



Denver City Council

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Public Amenities Committee  
Meeting Summary

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Date: March 7, 2006      Time: 11:00 a.m.      Location: Council Conference Room

**Members Present:**      Lehmann, Johnson, Linkhart, Robb  
**Members Absent:**      None  
**Other Council Present:**      None

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**1.      Clyfford Still Museum Project**

Committee Action

The Committee approved filing ordinances to:

- establish a capital grant fund to receive donations for acquisition of land and construction;
- approve a land purchase agreement; and
- approve a lease agreement with the former land owner.

Summary of Discussion

Tina Poe-Obermeier, Director, Office of Cultural Affairs; Christopher Hunt, Clyfford Still Museum Project Board Chairman; and Scott Johnson, Assistant City Attorney, presented the ordinance requests to the Committee.

The Clyfford Still collection was a gift that the City now owns. One of the conditions of the gift was that a permanent building to house the collection be constructed. The Clyfford Still Museum (CSM) Project Board was created to oversee the effort and raise funds. The Board has been securing pledges of private donations for land acquisition, design and construction of the museum building. The proposed capital grant fund is the mechanism whereby the City can accept and expend the private donations.

The museum will be constructed on three parcels on the east side of Bannock Street between 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> avenues. Two of the parcels are owned by the Denver Art Museum, and the City has an informal agreement to purchase those parcels. The parcel in the middle is owned by David Clifton Ministries. The City has negotiated purchase of that parcel for \$915,000, to be paid with the private donation. CSM has received firm pledges in excess of that amount.

Closing on the land sale is scheduled for April 15. After that transaction is completed, the City will lease the property back to the Ministries until June 30, 2007, at which time it is anticipated that construction will begin. The City will help the Ministries locate a new site.

The CSM has been laying the foundation for an architectural selection process, and it hopes to

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begin that process by April 1. The selection and design phases should take about a year, and construction could commence by early summer of 2007. Several of architectural firms that responded to the request for proposals on the Justice Center have contacted the CSM with an interest in this project.

Ms. Poe-Obermeier told the Committee that CSM has been certified by the Scientific & Cultural Facilities District for Tier III funding. She also announced two public lectures on Clyfford Stills and invited everyone to attend. Councilwoman Lehmann pointed out that both of the dates are Monday evenings, making it difficult for Council Members to attend. She suggested the lectures be taped and used at the museum.

Councilwoman Lehmann commended the CSM Board on moving this project forward so quickly.

### Public Lectures

*Who is Clyfford Still...And why does he matter?*

Dean Sobel, Clyfford Still Museum Project Director

Monday, March 13, 6:00 p.m.

*Clyfford Still's Vision*

David Anfam, London-based Still scholar and authority on Abstract Expressionism

Monday, April 3, 6:00 p.m.

Both lectures will be held at the Walnut Foundry, 3002 Walnut Street, Denver

Gretchen Williams  
03-07-06