



MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 7, 2016

TO: Mayor Stokes and Members of the City Council

FROM: Chris Salomone, Director, 452-6191
Joshua Heim, Arts Program Manager, 452-4105
Planning and Community Development

SUBJECT: **Updating the vision for art and culture in Bellevue; and an invitation to the City Council to participate**

At the request of Mayor Stokes, liaison to the City's Arts Commission, we are providing this update to the Council regarding an upcoming community survey related to the Commission's update of the *Cultural Compass*.

Description: The Bellevue Arts Commission has begun to evaluate and revise the Vision Statement and Core Initiatives within the *Cultural Compass*. The current vision statement for arts and culture in Bellevue states:

By 2015, Bellevue's cultural sector will have reached adulthood.

The process for updating this vision includes evaluation, drafting, staff and community feedback, finalizing, and approval. The first step is to evaluate the current vision statement, and the Commission has prepared an online survey titled the "2016 Cultural Compass Vision Survey" to gather community and stakeholder feedback. The survey can be accessed by the web link below:

2016 Cultural Compass Vision Survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ZZZTDPK>

The survey went live on Thursday, March 4th and will close on Thursday, March 17th. A report will be prepared for the Arts Commission and available at their April 5th meeting. The Arts Commission invites the City Council to participate in the 2016 Cultural Compass Vision Survey, and asks City Council members to encourage arts, cultural, and community stakeholders to participate by circulating the above link to their networks.

Background: The *Cultural Compass* is the City's cultural plan. It was developed and recommended by the Bellevue Arts Commission, and adopted by the Bellevue City Council in 2004. It was intended to be a ten year plan, guiding the work of the City and the Commission from 2005-2015. The Plan consists of nine parts listed below. This project *will not* address any other Parts except Part I.

Part I: Strategic Vision and Core Initiatives
Part II: Cultural Organizations and Artists
Part III: Cultural Economic and Business Development

Part IV: Cultural Diversity
Part V: Cultural Education
Part VI: Cultural Facilities
Part VII: Public Art
Part VIII: Cultural Resources
Part IX: Administrative Infrastructure

Completing this project at this time achieves a major performance measure of our 2015-2016 Work Plan, and lays the foundation to address and update all other Parts of the *Cultural Compass* in the near future.

Timeframe

- **March** – Initiate & Evaluate the current vision statement
- **April** – Draft alternatives
- **May** – Receive comments and feedback from staff and community
- **June** – Re-draft the vision statement and finalize
- **July** – Recommend to City Council an updated vision statement; City Council approval

Attachments & Online Resources:

- A. 2016 Cultural Compass Vision Survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/7ZZTDPK>
B. 2004 Cultural Compass: https://www.bellevuewa.gov/cultural_compass.htm
C. 2004 Part I: Strategic Vision Statement and Core Initiatives