TO: Mayor and Members
General Issues Committee

COMMITTEE DATE: June 20, 2018

SUBJECT/REPORT NO: Downtown Public Art (PED18061) (Wards 2 and 3)

WARD(S) AFFECTED: Wards 2 and 3

PREPARED BY: Ken Coit (905) 546-2424 Ext. 6281

SUBMITTED BY: Anna M. Bradford
Director, Tourism and Culture
Planning and Economic Development Department

SIGNATURE:

RECOMMENDATION

That Downtown Public Art Capital Project 7101858812 be established, and funded in the amount of $936,350 from the Downtown Public Arts Reserve (108049), for the planning, administration and implementation of public art projects in the Downtown Hamilton Community Improvement Project Area, as listed in Appendix “A” to Report PED18061, be approved.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Staff is seeking approval for the creation of a new capital account for Downtown Public Art and that $936,350 of the Downtown Public Art Reserve be transferred to the capital account to fund up to eight Downtown Public Art projects.

The Downtown Public Art Reserve is funded through voluntary contributions for which developers receive a dollar for dollar exemption in Development Charges (DC) for eligible developments within the Downtown Hamilton Community Improvement Project Area (DHCIPA).

Approving the capital account and the transfer of funds will provide non-levy funding to implement public art projects in the downtown. Applying the reserve funding will allow for existing tax levy public art funding and resources to be focused on additional public art projects beyond the DHCIPA.

OUR Vision: To be the best place to raise a child and age successfully.
OUR Mission: To provide high quality cost conscious public services that contribute to a healthy, safe and prosperous community, in a sustainable manner.
OUR Culture: Collective Ownership, Steadfast Integrity, Courageous Change, Sensational Service, Engaged Empowered Employees.
Alternatives for Consideration – Not Applicable

FINANCIAL – STAFFING – LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Financial: The Downtown Public Art Reserve funds public art projects in the Downtown Hamilton Community Improvement Plan Area (DHCIPA). The Downtown Public Art Reserve is funded through contributions by developers with new developments within the DHCIPA as part of development charges.

The Downtown Public Art Reserve was established with a cash balance ceiling of $1,000,000. As of March 21, 2018, the Downtown Public Art Reserve has a balance of $985,569. If the transfer of $936,350 is approved, the Downtown Public Art Reserve will have a balance of $49,219.

Staffing: N/A

Legal: N/A

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

In February 2012, Council approved the creation of a Downtown Public Art Reserve through Report FCS12015. The Terms and Conditions for the Use of the Downtown Public Art Reserve Fund outline a number of requirements, goals, and guidelines on the use of these funds for City staff and contributors. These include requirements that the Reserve funds be spent on public art projects that improve the quality of public space, animate street life, and reflect the evolving community across the DHCIPA as determined through a public consultation process in keeping with current City of Hamilton Public Art policies.

In May 2014 Council approved the Terms and Conditions for the Use of the Downtown Public Art Reserve Policy and the Downtown Public Art Reserve Policy (RESCUL-005), through Report PED14096. The Reserve was established with a cash balance ceiling of $1,000,000.

In February 2017 Council approved funding two public art projects in the DHCIPA for $107,043 through reports PED17022 and PED17024. With this spending, the reserve balance is currently $985,569.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS AND LEGISLATED REQUIREMENTS

The Recommendation in Report PED18061 is in keeping with the Council approved Public Art Master Plan 2016.
The Recommendations in Report PED18061 are in keeping with the following goals and recommendations of the Council approved Cultural Plan, Transforming Hamilton through Culture 2013:

Goal: Build Community Identity, Pride, and Image;

Recommendation: Recognize and celebrate achievement in culture;

    Action: 9.1 Work with sectoral stakeholders to develop or enhance recognition programs and events.

Goal: Encourage Welcoming Communities;

Recommendation: Develop and facilitate cultural programing;

    Action: 10.5 Encourage and support the community to develop events, programs, and celebrations of Hamilton.

RELEVANT CONSULTATION

Manager, Finance & Admin (Corp Serv, PED, CMO)

ANALYSIS AND RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

Since the inception of the Downtown Public Art Reserve developers in the DHCIPA have contributed $1,092,612.16. These contributions speak to the growing interest in development in the downtown, support for improving public space through public art and art in public places projects and confidence in the City’s public art program.

The Downtown Public Art capital 7101858812 will provide Tourism and Culture staff with new non-levy funding and resources to move forward immediately with up to eight public art and art in public places projects in the downtown. Using the Downtown Public Art Reserve will then allow for existing tax levy supported public art funding and resources to be focused on a range of public art projects in other areas of the city.

The projects proposed for funding are identified in the council approved Public Art Master Plan 2016 and include a variety of projects such as; a large scale work for the parkette at James Street North and Wilson Street, smaller functional projects like bike racks by artists and pilot projects such as artist wraps for traffic signal boxes. A complete list of projects to be funded is attached as Appendix “A” to Report PED18061.

If approved, work on these projects will begin in summer 2018 with completion expected from 2019 to 2021 depending on the scale and complexity of the works selected. Art will
be chosen, and projects implemented as per the council approved Call for Artists Policy and the Public Art Master Plan 2016.

**ALTERNATIVES FOR CONSIDERATION**

N/A

**ALIGNMENT TO THE 2016 – 2025 STRATEGIC PLAN**

**Community Engagement and Participation**

Hamilton has an open, transparent and accessible approach to City government that engages with and empowers all citizens to be involved in their community.

**Economic Prosperity and Growth**

Hamilton has a prosperous and diverse local economy where people have opportunities to grow and develop.

**Clean and Green**

Hamilton is environmentally sustainable with a healthy balance of natural and urban spaces.

**Built Environment and Infrastructure**

Hamilton is supported by state of the art infrastructure, transportation options, buildings and public spaces that create a dynamic City.

**Culture and Diversity**

Hamilton is a thriving, vibrant place for arts, culture, and heritage where diversity and inclusivity are embraced and celebrate

**APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED**

Appendix “A” to Report PED18061 - Public Art Projects in the Downtown Hamilton Community Improvement Project Area

KC:ro