



# SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL

## Legislative Summary

Res 31635

Record No.: Res 31635

Type: Resolution (Res)

Status: Adopted

Version: 1

In Control: City Clerk

File Created: 10/30/2015

Final Action: 12/17/2015

Title: A RESOLUTION creating an Arts & Cultural District in the Central Area of Seattle.

	<u>Date</u>
<b>Notes:</b>	<b>Filed with City Clerk:</b> 12/17/2015
	<b>Mayor's Signature:</b> 12/17/2015
<b>Sponsors:</b> Licata	<b>Vetoed by Mayor:</b>
	<b>Veto Overridden:</b>
	<b>Veto Sustained:</b>

**Attachments:**

Drafter: adam.schaefer@seattle.gov

**Filing Requirements/Dept Action:**

**History of Legislative File**

Legal Notice Published:  Yes  No

Ver- sion:	Acting Body:	Date:	Action:	Sent To:	Due Date:	Return Date:	Result:
1	Mayor	11/17/2015	Mayor's leg transmitted to Council	City Clerk			
	<b>Action Text:</b> The Resolution (Res) was Mayor's leg transmitted to Council. to the City Clerk						
	<b>Notes:</b>						
1	City Clerk	11/17/2015	sent for review	Council President's Office			
	<b>Action Text:</b> The Resolution (Res) was sent for review. to the Council President's Office						
	<b>Notes:</b>						
1	Council President's Office	11/17/2015	sent for review	Finance and Culture Committee			
	<b>Action Text:</b> The Resolution (Res) was sent for review. to the Finance and Culture Committee						
	<b>Notes:</b>						
1	Full Council	11/30/2015	referred	Finance and Culture Committee			
	<b>Action Text:</b> The Resolution (Res) was referred. to the Finance and Culture Committee						
	<b>Notes:</b>						
1	Finance and Culture Committee	12/09/2015	adopt				Pass

- Action Text:** The Committee recommends that Full Council adopt the Resolution (Res).  
In Favor: 2 Chair Licata, Member Burgess  
Opposed: 0
- 1 Full Council 12/14/2015 adopted Pass  
**Action Text:** The Resolution (Res) was adopted by the following vote and the President signed the Resolution:  
In Favor: 8 Council President Burgess, Councilmember Godden, Councilmember González , Councilmember Harrell, Councilmember Licata, Councilmember O'Brien, Councilmember Rasmussen, Councilmember Sawant  
Opposed: 0
- 1 City Clerk 12/16/2015 submitted for Mayor  
Mayor's signature  
**Action Text:** The Resolution (Res) was submitted for Mayor's signature. to the Mayor  
**Notes:**
- 1 Mayor 12/17/2015 Signed  
**Action Text:** The Resolution (Res) was Signed.  
**Notes:**
- 1 Mayor 12/17/2015 returned City Clerk  
**Action Text:** The Resolution (Res) was returned. to the City Clerk  
**Notes:**
- 1 City Clerk 12/17/2015 attested by City Clerk  
**Action Text:** The Resolution (Res) was attested by City Clerk.  
**Notes:**
-

**CITY OF SEATTLE**  
**RESOLUTION 31635**

1  
2  
3  
4 A RESOLUTION creating an Arts & Cultural District in the Central Area of Seattle.

5  
6 WHEREAS, City Council Resolution 31555 created a city-wide program of Arts & Cultural  
7 Districts, to be managed by the Office of Arts & Culture; and

8 WHEREAS, the Seattle Comprehensive Plan calls for the support of Arts & Cultural Districts as  
9 a means to “support arts and cultural uses and the economic benefits they provide,” and  
10 encourages the City to “allow regulations and incentives to be adopted specifically for  
11 designated cultural districts,” and to “allow adopted guidelines or regulations to modify,  
12 exempt, or supersede the standards of the underlying zone to encourage arts and cultural  
13 uses”; and

14 WHEREAS, the Arts & Economic Prosperity IV study reported that Seattle’s nonprofit arts and  
15 culture industry generated \$448,000,000 in annual economic activity, \$248,000,000 in  
16 household income, \$38,000,000 in local and state government revenues, and 10,807 full-  
17 time equivalent jobs; and

18 WHEREAS, arts- and entertainment-related businesses and organizations add cultural and  
19 economic diversity to a city, enhance the lives of the city’s residents and visitors, and  
20 positively impact the city’s economy by generating jobs and revenue; and

21 WHEREAS, the Central Area in Seattle is already home to art galleries, museums, studios,  
22 theaters, and art, music, and culturally-oriented community events; and the City wishes to  
23 recognize and protect its arts-rich areas from the displacement that new development  
24 often brings; and

