

MOTION

HEALTH, EDUCATION, NEIGHBORHOOD,  
PARKS, ARTS & RIVER

Theatre Row, located along Santa Monica Boulevard in Council District 13, is home to the highest concentration of live theatres within the City. This area includes over a dozen live theatres, many of which have been in operation for decades. During the last several decades, Theatre Row has provided artists and theatre professionals the opportunity to produce and perform exceptional work for all people to enjoy. Annually, it hosts hundreds of productions for thousands of audience members. Additionally, small live theatre venues, supply houses and rehearsal spaces across the district have been negatively impacted by the prolonged shutdown of all indoor gatherings due to the Pandemic

Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, public health guidelines have closed theatres across the city, limited filming, and banned large gatherings. These major disruptions have led to mass layoffs and can potentially eliminate an entire sector if urgent action is not taken. Many theatres, and their support services survive month to month. Without the revenue from shows, classes, rentals, and ticket sales, these professional theatres & support services could permanently close their doors.

According to the Arts Development Fee (ADF) ordinance (LAMC Section 91.107.4.6), ADF guidelines, and the Nexus Report, the fees can be used for cultural and artistic facilities, services, and amenities that are accessible to all members of the public. In order to preserve Theatre Row, and other CD 13 Theatre venues & support services, it is necessary to reallocate existing Council District 13 ADF revenues to a new Council District 13 Emergency Grant Program that will assist live performance spaces, rehearsal spaces, rental equipment businesses and others with operating expenses through the COVID-19 pandemic.

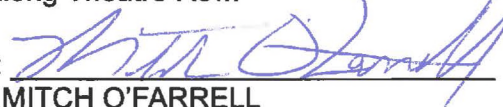
**I THEREFORE MOVE** that the City Council instruct the Department of Cultural Affairs with assistance from the City Attorney's Office to develop guidelines for a Council District 13 Emergency Grant Program using the following parameters:

- (i) Eligible organizations include both for-profit and nonprofits that operate as live performing arts venues, spaces, or suppliers located in Council District 13 with under 50 employees, including sole proprietors, independent contractors, and the self-employed.
- (ii) The program will allocate up to \$5,000 in grant awards to live performing arts venues, and or theatrical suppliers that provide in kind support to such theatrical venues; the grant awards can be used for operational costs in return for a virtual online performance, or workshop, lesson, in kind support of such performance or other product available to the public for free.

**I FURTHER MOVE** that the City Council approve the distribution of \$130,000 in Council District 13 Arts Development Fees from art project commitments and associated findings identified in the FY 2019-2020 ADF Expenditure Plan and Fee Status Report to a new Council District 13 project typology entitled "CD 13 COVID-19 Emergency Response Program for CD 13 Theatrical businesses and those theatres & businesses along Theatre Row."

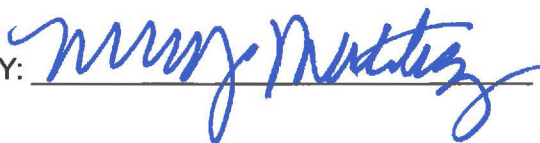


PRESENTED BY:



MITCH O'FARRELL  
Councilmember, 13<sup>th</sup> District

SECONDED BY:



ORIGINAL