

# CITY OF LOS ANGELES

CALIFORNIA

## CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION

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## DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS

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DANIEL TARICA  
GENERAL MANAGER

May 19, 2026

The Honorable Karen Bass  
Mayor of Los Angeles  
Room 303, City Hall  
Attention: Legislative Coordinator

The City Council  
C/O City Clerk  
Room 395, City Hall

RE: REQUEST FOR APPROVAL TO ACCEPT \$30,000 FROM THE NATIONAL  
ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS

## RECOMMENDATIONS

The General Manager of the Department of Cultural Affairs respectfully requests that the City Council, subject to approval by the Mayor:

1. AUTHORIZE the General Manager of the Department of Cultural Affairs or department designee to retroactively submit a grant application to the National Endowment for the Arts "Spirit of Sports" Chair's Extraordinary Action grant;
2. AUTHORIZE the General Manager of the Department of Cultural Affairs or department designee to submit all the necessary paperwork relative to the grant, subject to City Attorney approval as to form and legality;
3. AUTHORIZE the Department of Cultural Affairs to accept \$30,000 in grant funding from the National Endowment for the Arts to support the City's 2026 FIFA World Cup programming;
4. AUTHORIZE the General Manager of the Department of Cultural Affairs or department designee to negotiate and execute the grant award and agreement on behalf of the City and submit the required reporting relative to the grant, subject to the City Attorney approval as to form and legality;
5. AUTHORIZE the Department of Cultural Affairs to receive and expend National Endowment for the Arts grant funds for activities for all eligible purposes between June 2026 - July 2026;
6. AUTHORIZE the Controller to:

- a. ESTABLISH a new appropriation account within Fund 337, Cultural Affairs Grants, to be labeled “NEA FIFA FY25/26;”
  - b. APPROPRIATE \$30,000 received from the National Endowment for the Arts into the newly established account within Fund 337, “NEA FIFA FY25/26;” and
7. AUTHORIZE the General Manager of the Department of Cultural Affairs or department designee to prepare any Controller instructions necessary to implement actions approved by the Council and Mayor on matters presented in or deriving from the transmittal, and/or to make necessary technical adjustments, and further, request that the Controller implement these instructions.

## **SUMMARY**

In accordance with the Los Angeles Administrative Code 14.6(a), “General Managers, Officers and/or Directors may submit applications for competitive and/or discretionary grants to granting agencies without Mayor and City Council approval if no City General Funds, matching funds or other commitments of City resources are required, consistent with any direction from the Mayor under Charter Section 231(h). There is no matching requirement for this grant.

Additionally, in accordance with Los Angeles Administrative Code 14.6(b), as “the Grant Notice of Funding Availability was published less than 61 days in advance of the date of the application deadline established by the awarding agency, advance City Council approval to submit applications is not required.”

Therefore, in accordance with Los Angeles Administrative Code 14.6(b) and 14.8(c), DCA requests authority to submit this grant application retroactively, in accordance with the recommendations above, and authorization to subsequently accept and disperse grant funds.

## **BACKGROUND**

In April 2026, The City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA) was invited to apply for a “Chairman’s Excellence Action” award from the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) – a discretionary grant program. Titled “the Spirit of Sports,” the NEA invited the 11-cities hosting World Cup games to apply for \$30,000 grants to support arts programming that “celebrate American creativity and highlight local artistic and cultural traditions in connection with soccer-related celebrations.”

DCA will partner with the Council Offices, the Mayor’s Office of Major Events, and the Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) to provide performing arts programming during certain FIFA World Cup Watch Parties at LA Parks, to bring together sport, culture, and global arts that share the spirit and energy of the World Cup athletes through a curated program of live performances.

DCA is curating a program showcasing dance, music, acrobatics, and performance inspired by the global spirit of the World Cup and the cultural depth of Los Angeles. Each site will be a cultural gathering space where audiences engage not only with the match, but with the movement, sound, and traditions of the countries represented on the field.

The inclusion of performing arts, made possible through this grant award and support by the Office of Major Events, is designed to broaden the experience of young people and families at the viewing events, through a curated program involving local artists designed to enlighten, inform, and celebrate the long connection between athletics and the arts. Additionally, the performing arts program is designed to create opportunities for local artists, including artists traditionally under-represented; and to promote global awareness and cultural education by preserving and presenting authentic cultural expressions – in line with FIFA's global appeal.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Daniel M. Tarica". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

DANIEL TARICA  
General Manager,  
Department of Cultural Affairs