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City of Cambridge

**PUBLIC FACILITIES, ART AND
CELEBRATIONS COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

*Councillor Brian Murphy, Chair
Councillor Anthony D. Galluccio
Councillor Kenneth E. Reeves*

In City Council October 28, 2002

The Public Facilities, Art and Celebrations Committee held a public meeting on October 8, 2002, beginning at 4:40 P.M. in the Ackermann Room in order to discuss curb cuts, an update on the impact of state budget cuts on city arts programs, and the status of the report on developing a Cambridge Art survey and an artist space initiative.

Present at the hearing were Councillor Brian Murphy, Chair of the Committee, Vice-Mayor Henrietta Davis, and Elaine McGrath, City Clerk's Office. Also present were Don Drisdell, Deputy City Solicitor, Charles Sullivan, Executive Director, Cambridge Historical Commission, Jason Weeks, Executive Director, Cambridge Arts Council, Mary Ann Cicala, Community Arts Administrator, Arts Council, Jane Beal, Director of Community Arts, Arts Council, Jim Peters, 23 Cottage St., Cambridge, member, Cambridge Arts Council and Public Arts Council, Sarah Smith, 267 Putnam Ave., Cambridge, and Linda Lichtman, 17 Tudor St., Cambridge.

Councillor Murphy convened the hearing and explained the purpose. He invited comments and questions about the first item on the agenda, curb cuts.

Vice-Mayor Davis asked the Law Department to address what the requirements are for City Council action to delegate its authority over curb cuts. In response, Deputy City Solicitor Drisdell stated that he had advised the Council that, by statute, it has the authority to lay out public ways and that courts have interpreted this grant to include curb cuts. Mr. Drisdell confirmed the city manager's opinion that to delegate this authority, the Council must file a home rule petition with the legislature and proceed with a special act. The Council already delegates some authority to various city departments, which review and sign off on a petition for a curb cut; however, under the current procedure, the Council has the final vote on the petition. If the Council wants some other office to make the decision, this requires a special act from the legislature.

Vice-Mayor Davis raised the concern that Council review of curb cuts is a way of ensuring public safety since cars will be crossing public sidewalks. She asked if there was any part of the proposed process that would look at that issue. If the Council does not review curb cuts, it will not know the status of sidewalks. Mr. Drisdell indicated that, under the current process, which routes applicants to different departments for review of different aspects of the proposal, the Traffic, Parking & Transportation Department has oversight of traffic in public ways. The Traffic Department's review would cover sidewalk safety and whether the curb cut was a safe point of access. So, the issues

involved in curb cuts are addressed through department reviews now, but the Council must make the final decision.

According to Vice-Mayor Davis, the Council raised the issue of delegation of decisionmaking authority on curb cuts as an informational inquiry. The problem with the current process is that, when the Council receives a curb cut for decision, department recommendations and neighbor objections are simply recorded, without any systematic attempt to resolve them in departments. The departments that review the petition do not mediate between parties. The Council is asked to act on the petition, with department input limited to a signoff of approval or disapproval. If departments disapprove of the cut, Vice-Mayor Davis' position is that they should attempt to mediate between parties. The Council is the mediator now, at the end of the process. However, the Council would prefer to have the issues resolved by the time of its vote. She would like to see city officials doing the mediation in their reviews and keep the decisionmaking with the Council. Mediation is what should be delegated.

Mr. Sullivan stated that Vice-Mayor Davis has put her finger on the issue, which is an administrative one. Speaking for his department, he explained that the Historical Commission does try to mediate controversies that come before them on curb cuts.

In the event that the Council chooses to delegate its decisionmaking, Councillor Murphy asked what the rules were for bringing a home rule petition to the legislature, specifically, if there was a deadline, and asked the City Clerk's office to report on this question.

Ms. Smith expressed her preference for the Council to stay in the conversation on curb cuts as an extra protection for neighbors.

Vice-Mayor Davis made the following motion: **Ordered that the city manager be and hereby is requested to recommend an administrative mediation process in controversial curb cut petitions, where there are issues between the petitioner and the abutters or neighborhood.** The motion passed without objection on a voice vote.

Councillor Murphy thanked all present for attending and closed the portion of the meeting relative to curb cuts at 4:55 P.M.

Councillor Murphy then opened the discussion on the impact of state budget cuts on city arts programs, the status of the report on developing a Cambridge Art survey and an artist space initiative. He asked Mr. Weeks of the Arts Council to address these issues and provide background.

