission (Urban Renewal Agency) and conveyed to the City of Newport in 1992; and

WHEREAS, the City of Newport and its Development Commission has owned and maintained the Visual Arts Center in the public interest for the past 30 years; and

WHEREAS, the city has contracted with the Oregon Coast Council for the Arts to manage the Visual Arts Center, and has utilized both general fund and transient room tax dollars to subsidize the cost of operations; and

WHEREAS, the Visual Arts Center has been an anchor and catalyst in the economic development of the Nye Beach neighborhood and the City of Newport; and

WHEREAS, the arts industry plays an important role in the City of Newport, contributing to the economic and cultural well-being of the city's residents and broader community; and

WHEREAS, the City Council took public comment at its meetings on October 7, 2013, and November 4, 2013, at which significant support was expressed for the City to continue to support the Visual Arts Center.

THE CITY OF NEWPORT RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The City Council recognizes that the visual arts are part of the fabric and character of the City of Newport, and it is in the best interest of its citizens to continue a partnership with the Oregon Coast Council for the Arts, and to develop financially sustainable options to ensure the long-term success of the Visual Arts Center within the community.

Section 2. The City Council embraces the OCCA Board of Directors' offer to develop a list of financially sustainable options and recommendations for presentation to the Council by its first meeting in March, 2014. The OCCA Board of Directors will enlist the broader community, city staff, and a Council liaison to assist and support this effort.

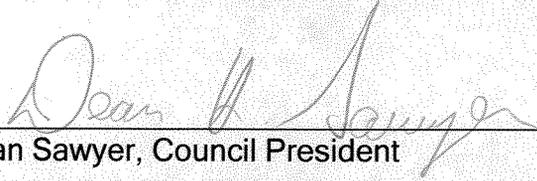
Section 3. The options for achieving financial sustainability will include a strategic look at the Visual Arts Center's business model, operations, maintenance, location, and

ownership. Options should include all scenarios that prove to help secure the long-term viability of the Visual Arts Center within the City of Newport.

Section 4. The City Council believes that any discussion of the potential sale of the Visual Arts Center property should be deferred until the community has had an opportunity to develop a list of options and recommendations.

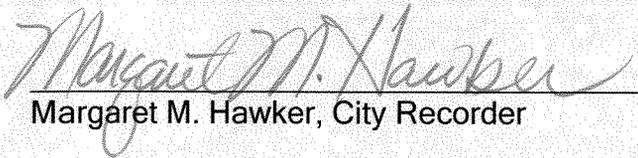
Section 5. This resolution is effective upon adoption.

Adopted by the Newport City Council on November 18, 2013.



Dean Sawyer, Council President

ATTEST:



Margaret M. Hawker, City Recorder