



Legislation Text

File #: RES 20-1101, **Version:** 1

Accepting and approving the recommendations of the Chambers Artwork Taskforce.

WHEREAS, Ramsey County and the City of Saint Paul share ownership of the Saint Paul City Hall - Ramsey County Courthouse located at 15 W Kellogg Blvd in downtown Saint Paul; and

WHEREAS, The building is adorned with numerous works of art dating back to the 1930s, including four large industrial-themed murals in the Council Chambers that are a product of their time and are outdated in their representation of the communities of Saint Paul or Ramsey County; and

WHEREAS, The Saint Paul City Council has registered its objection of the art dating back to the 1980s regarding the representation of the illustrated positional and social power of whiteness over Black, Indigenous and people of color; and

WHEREAS, The Saint Paul City Council has also objected to the lack of representation of women from any race, ethnicity or culture in the murals, erasing their irrefutable contributions to the growth of Saint Paul and Ramsey County; and

WHEREAS, In December 2018, the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners and the Saint Paul City Council approved a project to create contemporary community-based artworks for exhibition in the Council Chambers of Saint Paul City Hall - Ramsey County Courthouse; and

WHEREAS, The Ramsey County Historical Society then established a community-led Council Chambers Artwork Taskforce who selected local artists to create original artwork to be displayed over the original murals; and

WHEREAS, The Taskforce selected artist collaborative CLUES Latinx Mural Project, and artists Emily Donovan, Adam Swanson and Leah Yellowbird in November 2019; and

WHEREAS, Ramsey County Board of Commissioners voted to accept the recommendations of the Chambers Artwork Taskforce at its August 11th, 2020 meeting; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, The Saint Paul City Council accepts and approves the recommendations of the Chambers Artwork Taskforce; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, The Saint Paul City Council entrusts the Ramsey County Manager to complete the installation and host a public event to debut the artworks in collaboration with the Council Chambers Taskforce, City of Saint Paul and Ramsey County Historical Society.