

Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority  
**Board Action/Information Summary**

☒ Action ☐ Information

MEAD Number:  
202042

Resolution:  
☒ Yes ☐ No

**TITLE:**

Art in Transit Program Delegation

**PRESENTATION SUMMARY:**

Approve delegation of authority to General manager/CEO regarding Art in Transit projects

**PURPOSE:**

The purpose of this item is to ask WMATA's Board of Directors to delegate review and approval of Art in Transit projects to the General Manager/Chief Executive Officer, or designee.

**DESCRIPTION:**

The GM/CEO is responsible for all Metro activities, subject to the Board of Directors' policy direction. Resolutions #99-70 and #00-62 established the Board's expanded role in the art selection process for art to be placed in the transit system via the Art in Transit Program (AIT). In order to increase Metro's ability to successfully implement AIT projects and initiatives in a cost-effective and timely, responsive manner, the Board is being asked to delegate to the GM/CEO the authority to review and approve AIT projects and initiatives, and to make any changes necessary to policy or guidance to achieve that end. To keep the Board informed and to allow time for any concerns to be communicated, AIT will provide a quarterly update of arts in progress and provide advance notification along with images of artworks that the General Manager is considering for approval.

**Key Highlights:**

AIT oversees all visual and performing arts projects and initiatives throughout the Authority's system. Delegation of review and approval of AIT projects and initiatives to the GM/CEO will streamline the current AIT review and approval process thereby increasing the program's ability to respond to requests for collaborations and artwork offers.

**Background and History:**

In 1975, the Board of Directors adopted Resolution #75-24 approving the installation of artwork in the Metrorail system. Along with establishing the

Board expanded role in the art selection process, Resolutions #99-70 and #2000-62 further recognized that art in the transit system promotes better customer service and increased ridership through passenger satisfaction with the visual environment. For 30 years, AIT has worked with businesses, government agencies, professional organizations and community groups to incorporate artworks and provide performances to enhance Metro's public spaces and provide high-quality arts experiences for transit customers and the public.

#### **Discussion:**

As part of the Authority's current efforts to strengthen customer confidence and provide better service, AIT is currently actively working with local agencies, art institutions, and communities to add several artworks to the Metrorail system. The proposed program changes will benefit customers and Metro by improving the Authority's ability to process requests for collaboration and increase prospects of securing external sponsorship of various projects. As a result, the proposed changes also have the potential to increase the program's visibility and improve customers' experience.

#### **FUNDING IMPACT:**

This item is a consent item that solely affects the Art in Transit Program's review and approval process and has no negative financial impact on the Authority.

Project Manager:	Laurent Odde
Project Department/Office:	DECO/ENGA

#### **TIMELINE:**

<b>Previous Actions</b>	<p>June 19, 1975: Board resolution establishing that final review and approval of all proposed works of art and terms of their acquisition and display shall rest within the Authority.</p> <p>November 18, 1999: Board Resolution establishing that Board will make the final selection of the art work from among the final candidates.</p> <p>October 12, 2000: Board Resolution establishing that WMATA art selection procedures are amended to specify the Board's role in the art selection process as outlined in the Art in Transit Handbook.</p>
<b>Anticipated actions after presentation</b>	December 2018: future Art in Transit projects and initiatives reviewed and approved by GM/CEO

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Delegate to the GM/CEO the authority to review and approve AIT projects and initiatives and to make any changes necessary to policy or guidance to achieve that end.

**PRESENTED AND ADOPTED: December 13, 2018**

**SUBJECT: DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY TO GENERAL MANAGER/CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REGARDING ART IN TRANSIT PROGRAM**

**2018-55**

**RESOLUTION  
OF THE  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OF THE  
WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSIT AUTHORITY**

WHEREAS, Resolutions 99-70 and 2000-62 provide that the Board of Directors shall review and approve artwork proposed for display in the Metro system; and

WHEREAS, Metro seeks to increase its ability to successfully implement Art in Transit (AIT) projects and initiatives in a cost-effective and timely manner; and

WHEREAS, Staff recommends that the Board of Directors delegate to the General Manager/Chief Executive Officer (GM/CEO) the authority to review and approve AIT projects and initiatives and to amend AIT Policy accordingly; NOW, THEREFORE, be it

*RESOLVED*, That the Board of Directors delegates to the GM/CEO the authority to review and approve AIT projects and initiatives; and be it further

*RESOLVED*, That staff will inform the Board of Directors of artwork projects and initiatives in quarterly updates and/or memoranda (including visuals as appropriate) in advance of final approval by the GM/CEO; and be it further

*RESOLVED*, That the Board of Directors delegates the GM/CEO authority to make any changes necessary to Metro policy or guidance to effect this Resolution and the goals of AIT; and be it finally

**Motioned by Mr. Evans, seconded by Mr. Corcoran**

**Ayes: 7 – Mr. Evans, Mr. Crawford, Mr. Corcoran, Mr. Price, Mr. Goldman, Mr. Dorsey and Mr. McMillin**

**Abstain: 1 – Mr. Horner**

*RESOLVED*, That this Resolution shall be effective 30 days after adoption in accordance with § 8(b) of the WMATA Compact.

Reviewed as to form and legal sufficiency,



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Patricia Y. Lee  
General Counsel

WMATA File Structure No.:  
12.1.1 Art in Transit