



# City of Denton

City Hall  
215 E. McKinney Street  
Denton, Texas  
[www.cityofdenton.com](http://www.cityofdenton.com)

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## AGENDA INFORMATION SHEET

**DEPARTMENT:** Parks and Recreation

**ACM:** Christine Taylor, Assistant City Manager

**DATE:** October 2, 2025

### **SUBJECT**

Receive a report, hold a discussion, and give staff direction, on proposed public art projects by Alicia Eggert and Bread and Puppet Theatre.

### **BACKGROUND**

Recently, Denton Parks and Recreation staff were contacted by artists connected with two temporary/performance art projects. These artists are seeking support for their projects from the City of Denton and the Public Art Committee.

#### ***Now and Never by Alicia Eggert***

Recently, Alicia Eggert, an artist, professor at the University of North Texas, and former Public Art Committee member, reached out to City staff about hosting a temporary, conceptual art piece entitled *Now or Never*. The art project envisions a series of yard signs on either side of the street with one side of the street featuring signs with the word “NOW” on them, while signs on the other side of the street feature the word “NEVER.”

As Eggert explains in her proposal, “the project is designed to poke fun at our increasingly polarized political climate where opposing sides take a stance on an issue with unwavering conviction and little room for compromise.” Furthermore, the project “evokes the urgency of global challenges such as climate change, where action delayed is opportunity lost.”

Eggert is seeking approval for the project from the Public Art Committee to pursue this project in Denton.

#### ***Bread and Puppet Theatre***

The Bread and Puppet Theatre, a travelling performing circus based out of Vermont, reached out to Parks and Recreation Staff about providing a location for their 2025 Fall Circus Tour. Bread and Puppet Theatre is a puppet circus that features large, distinctly designed puppets, and vibrant performance featuring dancing, singing, and live instrumental music. The traveling act was founded in 1963 by Peter Schumann in New York City. The booking information provided by the company states that they “are an explicitly political theater company and we never censor our shows.”

In their booking release, Bread and Puppet Theatre are looking for an event host that can provide an outdoor performance space and backup inclement weather venue, financial support of around \$5,000 (through ticket sales or payment of a performance fee), electricity support, and room and board for the performers while the circus is in town.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends against financial or in-kind support for both projects.

## **FISCAL INFORMATION**

Currently, the City of Denton Parks and Recreation Department does not have funding allocated to support new temporary public art projects. Our current HOT funds allocation, as well as a TCA grant funding is supporting the “31 Days of Denton Halloween”. Other Public Art funds are limited to specific bond projects.

## **EXHIBITS**

Exhibit 1- Agenda Information Sheet

Exhibit 2- *Now or Never* Temporary Art Proposal

Exhibit 3- Bread and Puppet Theatre Booking Release

Respectfully submitted:

Gary Packan, Parks and Recreation

Prepared by:

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