Mr. Weeks introduced a copy of his memo to City Manager Robert W. Healy (**Attachment A**) detailing the financial impacts of the state budget cuts, which directly reduce funding in three areas by significant percentages: organizational support (62 % reduction), grant program allocation (63% cut) and matching incentive grant (100% cut). The combined reduction was 73 percent; however, because of an allocation of city funds

in the amount of \$35,000, the overall cut becomes 44 percent, from approximately \$90,000 in resources to \$48,000. According to Mr. Weeks, the individual grants range from \$500 to \$5500, with an average grant of \$2500. The projection for 35 grants in 2003 has been halved. Councillor Murphy asked if one option with this reduction is to cut the amounts of grants rather than the number; Mr. Weeks stated that, at a recent meeting of the Arts Council, constituents in fact preferred more grants of smaller amounts.

Councillor Murphy also raised the issue of the ripple effects of the cuts in the community. Mr. Sullivan of the Historical Commission noted that cuts directly affect his funding; for example, a \$3000 grant will probably be reduced significantly. According to Councillor Murphy, Cambridge Cable TV will also experience a significant loss of income, especially in combination with a projected loss of cable revenue. Mr. Peters of the Arts Council remarked that another consequence of the cuts is that organizations that get money directly from the Arts Council will also be affected.

Councillor Murphy asked if there was any discussion of increasing the city's contribution to the arts budget. Mr. Weeks stated that this is discussed every year. In the last three years, and more so this year, the Arts Council has also tried to raise money from private funding, in order to provide resources for projects that were not selected by the Arts Council, but which were promising.

Regarding the Cambridge Art survey, Councillor Murphy asked for an update. Mr. Weeks stated that last fall, the Boston Redevelopment Authority (BRA) hired Artspace Projects, Inc. (Artspace), of Minneapolis to survey current arts space in Boston and to develop proposals for artists' live-work space. The BRA's survey (**Attachment B**) focuses on visual artists. It is intended to identify artists and register their needs; the agency estimates that there are 20,000 constituents for artist services in 17 Boston communities. Mr. Weeks contacted Artspace and learned that the group could get more money to expand the study to adjacent areas like Cambridge. Mr. Weeks provided 1000 names and addresses of Cambridge artists, who then received a copy of the survey from Artspace (**Attachment C**). The surveys went out in March and were returned in May and June and are being analyzed now. There are no results available yet; they are expected later this fall. Responding to a question from Councillor Murphy about the time it is taking the BRA to develop live-work space for artists, Mr. Weeks indicated that such development is a slow process, generally taking 10-12 years. Given the current economic constraints, the process could be even slower.

Councillor Murphy and Vice-Mayor Davis then asked a series of questions about the BRA survey, including the cost, the comparability to other cities' surveys conducted by Artspace, and the current availability of Cambridge's data. Mr. Weeks explained that because there was no discrete budget for the survey, which is funded through different streams of income, the total cost is unknown but may become clear further along in the project. Boston's survey and its situation are more complex than other cities studied by Artspace, but the details of this comparison will be in the results. Mr. Weeks has requested copies of the Cambridge-specific data. However, Artspace prefers to keep the

data together until it is ready for release. Councillor Murphy suggested that the information may be proprietary or the group could just be reluctant to disaggregate it now.

Councillor Murphy looks forward to the results, especially the BRA's proposals to address art space issues. Mr. Weeks' understanding is that the BRA does not have any set notion about results from the survey. Their response will depend on the information they receive. They plan to use the results to figure out what would address artists' needs. According to Mr. Weeks, the BRA has acted before to create projects that were community-driven, such as combined living and display space. With this survey, it is too soon for specifics.

Reviewing a list of other cities that have created artists' housing, such as Seattle, Minneapolis, and Somerville, Mr. Weeks pointed out that most artists' housing projects in Cambridge last for 30 or so years, in forms such as live-work cooperatives. Other initiatives, such as the MIT Tudor St. artist spaces, are subject to rent increases. Some landlords have also made space available to artists at low rents in order to make an area attractive to other people, who buy or rent at market rates.

Councillor Murphy stated that it is useful to explore the artists' housing initiatives that other places have developed. Because artists are often low-income, they have trouble affording work or living space in Cambridge. Making Cambridge affordable for artists requires a long-term commitment by the city, as well as incremental changes. In this regard, Vice-Mayor Davis noted that grassroot efforts in the neighborhoods helped to create the neighborhood art centers, and that there is public demand for the city to convert public buildings to art spaces for living, working and public arts education. She remarked that, in addition to supporting individual artists, such efforts also help to revitalize areas of the city as artists trailblaze development. When a city becomes high-rent, it's a challenge to find or provide such spaces. In a place like Cambridge, where the real estate market is so high-priced, the city cannot turn back the real-estate clock. The city has to look at affordable housing options and ways of making available space useable for artists.

