

PUBLIC ART SAINT PAUL ART. SPIRIT & PRACTICE

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January 24, 2017

John S. and James L. Knight Foundation
200 South Biscayne Boulevard, Suite 3300
Miami, Florida 33131

Dear Knight Foundation:

We at Public Art Saint Paul are thrilled to be partnering with the City of Saint Paul on an expansion of City Artist Amanda Lovelee's Pop Up Meeting in the new project, *Bring Pop Up Meeting and Power to the People*, a finalist in the Knight City Challenge.

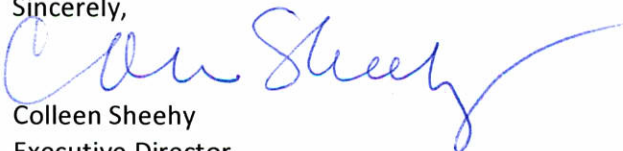
In its first iteration, Pop Up Meeting has been incredibly successful and effective in engaging more people in voicing their ideas about improving our City. Surveys and conversations are exchanged for a mint lemonade popsicle—a custom flavor by Saint Pops, a small St. Paul business. Surveys have found that 70% of people who attended a Pop Up Meeting had never been to a City meeting. This project is expanding participation of people in democracy in St. Paul. Participation and voicing ideas and opinions fosters greater agency among citizens and attachment to place, in keeping with Knight Foundation's desire to attract and retain talent.

Now, we want to expand these ideas into new forms and delivery methods in the proposal for Knight City Challenge by making new, portable, adaptable engagement tools that can be used by community organizations as well as the City. These fun ideas will demonstrate the role of innovation in making a better, stronger City where people love to live, work, and play.

Pop Up Meeting has earned international recognition as an innovative and effective approach to citizen engagement—with coverage by the urban planning website, *Next City*, and an award from the Humphrey Institute for Urban Affairs at the University of Minnesota. It also is a semi-finalist for an Innovations in American Government Award from Harvard's Kennedy School.

Pop Up Meeting 2.0 plans for the Knight City Challenge will build on these successes to create more citizen involvement across Saint Paul. I'm excited for Public Art Saint Paul to work with the City to take this to the next level with support from Knight Foundation. Thank you for moving this idea forward, and we hope this will be part of your funding portfolio for Saint Paul and the U.S.

Sincerely,



Colleen Sheehy
Executive Director

