



FACT SHEET

West Dallas Arts Fusion Project

WHAT: Dallas City Council unanimously approved a resolution on May 26, 2021, that authorized Dallas City Manager TC Broadnax to execute a contract with the Sammons Center for the Arts for the development, operation and management of a new cultural arts facility in West Dallas. The contract term is 40 years with two five-year renewal options.

The West Dallas Arts Fusion Project consists of three phases with design by a local architect. The project is modeled after the successful Sammons Center for the Arts located at 3630 Harry Hines Boulevard. Estimated cost is up to \$10 million for each phase.

The Sammons Center opened in March 1988 after extensive rehabilitation of the long-vacant Turtle Creek Pump Station which was built in 1909. The nonprofit Sammons Center, home to 14 small performing arts groups, serves another 90 arts and culture organizations with affordable space and administrative, education and technical services. Widely recognized as one of the nation's first arts incubators, the current location of the Sammons Center will continue to operate as usual when the new facility opens.

Like the Sammons Center, the planned cultural project is an innovative transformation of surplus City-owned property, a public-private partnership with long-term benefits for all citizens.

WHERE: The new facility will be built on a 3.7 acre City-owned tract at 3111 North Stemmons Freeway (NW corner of N. Stemmons and Commonwealth)

WHEN: Initial proposal consists of three phases: Phase 1A – construction begins Fall 2023: art incubator facility containing multiple rehearsal rooms, a multipurpose flex space, multiple rooms for classes or meeting, office space for arts groups, a maker-space and audio/video production space; completion Summer 2025.

Phase 1B – construction begins Summer or Fall 2025: One or more black box theatres, an exhibit space, and a restaurant; completion Fall 2027.

Phase 2 – construction begins Fall 2027: affordable live/work studios for artists with completion Summer 2029.

WHO: Sammons Center for the Arts in partnership with Greater Dallas Youth Orchestra, Cara Mía Theatre, Bruce Wood Dance, and Creative Arts Center with planning support from Social Impact Architects and the Better Together Fund.

WHY: The Sammons Center has been at 100% capacity for many years. Demand for more arts facilities was evident pre-pandemic, per the Dallas Cultural Plan 2018, but made more obvious over the past 14 months. The arts proved to have a significant impact on the physical and mental well-being of people of all ages during the pandemic. The new facility expands the ability for local arts and arts groups to create and share their works with the growing DFW community.