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Dallas City Council Approves Sammons Center's Plan for New Arts Campus in West Dallas First Phase of Construction Expected to Begin in 2023

DALLAS/May 27, 2021 — Construction of a new performing arts campus in West Dallas moved another step closer to reality yesterday when Dallas City Council approved a long-term contract with the nonprofit Sammons Center for the Arts to develop, operate and manage the facility. The council unanimously supported the Sammons Center's plan to transform a vacant 3.7-acre City-owned tract at 3111 North Stemmons Freeway into black box theaters, space for offices, exhibits, rehearsals and conferences, and housing for artists. Construction of the first of three phases is expected to begin in the second half of 2023.

The new arts campus is the second public-private partnership between the City and the Sammons Center. The Sammons Center opened in March 1988 after extensive rehabilitation of the historic yet long-vacant Turtle Creek Pump Station. Today, it is home to 14 small performing arts groups and serves another 90 arts and culture organizations with affordable space and administrative, education and technical services. It is a nationally recognized model of a successful arts incubator.

"This second facility truly demonstrates our mission to "Grow the Arts in Dallas," said Joanna St. Angelo, executive director of the Sammons Center. "This new opportunity meets a critical need for more space for local artists and arts groups and provides a vital asset to the under-served citizens of West Dallas. We are grateful for the council's endorsement and are excited to move forward with the project."

About the Sammons Center for the Arts

The Sammons Center for the Arts was founded in 1981 to renovate the historic Turtle Creek Pump Station, built in 1909 at 3630 Harry Hines Boulevard, and operate it as a multipurpose arts center. After several years of renovation, the Sammons Center opened March 1, 1988. A 501(c)(3) organization, the Sammons Center is home to 14 performing arts groups representing dance, theater, orchestral music and choral music. It provides low-cost office, rehearsal, audition, meeting, workshop and performance space as well as administrative, operational and educational resources to its resident groups and more than 90 other nonprofit cultural organizations. For more information, call (214) 520-7788 or visit www.sammonsartcenter.org.

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