Background

The following work plan identifies recent accomplishments and priority work items for the upcoming work plan period. The work plan includes items identified as priority projects within the City Council’s Strategic Plan. The Albany Arts Committee shall review the work plan each year in January to identify accomplishments and ensure continued focus on completing work plan items. Work plans are presented to the Council every two years, and if a change is needed to the work plan outside of that schedule, the Albany Arts Committee shall submit a “Request for Amendment to Advisory Body Work Plan” Form for review by the City Council.

Albany Arts Committee Purpose

Advise the City Council on cultural and artistic matters within the City including the acquisition and placement of public art. The Committee adheres to the Public Arts Master Plan, the Art in Public Places Ordinance and the Public Arts Project Plan in order to support, develop and promote art in Albany and increase the economic vitality of the City.

Recent Initiatives and Accomplishments

- The Albany Loop project has been completed and the Grand Opening was on March 27, 2019
- Selected three sculptures for the Sculpture Loan Program and installation sites have been chosen along the Ohlone Greenway. Installation is expected in early summer 2019.
- Through the selection process outlined in the Public Art Master Plan, artists Ximena Soza and Christian Munoz were selected for the creation of a mural on the side of Hillview Veterinarian Hospital (666 San Pablo Avenue)
- Successfully executed the Fall into Haiku program in 2016, 2017 and 2018 with an average of 203 submissions each year
- Met with the Economic Development Committee to discuss opportunities for expanding the arts and criteria for placement of murals and sculptures in commercial areas.
- Nine successful art shows in the Community Center Foyer Art Gallery
- Assisted Rebecca Black in fulfilling her Poet Laureate duties and extended her contract through September 2020
- Consulted with stakeholders, planners, and the public on how to integrate art and art activities into the Albany Bulb
- Helped organize the FilmFest, screen films, provide design and production services, and community outreach
- Members Daly and Linden served on the Arts and Green Festival Sub-committee and helped in the planning and facilitation of the 2017 event. The event was discontinued in 2018
Increased visibility and awareness of the arts in Albany.

2019-2021 Policy Review and Initiatives

- **Public Art Projects Plan 2019-2021**
  - Ohlone Greenway Public Art Projects (Creek Art) – continue working with Studio 3 artist to create a project plan
  - Sculpture Loan – complete installation for the current sculptures and identify two additional pieces/locations
  - Community Projects – garner community input for the selected mural by local artist Christian Munoz and complete installation by fall 2019

- **Fall into Haiku**
  - Apply for outside funding for the Fall into Haiku program

- **Collaborate with the Economic Development Committee**
  - Continue to seek collaboration with Economic Development Committee in the creation of a mural program and on expanding the arts in commercial areas

- **Albany Community Center Foyer Art Gallery Exhibits**
  - Artists for 2019 have been selected. Committee will select four additional artists for the 2020 schedule at the September 2019 meeting

- **Albany Poet Laureate**
  - Assist the poet laureate in fulfilling her duties. Create a call for artists upon the completion of Rebecca Black’s contract in 2020

- **Public Art Master Plan**
  - Research, discuss and update the Public Arts Master Plan

- **Art in Public Places Ordinance**
  - Research, discuss and update the Art in Public Places Ordinance

- **City-wide Arts Promotion**
  - Increase visibility and awareness of the arts in Albany
  - Research opportunities to place art on and along the BART path/pillars
  - Research opportunities to place art on utility boxes
  - Choose a site that has been identified in the Public Arts Master Plan for Public Art installation