A brainstorming discussion of options to develop affordable artists' live-work spaces followed, including:

- Creative zoning approaches, such as the creation and use of "buffer zones" or exemptions in commercial or industrial areas for artists, or the use of zoning to create incentives for landlords to provide artists' live-work spaces
- A request for the Cambridge Affordable Housing Trust to develop affordable housing options for artists
- Earmarked parts of other initiatives, such as inclusionary zoning, to address artists' needs

Councillor Murphy solicited comments from the public on the arts issues.

Mr. Sullivan of the Historical Commission noted that the Community Preservation Act may also be useful to the effort to create more artists' spaces, since there is an affordable housing component and possible funding through the Act.

Attorney Drisdell, Deputy City Solicitor, noted that the use of zoning to create incentives for artists' housing may be doable, but will require some tailoring, in order to target the housing to artists without being discriminatory. Councillor Murphy noted that developments such as the Piano Factory in Boston have been targeted to artists, using lists of artists or artist peer review of applications; at that location, the status as artists' housing is an expiring use. Attorney Drisdell suggested that perhaps there was a special permit for such developments, which was conditioned on a non-profit status. Mr. Peters stated that Newton had developed artist housing using "707" subsidies.

Linda Lichtman of 17 Tudor Street, Cambridge, described her experience as an artist living and working in Cambridge since 1978, and as a tenant in the MIT Tudor Street space. Her lease was recently renewed with a 33 percent increase in rent; the rate is now \$18 per square foot. According to Ms. Lichtman, this is not affordable artist space. While some art businesses can afford it, most artists will have to leave. In her experience, Cambridge has changed and has moved away from embracing diversity and being a place where artists can afford to live. She does not believe that the issue needs a lot of study. Artists simply require affordable space. The city should study other places that have successfully created such space, for example, the New York boroughs, or the landlords in the South End of Boston who have set aside art spaces to enhance their market condominium developments.

Building on the previous discussion, Vice-Mayor Davis asked what other existing mechanisms are available to promote affordable housing for artists. She said that another possibility is inclusionary zoning, although it currently requires the provision of like units, and artists may need or want different types of spaces. Perhaps the city could revisit the concept of inclusionary zoning to consider if it would allow some units that are distinctively different.

Ms. Lichtman wondered if there were enough people in Cambridge who want to make affordable housing available for artists. For artists to settle here, the city must make it easy for them to live and work in Cambridge. This requires real commitment and the elimination of stumbling blocks or bureaucratic hassles. She believes that the details will follow from the commitment.

Councillor Murphy expressed his commitment to work out the details in order to present a proposal to the City Manager and the Council. Vice-Mayor Davis then made the following motion: **Ordered that the City Manager be and hereby is requested to identify opportunities for the city to encourage and/or create affordable housing for artists, including the use of the Affordable Housing Trust and the Community Preservation Act, zoning options such as exemptions for live/work space in business zones, tailoring of inclusionary zoning guidelines, and examples of successful initiatives from other communities, such as the creation of a Cultural District in**

Providence, Rhode Island, which is a specific zoning district that entails property tax breaks and deed restrictions. The motion passed without objection on a voice vote.

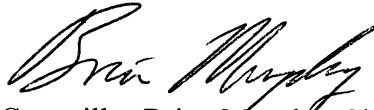
In response to Councillor Murphy's question about the applicability of affordable housing programs, Mr. Weeks stated that he has information, but not at hand. Mr. Weeks also described a Seattle effort that produced a booklet listing the city services, incentives and programs targeted to artists' needs, and suggested this as an option for Cambridge, once local information is identified and collected.

Ms. Lichtman asked if anyone is working on getting private funds for art-related benefits. There is a need to pitch art support as a worthwhile project for donors, and to identify where the money is. Mr. Weeks responded that he has made efforts to get private arts support, and that this is worth brainstorming to identify more resources. Ms. Lichtman asked about college support for the arts. Councillor Murphy described some college initiatives to create theater companies or attract exhibit spaces or museums. While these efforts do not contribute directly to the creation of affordable live-work spaces for artists, they point out the importance of the arts to a vital, interesting city. Councillor Murphy referred to the work of Richard Florida in studying what makes a place an attractive place to live and work; cultural opportunities and diversity are key to this appeal. It is in the city's self-interest to make Cambridge a place where artists work and live. At the same time, the new businesses that are locating in Cambridge, such as biotech and telecommunications companies, contribute to the increased demand for Cambridge housing and drive up prices. Ms. Lichtman questioned if these employees understood their impact on the city and wondered if they were unfamiliar with the arts side of Cambridge. Mr. Peters suggested that it might be worth considering holding open studios during weekdays, for example, at lunch time, for the artists to do outreach, and to raise issues about their needs for live-work space.

