



**TO:** Elizabeth Pauli, City Manager  
**FROM:** Ricardo Noguera, Director, Community and Economic Development  
Amy McBride, Arts Administrator, Office of Arts & Cultural Vitality  
**COPY:** City Council and City Clerk  
**SUBJECT:** Request for ordinance amendment – December 5, 2017  
**DATE:** November 14, 2017

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**SUMMARY:**

An ordinance relating to the Tacoma Arts Commission amending chapter 1.28A of the Tacoma Municipal Code. To allow for a broader body of Tacoma citizens to serve on the Tacoma Arts Commission, the Tacoma Arts Commission, in a vote at their November 13, 2017 meeting, recommended removing the position reserved for a representative of the Cross District Association or Community Council and replacing it with an At Large position.

In section 1.28A.040(C) relating to the composition of the Tacoma Arts Commission, strike the words “A person representing the Cross District Association or Community Council.” In section 1.28A.040(E) relating to the composition of the Tacoma Arts Commission, strike the words “These shall be referred to as At-Large Positions 1 through 8.” and insert the words “These shall be referred to as At-Large Positions 1 through 9.”

**BACKGROUND:**

Tacoma Municipal Code chapter 1.28A.040 outlines the composition of the 15 seats on the Tacoma Arts Commission. Included is 1 seat designated for a working professional artist, 1 seat designated for a person working the Tacoma public education community, 1 seat designated for a person representing the Cross District Association or Community Council, 4 Professional Position seats, and 8 At-Large Position seats.

Appointments to the Tacoma Arts Commission are made annually and, if no qualified candidates are found for designated seats, those positions will remain unfilled.

**ISSUE:**

The Cross District Association or Community Council seat on the Tacoma Arts Commission is unduly restrictive, allowing only a narrowly defined pool of people to be considered and thus preventing this seat from being filled expeditiously.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

If the update to the ordinance is not adopted, the Cross District Association or Community Council seat on the Commission will remain in place but will go unfilled until a time when an appropriate candidate is found who meets the criteria of the position.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

No fiscal impact projected.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Councilmember Campbell, in review of the Tacoma Arts Commission positions, recommended removal of the Cross District Association or Community Council seat as outlined in 1.28A.040 (C) and updating the position to an At Large seat as outlined in 1.28A.040 (E).



The Tacoma Arts Commission has reviewed the proposed update to the composition of the Commission and recommends making the above stated updates. Staff recommends the Council approve the update to the ordinance.



**EXHIBIT "A"**

**Chapter 1.28A.040  
Composition of the Tacoma Arts Commission**

**1.28A.040 Composition of the Tacoma Arts Commission.**

All members of the Tacoma Arts Commission shall have a demonstrated interest and familiarity with arts and culture, either through professional practice or volunteer work, and shall be residents within the boundaries of the City.

The Tacoma Arts Commission shall consist of 15 members who represent the following:

A. A working professional artist.

B. A person working in the Tacoma public education community.

~~C. A person representing the Cross District Association or Community Council.~~

C. D. Professional Positions: In addition to the above, the Tacoma Arts Commission shall always include a minimum of four individuals who have had professional experience or training related to the arts, originating from employment or study within the following disciplines: arts or art history, arts administration, architecture, art criticism, art education, curation, conservation, heritage arts, literature, music, new media, performing arts, public art, visual arts, or a related field. These positions shall be named Professional Positions 1 through 4.

D. E. At-Large Positions: The remaining positions may be filled at-large from persons representative of acknowledged accomplishment or persons working outside of professional practice in the arts but who demonstrate a deep interest in and appreciation of cultural and artistic activities. ~~These shall be referred to as At-Large Positions 1 through 8.~~ These shall be referred to as At-Large Positions 1 through 9.

E. F. The provisions of this chapter and Subchapter 1.28A.050 shall be enforced as vacancies occur, following the adoption of this legislation.