

DEPARTMENTAL CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

SAN FRANCISCO ARTS COMMISSION

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San Francisco Arts Commission

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1. INTRODUCTION

The San Francisco Arts Commission's carbon footprint includes the consumption of energy in two offices and an unoccupied building. The Arts Commission does not have a fleet of vehicles, manage cleaning or janitorial, or own the buildings we occupy.

Electricity and natural gas are the highest contributors to our total carbon footprint. The Arts Commission would like to reduce the energy use and waste by continuing to inform our staff through discussion and posted reminders to recycle, compost, and turn off electronics when not in use.

2. DEPARTMENT PROFILE

Departmental Mission:

The San Francisco Arts Commission is the City agency that champions the arts in San Francisco. We believe that a creative cultural environment is essential to the City's well being. Our programs integrate the arts into all aspects of City life.

Department Operating Budget:

\$10.3 million

Number of Employees:

31 FTE

Departmental Facilities:

Main Office: 25 Van Ness avenue suites 345 and 450

Administrative and oversight functions for our many programs, grants, and projects

SFAC Gallery: 401 Van Ness Avenue

The San Francisco Arts Commission Gallery makes contemporary art accessible to broad audiences through curated exhibitions that both reflect our regional diversity and position Bay Area visual art production within an international contemporary art landscape. The Gallery has two staff that work at both the gallery and main office.

SFAC Window Display: 155 Grove Street

This unoccupied building has a curated storefront display that changes quarterly.

Cultural Centers:

Nonprofit organizations are tenants of the City and County of San Francisco and contracts are controlled by the Arts Commission. The cultural center facilities control utilities independently.

- African American Art and Culture Complex: 762 Fulton Street Suite #300
- Bayview Opera House: 4705 Third Street
- SOMArts Cultural Center: 934 Brannan St
- Mission Cultural Center: 2868 Mission Street

Department Vehicles

The department has no vehicles

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3. DEPARTMENTAL CARBON FOOTPRINT

The Arts Commission is dedicated to minimizing the amount of energy, water and waste used in the day to day operations of the department. Because our offices are owned and operated by the Department of Real Estate, we do not have access to building wide changes such as alternative energy generation or green building. We do, however, work with the Department of the Environment to inform staff on recycling, compost, and waste. We also remind staff through discussion and posted signs of the importance of turning off electronic devices and lights when not in use.

ENERGY USE

	CONSUMPTION	CO2e (metric tons)
Electricity (kWh)	136,191.05	2.01
Natural Gas (Therms)	356.25	1.94
Steam (Lbs)	0.00	0.00
Energy Subtotal	136,547.3	3.95

WATER USE

	CONSUMPTION
Water (Gals)	49,319.58
Water Discharge	39,241.29

FACILITIES

Main Office:

25 Van Ness avenue suite 345 and 450

Approximately 6000 sq ft

SFAC Gallery:

401 Van Ness avenue

Approximately 900 sq ft of the Veteran's Building

SFAC Window Display
155 Grove Street
Unoccupied building

4. OTHER SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES

The Arts Commission is dedicated to sustainable practices to reduce waste, promote sustainable commuting options, and green purchasing.

Zero Waste

The attached Waste Assessment Questionnaire outlines our current practices to reduce waste in our offices and our outreach to staff.

Transportation options

The staff of the Arts Commission takes advantage of the opportunities and incentives to reduce emissions from commuting. A third of our staff is enrolled in the Commuter Benefits Pre-Tax Program to reduce the cost of public transportation. According to a survey conducted in 2011, over 88% of staff use alternate forms of transportation including biking, walking, and public transportation to get to work. Quarterly, we send out information on Commuter options including emergency ride home and commuter benefits as distributed by the Department of the Environment.

A very high percentage of staff use alternative modes of transportation and those who drive independently need to use their vehicles for work or don't have adequate public transit to their homes. The SFAC always welcomes presentations by the Department of the Environment at staff meetings to inform us on ways to be more environmentally responsible and appreciated the presentation on April 10, 2012.

Commuter Survey

From November 29, 2010 to December 13, 2010, the Arts Commission participated in an online survey of commuter habits. Over 80% of our staff responded to the survey.

<i>Main Form of Transportation</i>	<i>Number of Trips</i>	<i>Percentage of Total Trips</i>
Walk	49	19.76%
Bike	24	9.68%

Public Transit (bus, light rail/train, ferry)	94	37.90%
Carpool/Vanpool	51	20.56%
Private Shuttle/Taxis	0	0.00%
Motorcycle/Scooter	0	0.00%
Telecommute	0	0.00%
Drive Alone	30	12.10%

Green Purchasing

The Arts Commission purchases items that have a lower impact on the environment by using SFApproved.org and following purchasing guidelines for paper, cleaning products, and other office items.

Information Technology

The Arts Commission only purchases EPEAT Gold standard computers and we encourage staff through email and meetings to fully shut down their machines at the end of the work day. All computers are set to automatically hibernate after 20 minutes or less. Servers and backup equipment remain on at all times to secure data and maintain on and off site access.