Councillor Murphy thanked those present for their participation. He scheduled the next meeting of the Committee on Wednesday, December 11, 2002 at 6:00 P.M., to follow up on the Cambridge artists' survey and the options for the city to develop or encourage live-work spaces for artists. He directed Mr. Weeks to give the City Clerk a copy of the BRA artists' mailing list for Cambridge to include in the notice for the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:55 P.M.

For the Committee,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Brian Murphy".

Councillor Brian Murphy, Chair



City of Cambridge

O-18.

IN CITY COUNCIL

October 28, 2002

COUNCILLOR MURPHY
VICE MAYOR DAVIS

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to recommend an administrative mediation process in controversial curb cut petitions, where there are issues between the petitioner and the abutters or neighborhood.

In City Council October 28, 2002.

Adopted by the affirmative vote of nine members.

Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "D. Margaret Drury".

ATTEST:-

D. Margaret Drury
City Clerk



City of Cambridge

O-19.

IN CITY COUNCIL

October 28, 2002

COUNCILLOR MURPHY
VICE MAYOR DAVIS

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to identify opportunities for the city to encourage and/or create affordable housing for artists, including the use of the Affordable Housing Trust and the Community Preservation Act, zoning options such as exemptions for live/work space in business zones, tailoring of inclusionary zoning guidelines, and examples of successful initiatives from other communities, such as the creation of a Cultural District in Providence, Rhode Island, which is a specific zoning district that entails property tax breaks and deed restrictions.

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A true copy:

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ATTEST:-

D. Margaret Drury
City Clerk



Memorandum

To: Councillor Brian Murphy, Chair
From: Jason Weeks, Executive Director
CC: Councillor Anthony D. Galluccio
Councillor Kenneth E. Reeves
Date: 10/8/2002
Re: Impact of FY03 State Budget Cuts

Advisory Board
Ann Rogers, Chair
Carolynn Fischel
Catherine Hammond
Lisa Jones
Greg Lombardi
Ferdinand Martinez
Carroll Moshier
James Peters
Jackie Phillips

Public Art Commission
Jennifer Riddell, Chair
Rhona MacBeth
Barbara Martin
Sandy Goldberg
Edward McCluney
James Peters
Jeanne Wasserman

Fund Board
Carol Zwanger
President
Catherine Hammond
Treasurer
Paula A. Paris
Secretary
Greg Lombardi
Jackie Phillips

Executive Director
Jason Weeks

In response to the recent budget cuts sustained in the FY03 budget for the Massachusetts Cultural Council (MCC), the effect on the Arts Council is as follows:

FY03 Organizational Support Grant

The Arts Council is currently in the third year of a three-year grant cycle with a projected overall value of \$87,510. In FY01 and FY02, the annual allocations from the MCC remained consistent at approximately \$29,170 respectively. Following the recent cuts to the state budget, the allocation for FY03 is **\$11,080**. *This figure represents an overall decrease from the projected amount of \$29,170 by 62 percent.*

FY03 Grant Program Allocation

Each year, the MCC provides a financial allocation to municipal arts agencies across the state designed to be redistributed in the form of grants to local artists and cultural organizations. Allocations are made according to a formula that takes into account the local property values and median income levels. The allocation provided for the Arts Council in FY03 is **\$13,940**. *This figure represents an overall decrease between FY02 and FY03 of 63 percent.*

FY03 Matching Incentive Grant

Funding through this program was eliminated entirely from the FY03 budget for the Massachusetts Cultural Council. For the past three years, the Arts Council regularly applied for and received the largest amount available through this fund at \$15,000 annually. Since FY00, the Matching Incentive grant has been applied directly to the CAC Grant Program to augment the amount of money available to Cambridge constituents through this program.

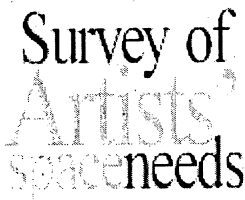
The combined decreases in the FY03 Grant Program allocation and Matching Incentive Grant represents an overall decrease of 74% from \$52,370 in FY02 to \$13,940 available for re-granting through the annual CAC Grant Program. However, the City supplied level funding for this program between FY02 and FY03 at \$35,000 making the current total available for re-granting in FY03 is \$48,940. *This figure represents an overall budget decrease of 44% between FY02 and FY03 for the CAC Grant Program.*

