

**RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF PETALUMA CITY COUNCIL TO APPROVE
EXPENDITURE FROM THE PUBLIC ART FUND FOR ACQUISITION,
INSTALLATION, AND CONSERVATION OF SELECTED ARTWORKS FROM THE
MARY FULLER MCCHESENEY ESTATE**

WHEREAS, on June 17, 2013, the City Council of the City of Petaluma adopted the Petaluma Public Art Master Plan (Resolution 2013-064 N.C.S.), created by the Petaluma Public Art Committee with consultant Chandra Cerrito/Art Advisors LLC; and

WHEREAS, the Petaluma Public Art Master Plan includes detailed recommendations for enhancing Petaluma's public art program, including the commission and acquisition of public artworks using the Public Art Fund; and

WHEREAS, the Petaluma Public Art Master Plan states that artwork commissions and acquisition by the City should be compatible with the goals of the Public Art Program and should be evaluated by the Petaluma Public Art Committee to allocate funding from the Public Art Fund on the basis of the criteria specific in section 18.120 of the Public Art Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, the Public Art Master Plan outlines 65% of the annual use of the Public Art Fund should be used for the purposes of, "Artwork acquisitions and commissions for public property"; and

WHEREAS, on May 4, 2022, local and acclaimed Petaluma artist Mary Fuller McChesney passed away, leaving a large volume of her created sculptures and other artworks with her estate executors Dennis Calabi and Jean Sinella; and

WHEREAS, the Petaluma Public Art Committee directed staff to inquire with the McChesney Estate executors about possible acquisition of available works to add to the City of Petaluma Public Art Program's collection; and

WHEREAS, staff and ad hoc subcommittees of the Petaluma Public Art Committee coordinated site visits to view available artworks from the McChesney Estate at the estate executors residences, the former residence of Mary Fuller McChesney, and a public exhibition of available artworks by McChesney at the Astro Motel located in Santa Rosa, CA; and

WHEREAS, at subsequent Petaluma Public Art Committee meetings in 2022 and 2023, the Committee discussed various combinations of potential McChesney artworks for acquisition, including themes of different artworks as well as their appropriateness in a permanent public display and ongoing maintenance, and provided input to staff about public locations for possible installation of selected sculptures; and

WHEREAS, on April 27, 2023, Mary Fuller McChesney Estate executors Dennis Calabi and Jean Sinella joined the Petaluma Public Art Committee for a discussion about available artworks and the process for acquisition, including confirming the pricing and condition of selected artworks; and

WHEREAS, on April 27, 2023, the Petaluma Public Art Committee unanimously recommended that the Petaluma City Council approve a \$100,000 expenditure from the Public Art Fund for the purposes of purchase, installation, conservation, and other related project expenses required for the acquisition of selected works from the Mary Fuller McChesney Estate; and

WHEREAS, on April 27, 2023, the Petaluma Public Art Committee created an ad hoc subcommittee to work with staff and the McChesney Estate executors to finalize the selected artworks for acquisition and recommend site locations for their curation and installation on public, city-controlled property; and

WHEREAS, this action of approving a \$100,000 expenditure of the Public Art Fund for the purposes of acquiring selected artworks from the Mary Fuller McChesney estate is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Sections 15301 (Existing Facilities) which includes minor alterations to existing facilities that will involve negligible or no expansion of use, 15303 (New Construction) which includes installation of new small structures, and 15311 (Accessory Structures) which includes construction or placement of minor structures which are appurtenant to existing commercial, industrial, and institutional facilities; and

WHEREAS, on August 7, 2023, the Petaluma City Council approved this Resolution after reviewing and considering the staff report and comments from the public, staff, and applicants, approving the recommendation by the Petaluma Public Art Committee of a \$100,000 expenditure from the Public Art Funds for the purposes of acquiring selected artworks from the Mary Fuller McChesney Estate.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PETALUMA AS FOLLOWS:

1. The foregoing recitals are true and correct and incorporated herein by reference as findings of the Petaluma City Council.
2. The Petaluma City Council approves the recommended amount of \$100,000 by the Petaluma Public Art Committee to acquire selected artworks from the Mary Fuller McChesney Estate to add to the City of Petaluma Public Art Program's collection and directs City staff to execute required contracting and logistics for installation, transportation, and conservation of the selected works in coordination with the Petaluma Public Art Committee.
3. Based on its review of the entire record herein, including the August 7, 2023 Petaluma City Council staff report, all supporting, referenced, and incorporated documents and all comments received and foregoing findings, the City Council hereby authorizes the Petaluma Public Art Committee to commit public art funds to the acquisition of selected Mary Fuller McChesney artworks and the necessary contracting and logistics needed for their transportation, installation, and conservation as described in the submitted project proposal and other required documentation acceptable to the City Attorney and City Risk Manager.