5. Community Wide Impact

The Arts Commission encourages programming that is thought provoking, current, and socially responsible. Environmental concerns are inherent in the discourse of art and permeate the work we foster. While we occupied Real Estate owned properties and can not make large scale changes to our own facilities, our committees and programs encourage environmental awareness for the projects that we present, review and manage. All of our many programs are aware of the importance and timeliness of sustainability and work with artists, students and communities who explore, educate, and make work that looks to sustainable materials, messages and practices.

Community Arts

We recently partnered with the PUC to create Arts Education and community programming focusing in underserved areas. The work in the coming year will focus on water and natural resources, while addressing environmental justice concerns in Bayview. Additionally, the Bayview Opera House will be receiving new landscaping and a community garden to support local residents and provide safe outdoor programming for youth and adults to interact with nature.

The Art in Storefronts program commissioned several artists whose work raised awareness of environmental issues in a series of temporary installations along Market Street. Amber Hasselbring created a mural that features the Swallowtail butterfly and London Plane tree, two indigenous species that are still found on Market Street. Alexis Arnold brought new life to discarded bike rims and locks to celebrate bike culture in San Francisco and Madeline Trait reused cans to create a cyclone of butterflies.

Public Art

A current commission, *Firefly* by Ned Kahn, reveals how the wind moves around and through this 12 story tall artwork on the exterior of the new PUC building at 525 Golden Gate. The hinged, polycarbonate panels swing with the unseen patterns of the wind. Each panel has a small embedded magnet that connects with an electrical reed switch. By Day, the work appears like rippling waves of glass. By night, the back and forth swinging of the panels triggers the flickering of tiny LED lights. The illuminating of this entire sculpture requires less energy than a 75-watt light bulb.

A similar work was recently installed at the Randall Museum. *Windswept* is a wind-driven kinetic façade by Charles Sowers, an artist and exhibit developer at the Exploratorium. Consisting of over 500 freely-rotating directional arrows, *Windswept* transforms a blank wall into a large-scale observational instrument that reveals the complex interactions between the wind and the environment.

Several artworks also celebrate alternative forms of transportation from public transit to bicycling. San Francisco-based artist Ian Huebert created a series of posters for the Art on Market Street program. *The Golden Spoke* features a series of six distinct posters that invite viewers to experience every-day city scenes from the saddle of a bicycle, the artist's primary mode of transportation. In coordination with the SFMTA's Central Subway project, the Arts Commission is managing a \$14 million public art program which includes artwork that will be on every level of each of the three new subway stations. This project will enliven the public spaces, enhance the transit experience and solidify that San Francisco values public transportation as a vital resource for residents and visitors.

Cultural Equity Grants

The Cultural Equity Grants program supports arts programming across San Francisco's multicultural landscape and has funded many projects which address environmental concerns. The Tenderloin National Forest received a grant to upgrade irrigation system for the venue's hundreds of indigenous plants and trees which provide green space in the City's most densely populated neighborhood. The irrigation systems include installation of a code compliant greywater diversion system. The Arts Commission also funded to GK Callahan's Please Touch Community Garden which transformed a dangerous empty lot into a useable urban green space. Additionally, our Capital Improvement Grants supported over a dozen existing arts facilities to outfit new energy efficient electrical equipment, HVAC and plumbing to replace older systems that were behind current environmental standards.

This year we have funded several new artworks that explore environmental concerns through performance and visual art. Intersection for the Arts has produced an exhibit that brings attention to the toxicity of wood and reveals truths about toxins used in manufacturing that make a seemingly natural material harmful. The Ohlone Profiles Project and Mary Jean Robertson

have developed ongoing partnerships with the Costanoan Rumsen Carmel Tribe of Ohlone Indians and Literacy for Environmental Justice to support several cycles of ceremonial work and curriculum development reflecting an indigenous perspective on environmental justice issues, particularly in areas such as Heron's Head Park. The stage work by Elizabeth Stephens and Annie Sprinkles, "Earthy: An Ecosexual Love Story," explore what happens when two queer San Francisco women join the environmental movement. Sam Green's narrative documentary film explores fog and climate change in San Francisco. Additionally, we have funded projects that address local purchasing, reducing resource consumption, recycled materials, and other environmental concerns.

Civic Design Review

Design and sustainability are married in architecture and landscape and the Civic Design Review Committee members are well versed in ways of interpretation, celebration, and integration of green practices. The Committee is a staunch supporter of maintaining old growth trees, permeable paving, maintainable green roofs and many other elements of greening. The Committee also encourages viable integration of green building techniques into the aesthetic of public structures including rainwater harvesting, exterior shading for sun control, and maintenance plans for living roofs. We encourage xeriscaping whenever possible to reduce the need for irrigation systems. Additionally, the Civic Design Review Committee meets once a year with the Municipal Green Building Coordinator to ensure that all buildings comply with the environmental codes and Civic Design mandate and Arts Commission Staff attend Resource Efficient Building meetings quarterly to keep up to date on new sustainability projects.