**Cambridge Arts Council
Impact of FY03 Budget Cuts**

CAC State Funding Cuts - Fiscal Year 2003:					
PROGRAM	FY02 ALLOCATION	FY03 ALLOCATION	DIFFERENCE	% DIFF	NOTES
Organizational Support	\$ 29,170.00	\$ 11,080.00	\$ 18,090.00	62%	
Grant Program	\$ 37,370.00	\$ 13,940.00	\$ 23,430.00	64%	
Matching Incentive	\$ 15,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	100%	FY99-FY02 - Applied to CAC Grant Program
TOTAL	\$ 81,540.00	\$ 25,020.00	\$ 41,520.00		
CAC Grant Program Funding FY02- FY03:					
PROGRAM	FY02 ALLOCATION	FY03 ALLOCATION	DIFFERENCE	% DIFF	NOTES
Grant Program					
State	\$ 52,370.00	\$ 13,940.00	\$ 38,430.00	74%	Includes Matching Incentive Grant
Municipal	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 35,000.00	\$ -		
Other	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
TOTAL	\$ 87,370.00	\$ 48,940.00	\$ 38,430.00	44%	

**021008 Public Facilities,
Art & Celebrations Comm.
Meeting
Attachment B**

Artist Space Initiative



Neighborhood: **City Wide**

Type: **Policy Planning**

Status: In Process

Project Manager: Susan Hartnett

Phone Number: (617)918-4246

Email Address: susan.hartnett.BRA@ci.boston.ma.us

Web site: www.bostonredevelopmentauthority.org/artist.asp

Last Updated: 07/02/2002

Artists help make Boston a more livable city – a city of people and neighborhoods, a center of cultural life, and a vital economic center. They function as small businesses by providing jobs and services for Boston residents. Since the late 1960s, artists have helped transform marginal neighborhoods into dynamic communities. Frequently, festivals, galleries, small performance spaces and small retail spring up in these same areas through the work of resident artists, generating a vibrant street life that acts as a deterrent to crime, dramatically enhancing the quality of neighborhoods for both the people who live there and people who visit.

However, the very space that has been used by artists for twenty years or more is now being converted to commercial and residential housing at an alarming and unprecedented rate. While there are well over 3,000 artist studios in Boston, fewer than 300 of these studios are permanent (i.e., owned by artists or non-profit organizations dedicated to artists).

At the direction of Mayor Thomas M. Menino, the BRA is working with other city agencies including the Office of Cultural Affairs and the Department of Neighborhood Development to retain existing spaces for artists and create new ones. We are particularly interested in projects that create spaces that:

- are permanently dedicated to artists through deed restrictions or similar legal mechanisms;
- are located in buffer zones between industrial and residential neighborhoods in locations that do not support traditional family housing; and
- offer live/work spaces (space where artists combine their residence with their work area, typically in an open floor plan offering large, flexible work areas) or work-only spaces (where residential use is not allowed) for rent and for purchase at a variety of prices with a preference for Boston residents.

According to the Boston Zoning Code, artists in live/work units are the only occupational group permitted to live in industrially zoned areas of the city. For commercial and non-profit developers with an interest in developing space for artists, the BRA recently developed design guidelines to articulate minimum requirements to meet artists' needs (i.e., live/work units must be at least 1,000 square feet). The BRA has also piloted a certification process to ensure that only artists occupy artist spaces.

In the past year, the BRA has made available 29 live/work units for artists at affordable rates in four different neighborhoods. An addition, 300 units are in various stages of development. Some of these units are rentals, some are limited equity condominiums, and others are limited equity cooperatives. We are interested in supporting a variety of strategies to meet the space needs of artists in Boston.

The BRA has commissioned a study to assess what kind of space artists need for their work and

The BRA has commissioned a study to assess what kind of space artists need for their work and what they can afford to pay. Artspace Projects Inc., a non-profit group with expertise in developing space for artists, designed the survey tool. We are delighted to report that nearly 20% of the 10,000 artists surveyed responded. Findings will be issued in the summer of 2002. (A copy of the survey form is available upon request. The results of the study will be placed in the public domain.)

We have created a database of artists and others interested in this initiative. At this time, over 1,600 artists receive periodic updates on available units, first time homeowner workshops and other issues related to the Artist Space Initiative. You can sign up for the BRA's Artist Database at: www.bostonredevelopmentauthority.org/artist.asp. If you do not have access to the Internet, call Susan Hartnett at 617-918-4246 and she will add your name. For those artists with email, updates go out electronically. For artists who do not have email, we use US Mail.

About the BRA | Search | Contact Us | City of Boston home

Boston Redevelopment Authority
One City Hall Square
Boston, MA 02201
Phone: (617) 722-4300
Fax: (617) 248-1937

Please direct questions or comments about this site to the **webmaster**



City of Boston
Thomas M. Menino, Mayor

ARTISTS!

WE NEED TO HEAR FROM YOU!

