



# Memorandum

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Date: August 14, 2024

To: Honorable Mayor and Councilmembers

From: Rey Valdes  
City Manager

Department: Erin Sullivan  
Parks & Recreation Director

Subject: **Territorios Cruzados proposal from AGM Art Group-  
Department Memo**

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## **Introduction**

Following the May Council meeting, at the direction of the City Council, the Parks & Recreation Department contacted the City's cultural consultant as well as the AGM Art group and Codina Partners to gather feedback on the proposed Art exhibit to provide an update at the June 12<sup>th</sup> council meeting.

## **Background**

Mayor Fraga submitted a council agenda item for discussion at the May 8, 2024 meeting requesting support for a temporary art exhibit called *Territorios Cruzados* proposed by the AGM Art Group with the support from Codina Partners.

Following the May Council meeting, at the direction of the City Council, the Parks & Recreation Department contacted the City's cultural consultant, Bibi Baloyra, to share the project and gather her input as to how it may align with the Cultural policy being developed as well as with the City's public art program. Ms. Baloyra did not recommend the City to spend the large amount of money outlined in the proposed budget to have this displayed and pay for flights for the artists. She suggests that these are monies that can be used for public art commission and/or to be used to hire local artists for other workshops and art projects. She was also concerned that the name of the curator was not included and was unclear on the

significance of these pieces, since they were not specified. She recommends that we should not have to rely on international firms to bring art work to the City when there is lots of talent and art in Miami. The email with her feedback is attached for reference.

Following receiving the feedback from the consultant, staff then contacted AGM Art Group to share the feedback and gather more information on their proposal and the exhibit and answer the concerns posed by the consultant and better understand the exhibit proposal. AGM's full email response (and English translation) is attached for reference.

The City Manager's Office and Parks staff also met with Lee Casey, from Downtown Doral (Codina Partners) to gather more information on their participation in the temporary outdoor art exhibit. Codina Partners is supportive of the art exhibit and has informed AGM Art Group that they will allow them to place artwork on their property as well as provide in-house support for the marketing and security. They can also provide apartments for the artists to stay when needed. They will not be able to contribute funding to the shipping or installation of the art pieces and suggested the organizers use sponsors to cover these costs. Codina reaffirmed they are strong supporters of the arts and believe this would be a nice enhancement to the Downtown Doral area and bring visitors which will also benefit their businesses. They recommended the City support the project in the same way, providing for security, marketing and allowing the art pieces to be placed on City property.

### **Fiscal Impact:**

The fiscal impact to the City for this item is to be determined based on the City's contribution and involvement.

### **Strategic Plan Alignment**

This item ties into the Parks & Recreation and Cultural Arts Division strategic initiatives, providing public art to the community and increasing the cultural offerings.

### **Recommendation**

The City Manager's Office provides this supplemental information to the council item for discussion by Mayor and Councilmembers. Staff can identify locations within public parks and City property that would be most suitable for the art to be placed should the art exhibit move forward. It is recommended that the organizers work to secure sponsorships to cover the shipping and installation costs of the art pieces to limit the City's cost to insurance. Security could also be provided by the City's regular police staffing.

### **Attachments**

- Response from AGM Art Group (Spanish original & English Translation)
- Email response from Bibi Baloyra (Cultural Consultant)