LITTLETON ARTS & CULTURE BOARD 2025 LODGERS TAX FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ADJUSTED AWARDS FOR REDUCED REVENUE PROJECTION

In November 2022, Littleton citizens approved the creation of a 5% lodgers tax on hotels, motels and short-term rental hosts within the city limits. The net revenue from this tax will be used to support and sustain arts and culture, tourism, and visitor promotion in Littleton. In 2024, the lodgers tax was projected to generate approximately \$850K in net revenue; that projection has been adjusted down to \$750K after Jan-June collection. City Council has charged the Arts & Culture Board (ACB) with making recommendations for the distribution of the 2024 lodgers tax revenue using a 4-tiered formula:

- Tier 1 Approximately 50% of revenue to be distributed equally to Littleton's major cultural assets. For 2025, Council has designated Bemis Public Library, Hudson Gardens, Littleton Museum, and Town Hall Arts Center as the Tier 1 recipients.
- Tier 2 Approximately 25% of revenue to be distributed in grants to Littleton arts and culture organizations.
- Tier 3 Approximately 15% of revenue to be used for tourism marketing and visitor promotion.
- Tier 4 Approximately 10% of revenue to be used for public art acquisition and programming, historic preservation, and other needs that meet the intent of the lodgers tax ballot language.

On May 9 and July 11, 2024, the Arts & Culture Board reviewed and voted to forward funding recommendations to City Council for final approval, with distribution beginning in January 2025. With decreased revenue projections, those funding recommendations have been adjusted. When a similar adjustment was required in 2023 for 2024 awards, the ACB reduced awards in Tiers 1, 3, and 4, and held Tier 2 harmless. For the 2025 awards, the ACB recommends holding Tier 1 harmless and reducing Tiers 2, 3, and 4.

Tier 1 - \$400,000 No Change

Big Four Cultural Assets

Bemis Public Library	\$100,000
Hudson Gardens	\$100,000
Littleton Museum	\$100,000
Town Hall Arts Center	\$100,000
TOTAL	\$400,000

Tier 2 – \$250,000 10% Reduction in Grant Awards

Grant Applicants

Organization Name	Recommended Award Amount
Inside the Orchestra	\$ 1,000 reduced to \$900
Highlands Ranch Concert Band	\$ 1,000 reduced to \$900
The Heritage Fine Arts Guild of Arapahoe County	\$ 1,500 reduced to \$1,350
Aspen Grove (2 of 3)	\$ 1,500 reduced to \$1,350
Encore Players LUMC	\$ 2,000 reduced to \$1,800
Luna Creations/Services	\$ 2,000 reduced to \$1,800
Denver Audubon	\$ 2,000 reduced to \$1,800
Denver & District Pipe Band	\$ 2,500 reduced to \$2,250
Littleton Symphony Orchestra (3 of 3)	\$ 2,500 reduced to \$2,250
David Taylor's Zikr Dance Ensemble	\$ 2,500 reduced to \$2,250
South Sub Church	\$ 2,500 reduced to \$2,250
The Chocolate Therapist	\$ 2,500 reduced to \$2,250
Women's Caucus for Art - WCACO	\$ 3,000 reduced to \$2,700
Original Shopping District	\$ 3,500 reduced to \$3,150
Evolution Hair Studio	\$ 3,500 reduced to \$3,150
Alley Arts Studio	\$ 3,500 reduced to \$3,150
Littleton Symphony Orchestra (2 of 3)	\$ 4,000 reduced to \$3,600
	\$ 4,000 reduced to \$3,600
Palenque Cocina Y Agaveria Bega-Littleton Sister City Exchange	\$ 4,500 reduced to \$4,050

Voices West (1 of 2)	\$ 4,500 reduced to \$4,050
Depot Art Gallery (2 of 2)	\$ 4,500 reduced to \$4,050
Littleton Q+	\$ 5,000 reduced to \$4,500
Voices West (2 of 2)	\$ 5,000 reduced to \$4,500
Western Welcome Week	\$ 5,000 reduced to \$4,500
AdventHealth Littleton Foundation	\$ 5,500 reduced to \$4,950
Depot Art Gallery (1 of 2)	\$ 6,000 reduced to \$5,400
Museo de las Americas	\$ 6,000 reduced to \$5,400
Roxborough Arts Council	\$ 6,000 reduced to \$5,400
Grande Station	\$ 6,000 reduced to \$5,400
Historic Littleton Inc., Western Welcome Week	\$ 7,000 reduced to \$6,300
Cycling Without Age Littleton	\$ 10,000 reduced to \$9,000
Littleton Symphony Orchestra (1 of 3)	\$ 11,000 reduced to \$9,900
Littleton DDA (2 of 2) Gateway Concept	\$ 11,500 reduced to \$10,350
Arapahoe Community College Foundation (3 of 3)	\$ 14,500 reduced to \$13,050
Arapahoe Community College Foundation (2 of 3)	\$ 14,500 reduced to \$13,050
Friends of the Littleton Library & Museum	\$ 15,000 reduced to \$13,500
Littleton DDA (1 of 2) Lights & Block Party	\$ 15,000 reduced to \$13,500
Littleton Independent	\$ 16,000 reduced to \$14,400

Aspen Grove (3 of 3)	\$ 19,500 reduced to \$17,550
	1

TOTAL \$237,000 reduced to \$213,300

Tier 3 – \$125,000 Reduced to \$100,000

Communications and Marketing Department

Search Engine Optimization Management	\$20,000 reduced by Comms
Website Improvements/Upgrade	\$ 9,000 reduced by Comms
Creative	\$25,000 reduced by Comms
Equative	\$20,000 reduced by Comms
Lamar	\$35,000 reduced by Comms
Meta	\$ 8,000 reduced by Comms
Digital	\$ 8,000 reduced by Comms
TOTAL	\$125,000 reduced to \$100,000

Tier 4 - \$75,000 Reduced to \$35,000

Diverse Community Based Arts and Culture Projects

Off-Cycle Requests TOTAL	\$28,000 reduced to \$0 \$88,000 reduced to \$35,000
Public Art Acquisition	\$15,000 reduced to \$0
Culture & Arts Partners	\$15,000 <mark>no change</mark>
Mural Program	\$30,000 reduced to \$20,000

The founding charter of the Arts & Culture Board established a vision for a vibrant, collaborative, and creative Littleton where arts and culture are defining features of the community's identity and unique character. Through public support of the arts, the City of Littleton enhances the quality of life, drives economic development, encourages citizen participation, fosters cultural awareness, promotes tourism, and supports the vibrancy of the community. With the thoughtful distribution of the funds raised by the lodgers tax, City Council and the Arts & Culture Board will directly benefit 35 arts and culture assets by strengthening organizations, building capacity and collaboration, and providing programming and events to Littleton citizens of all ages.