**BOSTON REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (BRA)
IS NOW CONDUCTING A SURVEY OF
ARTISTS' SPACE NEEDS**

YOUR PARTICIPATION IS IMPORTANT

COME TO A MEETING TO LEARN MORE ABOUT...

WHY THIS SURVEY MATTERS...

HOW THE BRA'S ARTIST CERTIFICATION PROCESS WORKS...

AND MORE.

SHARE YOUR IDEAS AND CONCERNS

MEETINGS IN TEN LOCATIONS ACROSS THE CITY

BETWEEN MARCH 2 AND MARCH 20, 2002

**DATES, TIMES, LOCATIONS
ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THIS FLYER**

Meetings are open to the public; no RSVP necessary.
In case of inclement weather, call 617-918-4246 to learn if a meeting has been cancelled.
Phone numbers and/or web sites are listed for each site in case you need directions.

The BRA has commissioned Artspace Projects Inc. to design and conduct this survey.
Staff from Artspace will attend those meetings marked with an asterisk.
Susan Hartnett, Director of the BRA's Artist Space Initiative will attend all meetings.

Saturday, March 2, 2002 at 11am*

Charlestown Public Library, 179 Main Street, Charlestown
617-242-1248/www.bpl.org/branches

Saturday, March 2, 2002 at 2pm*

Hyde Park Public Library, 35 Harvard Ave., Hyde Park
617-361-2524/www.bpl.org/branches

Tuesday, March 5, 2002 at 7pm

The Children's Museum, 300 Congress St., Fort Point
617-426-6500/www.bostonkids.org

Saturday, March 9, 2002 at 11am*

Allston Public Library, 300 North Harvard St., Allston
617-787-6313/www.bpl.org/branches

Saturday, March 9, 2002 at 2pm*

Dudley Public Library, 65 Warren St., Roxbury
617-442-6186/www.bpl.org/branches

Monday, March 11, 2002 at 7pm*

Mills Gallery at the Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., South End
617-426-5000/www.bcaonline.org

Wednesday, March 13, 2002 at 7pm

Music Room at the Mission Church, 1545 Tremont St., Mission Hill
617-445-2600/www.missionchurch.com

Thursday, March 14, 2002 at 7pm

Curtis Hall, 20 South Street, Jamaica Plain
617-568-9777/www.cityofboston.org

Tuesday, March 19, 2002 at 7pm

ZUMIX, 202 Maverick St., East Boston
617-568-9777/www.zumix.org

Wednesday, March 20, 2002 at 7pm

The Great Hall at the Codman Square Health Center, 637 Washington St., Dorchester
617-822-8194/www.codman.org

ALL SPACES ARE WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE EXCEPT THE GREAT HALL IN DORCHESTER.

Boston Redevelopment Authority

Boston's Planning & Economic
Development OfficeThomas M. Menino, *Mayor*
Clarence J. James, *Chairman*
Mark Maloney, *Director*One City Hall Square
Boston, MA 02201-1007
Tel 617-722-4300
Fax 617-248-1937

February 2002

021008 Public Facilities,
Art & Celebrations Comm.
Meeting
Attachment C

Dear Artist:

Under the leadership of Mayor Thomas M. Menino, the Boston Redevelopment Authority (BRA) has launched a special initiative designed to address artists' need for space in Boston. Other city agencies are working with us on this important effort: the Mayor's Office of Cultural Affairs, the Department of Neighborhood Development and the Office of Neighborhood Services among others. For our initiative to succeed, we need your help.

The BRA has commissioned Artspace Projects Inc., a national, nonprofit arts organization, to help us with the enclosed survey. Artspace's mission is to create permanent, affordable space for artists. You can visit their web site (www.artspaceprojects.org) to learn more about their work.

Artspace has designed the enclosed survey with help from local artists and the BRA. We are mailing this survey to 10,000 artists. We thank the Boston Foundation and the Massachusetts Cultural Council whose combined support will make it possible for this survey to go to artists in communities adjacent to Boston, adding an important regional component to this study.

The deadline for returning the survey is Friday, March 22, 2002.

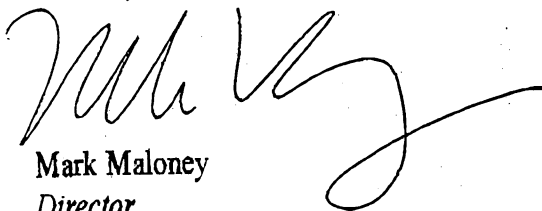
We need responses from at least 1000 artists to gather a significant sample. Please take a moment to fill out the survey. You can use the enclosed envelope to send your response directly to Artspace. No postage is required.

