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January 28, 2015

Dear Mr. Nye:

We, the undersigned, hereby request your sincere consideration of the inclusion of the following language, identified by emphasis, in the revised Tucson City Charter sections noted:

1. Chapter IV, Section 1, Enumerated . . . "to establish, own, equip, maintain, conduct, operate, regulate, and control libraries, reading rooms, art galleries, **performing arts facilities, cultural facilities**, assembly halls, museums, schools, kindergartens, parks, playgrounds, gymnasiums, . . ."
2. Chapter IV, Powers of the City, **add a 30th Section**, numbered as you see fit, (perhaps (27)) to read: **"Acquisition of lands for arts and culture purposes. To acquire, own and control, within or without the city, lands for arts and culture purposes, and to maintain or control the same, and to construct and maintain highways in connection therewith.**
3. Chapter XIII, Section 8, (Title) **Additional power to tax for bonds, libraries, arts and culture, advertising.**
4. Chapter XIII, Section 8, ". . . to provide for the establishment and support of free public libraries, **arts and culture institutions**, and for advertising . . ."

We seek this inclusion because a vibrant community of artists, arts and culture organizations, and arts consumers has long been central to Tucson's identity and national reputation as an arts-centric city, and are essential to economic development, educational achievement, and a high quality of life for its residents and visitors.

Attached you will find an infographic, "How We Measure Up," which summarizes local public investment in the arts. For a full report of national research that identifies the importance of the arts in Tucson's various communities, and underscores the need to maintain and invest in this vibrant arts and culture component going forward, please visit:

<http://www.tucsonpimaartscouncil.org/initiatives/creating-prosperity/report/>

Sincerely,

Online Signatures Attached

The Tucson Pima Arts Council fosters artistic expression, educational development and the economic growth of our diverse community by supporting, promoting, and advocating for arts and culture.