1 WHEREAS, the Central Area is the city's historically African-American neighborhood and has  
2 experienced both a history of low educational attainment in the schools and the  
3 institutionalized racism of redlining. The Central Area is also home to some of the  
4 poorest outcomes in the school system, which has contributed to a systemic school-to-  
5 prison pipeline. The City recognizes the Central Area as a center of African American  
6 heritage and history, and as a catalyst to greater inclusion and equity city-wide. It is  
7 important that this nucleus of Black cultural heritage to be protected and strengthened;  
8 and

9 WHEREAS the Central Area has been home to some of the world's best-respected artists,  
10 including Jimi Hendrix, Quincy Jones, Sir Mix-a-Lot, Theaster Gates, Rose McGowan,  
11 James Washington, Xenobia Bailey, Vitamin D, DV-One, Ernestine Anderson, Ray  
12 Charles, Clarence Acox, Bumps Blackwell, Owuor Arunga, Dumisani Maraire, Tendai  
13 Maraire, Art Chantry, and numerous others; and

14 WHEREAS, Seattle's Central Area has been home to some of the region's best-respected arts  
15 and cultural organizations, including Nu Tribes Collective, On the Boards, Black  
16 Arts/West, Langston Hughes Performing Arts Institute, Pratt Fine Arts, The Black Arts  
17 Alliance, Coyote Central, the Northwest African American Museum, the CD Forum for  
18 Arts & Ideas, The Eritrean Community Center, The Umoja Peace Center, Centerstone  
19 (formerly Central Area Motivation Program), Ewajo Dance Center, 206 Zulu, Hidmo,  
20 and KYAC & KRIZ radio; and

21 WHEREAS, the very cultural vibrancy that has made the neighborhood so attractive to property  
22 developers has already suffered from displacement due to new market-rate development.  
23 The neighborhood believes, and the City concurs, that a program supporting equitable

1 development can preserve a sense of place and lessen the displacement that new  
2 development often brings;

3 WHEREAS, the establishment of an arts and cultural district has been indicated as a key goal as  
4 part of the Central Area Economic Revitalization Plan as developed by Central Area  
5 Collaborative – a broadly representative group who shares interest in improving the  
6 economic health of the Central Area. This group includes, but is not limited to the Central  
7 Area Chamber of Commerce, AfricaTown/CD, 23rd Avenue Action Community Team  
8 ACT, Land Use Review Committee, Centerstone, Urban League, National Association  
9 for the Advancement of Colored People, and the Black Community Impact Alliance; and

10 WHEREAS, a group of stakeholders has self-organized and requested formal recognition as an  
11 Arts & Cultural District, organized around three foundational pillars:

- 12 • Preserving an African American legacy in the Central Area;
- 13 • Sustaining and strengthening the physical identity and sense of place for Black  
14 cultural relevancy; and
- 15 • Establishing a formalized forum for continued support of artistic creation,  
16 economic vibrancy, livability, affordability, desirability, and artistic vitality;

17 NOW THEREFORE,

18 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEATTLE, THE**  
19 **MAYOR CONCURRING, THAT:**

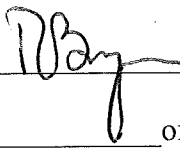
20 Section 1. The City of Seattle establishes an Arts & Cultural District in the Central Area  
21 of Seattle, to be known as the Historic Central Area Arts and Cultural District.

22 Section 2. The City of Seattle directs appropriate members of the City's departmental  
23 staff to actively support and work with staff in the Office of Arts & Culture to develop and

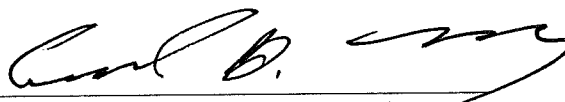
1 maintain the District, and to support the health and vitality of the artists, creative businesses, and  
2 artists residing in the District.

3 Section 3. The City of Seattle encourages all residents of the Central Area, and especially  
4 those who own property or businesses within the District, to support, promote, and help maintain  
5 artists, arts organizations, and arts events in the Central Area.


6 Adopted by the City Council the 14<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2015, and  
7 signed by me in open session in authentication of its adoption this 14<sup>th</sup> day  
8 of December, 2015.

9   
10 \_\_\_\_\_  
11 President \_\_\_\_\_ of the City Council

12 The Mayor concurred the 17<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2015.

13   
14 \_\_\_\_\_  
15 Edward B. Murray, Mayor

16 Filed by me this 17<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2015.

17   
18 \_\_\_\_\_  
19 Monica Martinez Simmons, City Clerk

20  
21  
22 (Seal)

23