The BRA will use the survey findings to guide our future efforts to create permanent space for artists, ensuring that such space truly meets artists' needs. We also plan to share these findings with artists; arts professionals; elected officials, public policy makers and philanthropic agencies; commercial and nonprofit developers with an interest in developing space to meet artists' needs.

In addition to our survey, you will find a postcard that tells you how to be added to the BRA's Artist Database. We send out periodic updates to artists with information on a variety of topics: community meetings on this important issue; schedule of classes for first time homeowners to prepare artists for buying a space of their own; and more.

I urge you to participate in this survey. This is your chance to have your concerns heard. Please help us by filling out the survey today! Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Mark Maloney
Director

Boston Redevelopment Authority



Artspace

Boston Redevelopment Authority

2002 Boston Artist Survey



CITY OF BOSTON • THOMAS M. MENINO, MAYOR

Due March 22, 2002

Please fill out only one survey

The following survey is completely anonymous and will be used for research purposes only.

Section One

Please tell us about your art, your current working situation and preferences.

1. In what areas of the arts are you involved? (check up to three that most apply)

- a Dance
- b Ceramics
- c Mixed media
- d Performance art
- e Sculpture
- f Photography
- g Theater Arts/Acting
- i Music (Vocal/Instrumental)
- j Painting
- k Architecture/Design
- l Video/film
- m Computer/Multimedia/New media
- n Poetry/Literary/Creative writing
- o Graphic arts
- p Crafts
- q Arts Instruction/Administration
- r Choreography/Theater Direction

2. Do you currently have space you use specifically for your art (studio/work-only space)?

- No Yes

If yes, is your studio/work-only space:

- Within your home
- Within walking distance
- More than 3 miles

3. Do you currently own or rent your studio/work-only space?

- Rent Do not rent or own
 Own

4. Including yourself, how many people share your current studio/work-only space?

- One Three or more
 Two

5. What is the zip code where your studio/work-only space is located?

6. What is your average, monthly studio/work-only space cost including utilities?

\$ _____

- Have no studio/work-only space

7. What is the size of your studio/work-only space? (Note: measured as Length times Width)

- Under 250 Sq. Feet
- 251 - 500 Sq. Feet
- 501 - 750 Sq. Feet
- 751 - 1000 Sq. Feet
- 1001 - 1500 Sq. Feet
- 1501 - 2000 Sq. Feet
- More than 2000 Sq. Feet

8. On a scale of one to ten, how satisfied are you with your current studio/work-only space (10 being the most satisfied)?

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

9. Would you relocate your studio/work space to a work-only facility with other artists in Boston?

- Yes No
 No, not interested in this type of project

If yes, would you relocate to a facility with non-artists in Boston?

- Yes No

10. Which of the following studio/work-only scenarios would you consider? (Yes or No for each)

- Yes No Renting your work space
- Yes No Renting your work space with option to buy
- Yes No Owning shares in a cooperative
- Yes No Owning a condominium work space

11. What is the minimum square footage necessary for your studio/work-only space?

- under 200
- 201 - 350
- 351 - 500
- 501 - 650
- 651 - 800
- 801 - 1000
- 1001 - 1500
- 1501 - 2000
- more than 2000

12. Of the following, please choose the three that are most important for your studio/work-only space.

- Natural light
- High-load bearing floors
- Special electrical wiring
- Special plumbing
- Special ventilation
- Soundproofing
- Wheelchair accessibility
- Oversized doors
- High ceilings
- Sprung floors
- Additional storage
- High-speed data lines
- Other _____

13. If the following shared amenities were available, which three would be most important to you?

- Theater/Performance space
- Classrooms
- Outdoor work area
- Conference room
- Color copier/Office Equipment
- Rehearsal space
- Dark Room
- Foundry Area
- Recording Studio

- Postage metering/mail room
- Video/film projection
- Gallery space
- Retail space
- Paint room
- Sprung Dance Floor
- Satellite uplink/downlink

14. What is the maximum monthly amount you would consider paying, including utilities and insurance, for studio/work-only space?

- None
- under \$150
- \$ 250
- \$ 350
- \$ 450
- \$ 550
- \$ 650
- \$ 750
- \$ 850
- more than \$850

Section Two

Please tell us about your current living arrangements and preferences.

