City Manager’s Monthly Report to City Council  
March 2006  

Table of Contents (scroll down on a topic to go to that article)  

City Implements Electronic Bid Posting ................................................................. 2  
17 Arts Projects Funded by Tacoma Arts Commission in 2006 .......................................................... 2  
Five Local Artists Selected to Create Public Art for Police Substations ............................................. 3  
KeyBank Donates Stunning Paintings to the Greater Tacoma Convention & Trade Center ............ 3  
Elks hearing moved to June 5 ....................................................................................... 4  
Filthy 15 property demolished in January .................................................................................... 4
**FINANCE**

**City Implements Electronic Bid Posting**
The Finance Department, Purchasing Division, recently implemented a new Electronic Bid Posting system which eliminates the time and costs of printing, distributing and mailing copies of bid and proposal announcements, specifications, and addenda. All City contracting opportunities open for bid will be posted in electronic form on the Purchasing website at: www.TacomaPurchasing.org. Electronic copies of bid solicitation documents including specifications, any technical drawings or plans, bid/proposal forms, submittal instructions, and any addenda revisions to the original specifications can be viewed on-line, downloaded and printed by prospective bidders. This includes all Requests for Bids (RFBs), Requests for Proposals (RFPs), Requests for Qualifications (RFQs), and Requests for Information (RFIs).

After a transition period, hard copy printing and distribution will be eliminated on April 10, 2006, except for bid specifications with oversized or complex drawings. These will continue to be distributed through the City’s designated plan distribution service.

The new system allows prospective bidders quicker access to information and documents for any contracting opportunities that the City currently has open for bid. We will also create and maintain the “plan holders list” so that notices of addenda changes can be electronically provided to people who self-register as interested in a particular solicitation. The prospective bidder can view who has registered as “plan holder” without waiting for the City to mail them the information. There is also capability to post announcements of the City’s contracting opportunities on the State General Services Administration website for greater exposure to prospective bidders, with a link to the Tacoma Purchasing website for the solicitation documents. A central repository for all solicitation documents and specifications in electronic form will be established for reference by City personnel. For questions, contact Helen Small, Purchasing Manager, at 502-8251.

**COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

**17 Arts Projects Funded by Tacoma Arts Commission in 2006**
On March 13, the Tacoma Arts Commission approved recommendations for the financial support of 17 arts projects that will take place throughout the city of Tacoma this year. Arts Projects funding strives to support arts components of programs generated by small non-profit organizations.

There were 21 requests for funding, totaling $84,585. Seventeen organizations were funded for a total of $46,000. Organizations recommended to receive funding include: Art on the Ave, Asia Pacific Cultural Center, ArtRod, Barefoot Studios, Classical Music Tuesdays, Fab 5, Commencement Bay Maritime Fest, MLK Ballet, Normanna Male Chorus, Proctor Farmers’ Market, Puget Sound Poetry Connection, Roosevelt Dancers, Shakespeare in the Parking Lot, Tacoma Actors Guild, Tacoma Concert Band, Tacoma Contemporary, and Tacoma Farmers’ Market.
New projects in the works include the opening of a new contemporary art gallery called ‘Critical Line’, the creation of a new dance studio on the hilltop, an outdoor site-specific dance performance, and a Chinese artists’ exhibition. Other projects include increased arts and performances at local festivals, Shakespeare performed in a parking lot and on stage, poetry readings, traditional Cambodian dance, and urban hip-hop.

**Five Local Artists Selected to Create Public Art for Police Substations**

Community members representing a broad cross-section of Tacoma selected 3 artists and one artist-team to create unique artwork for each of the new Police substations. The following artists were selected for each substation by a subcommittee representing the neighborhood adjacent to the stations, Tacoma Arts Commissioners and representation from the Tacoma Police Department:

- Jennevieve Schlemmer 5136 No.26th St.
- Justin Hahn 1501 So.72nd St.
- George & LaVonne Hoivik 4731 Norpoint Way N.E.

This is an opportunity for artists to gain valuable experience in creating public art. Each commission is $9,000 and funded by the City of Tacoma’s 1% for art program that dedicates a portion of construction costs to artwork in publicly funded buildings. All of the substations have started construction and the artwork will be completed by the end of 2006.

**KeyBank Donates Stunning Paintings to the Greater Tacoma Convention & Trade Center**

Early in the planning for the convention center, KeyBank made a commitment to assist in the purchase of artwork for the Greater Tacoma Convention & Trade Center.

“The Royal Court,” a triptych of massive scale, was featured in the solo show “The Romantic Vision of Michael Brophy” at the Tacoma Art Museum. Rock Hushka, Curator of Contemporary and Northwest Art at Tacoma Art Museum organized Brophy’s first major retrospective and it is exciting that one of the major pieces from the show will remain in Tacoma permanently.

In this artwork, Brophy draws attention to the dazzling accomplishments of the logging industry by referencing the massive Forestry Pavilion created in 1904 for the Lewis & Clark centennial. Flanking the central panel are two portraits of snags (a standing dead tree).

The paintings relate wonderfully with the integrated artwork of the convention center whose theme honors the importance of trees to our region.

Brophy is frequently referred to as ‘the quintessential northwest artist’; the City of Tacoma is very fortunate to have this triptych in their collection.

In addition to KeyBank, generous support from the Laura Russo Gallery and Tacoma Art Museum made this acquisition possible.
PUBLIC WORKS

Elks hearing moved to June 5
The following updates are provided for structures in the eminent domain process:

- As a result of the court granting the City’s motion for continuance, the trial date for the Old Elks Temple has been rescheduled for December 4, 2006. City staff continues to refer interested parties to the family. The family has received at least six offers on the property, but no word has been received as to the family’s acceptance of an offer.

- The owners of the property at 3220 N. 27th Street have begun work on the property. In addition to demolishing an old garage and building a new one, the owners have also applied for a variance to place a second story addition on the house. The decision regarding the variance is due the week of March 20, 2006.

For more information, contact Lisa Wojtanowicz at 591-5267.

Filthy 15 property demolished in January
There are new updates to the “Filthy 15” list. The “Filthy 15” are properties that are not in full compliance with the Tacoma Municipal Code and are currently in various stages of the enforcement process.

- The City of Tacoma is currently advertising for contractors to bid on the demolition of the building at 2354 South Fawcett with bid opening scheduled for March 8, 2006.

For more information, contact Lisa Wojtanowicz at 591-5267.