1. What is the five-digit zip code where you live?

2. Including yourself, how many people share your current living space?

Total adults (18+ yrs.):

- One Three or more
- Two

Total children (under 18):

- None Two
- One Three or more

3. Do you currently own or rent your living space?

- Rent Do not rent or own
- Own

4. How many bedrooms do you have?

- None (Studio/Efficiency)
- One
- Two
- Three or more

5. How many dedicated parking spaces does your household have?
- None Two
 One Three or more
6. What is your current average monthly housing cost including utilities?
- \$ _____
7. On a scale of one to ten, how satisfied are you with your current living space (10 being the most satisfied)?
- 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
8. Would you relocate to an artists' live/work community in Boston, specifically designed for artists and their families?
- Yes No
 No, not interested in this type of project
- If yes, would you relocate to a live/work unit in a building with non-artists in Boston?
- Yes No
9. Which of the following neighborhoods would you consider for an artists' live/work development? (Check all that apply)
- Allston/Brighton
 Back Bay/Beacon Hill
 Charlestown
 Chinatown
 Dorchester
 Downtown
 East Boston
 Fenway/Kenmore
 Fort Point
 Hyde Park
 Jamaica Plain
 Mattapan
 Mission Hill
 North End
 Roslindale
 Roxbury
 South Boston
 South End
 West Roxbury
 West End

10. Which of the following scenarios would you consider for your live/work space? (Yes or No for each)
- Yes No Owning shares in a cooperative
 Yes No Owning a condominium
 Yes No Owning a single-family home
 Yes No Owning co-housing with share community amenities like kitchen or work space
 Yes No Renting a co-housing unit to share community amenities like kitchen or work space
 Yes No Renting your live/work space with an option to buy
 Yes No Renting your live/work space
11. In your live/work space, which of the following scenarios would you consider? (Yes or No for each)
- Studio/work space is integrated within your living space
 Yes No
- Studio/work space is separate, but in the same building as your living space
 Yes No
12. Of the following, which three would be most important to you in a live/work community in Boston?
- Living and working near other artists
 Good schools
 Arts supply, music stores
 Safety
 Public transportation
 Near parks and recreation facilities
13. Which building type would you consider for an artist live/work community in Boston?
- Yes No Reuse of industrial building
 Yes No Adaptive reuse of another structure
 Yes No Restoration of an historic structure
 Yes No Newly-constructed facility
14. How many bedrooms does your household need?
- None (Studio/Efficiency)
 One Three
 Two Four or more

15. How many parking spaces do you (and your household) need?

- None
- One
- Two
- Three or more

16. What is the maximum amount you would consider paying, including utilities, for combined live/work space?

- \$ 500
- \$ 600
- \$ 700
- \$ 800
- \$ 900
- \$ 1000
- \$ 1200
- \$ 1400
- \$ 1600
- \$ 1800
- \$ 2000
- more than \$2000

Section Three

Please tell us about yourself. (Remember, the data collected here is anonymous and strictly confidential.)

1. How old were you on your last birthday?

_____ Years

2. What is your gender?

- Male
- Female

3. What are your two primary modes of transportation?

- Bicycle
- Car
- Bus
- Mass Transit
- Walking
- Zip Car
- Car Sharing

4. What is the highest level of education you have completed?

- Some high school
- High School / GED
- Some college or 2 yr. degree
- Bachelor's degree
- Some Post-graduate
- Post-graduate/professional degree

5. Which range is closest to your annual household income (combined from everyone sharing your residence)?

- Under \$10,000
- \$10,000 - \$15,000
- \$15,001 - \$20,000
- \$20,001 - \$25,000
- \$25,001 - \$30,000
- \$30,001 - \$35,000
- \$35,001 - \$40,000
- \$40,001 - \$45,000
- \$45,001 - \$50,000
- \$50,001 - \$55,000
- \$55,001 - \$60,000
- \$60,001 - \$65,000
- \$65,001 - \$75,000
- \$75,001 - \$85,000
- \$85,001 - \$100,000
- \$100,001 - \$125,000
- \$125,001 - \$150,000
- \$150,001 - \$175,000
- \$175,001 - \$200,000
- Over \$200,000

6. What percentage of this income comes from your art?

- Less than 10%
- 10% - 25%
- 25% - 50%
- 50% - 100%

7. Which of the following best describes you?

- Native American/American Indian
- Black / African American
- Hispanic / Latino / Chicano
- Asian /Pacific Islander
- White / European American
- Multi-racial

Thank you for completing this important survey.

Please take a moment to return your survey, even if you aren't interested in the project. Again, all your answers will be kept confidential.

Please use the return envelope or mail survey to:

Susan Hartnett
Boston Redevelopment Authority
One City Hall Square
Boston, MA 02201-1007

S-314

Committee Report #4

Committee Report from Councillor Brian Murphy, Chair of the Public Facilities, Art and Celebrations Committee, for a meeting held on October 8, 2002 to discuss curb cuts, an update on the impact of state budget cuts on city arts programs, and the status of the report on developing a Cambridge Art survey and an artist space initiative.

In City Council October 28, 2002

**REPORT ACCEPTED.
PLACED OF FILE.
TWO ORDERS ADOPTED. SEE
ORDERS #18 AND #19.**