

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the Visual Arts Committee

From: Grace Weiss, Project Manager, Civic Art Collection

Date: Wednesday, March 18, 2026

Re: Explanatory Summary – Proposed As-Needed Fine Art Services Contract with Neon Works, Inc.

Overview

The San Francisco Arts Commission (SFAC) seeks authorization to enter into a new as-needed fine art services contract with Neon Works, Inc. This is SFAC's first contract with Neon Works, Inc., which has received a waiver of solicitation requirements (OCAWVR0012636). The Chapter 21 contract will provide specialized services for the neon artworks in the Civic Art Collection, such as Keith Sonnier's *Ceiling Flood* (1999) at the San Francisco International Airport (SFO), Joseph Kosuth's *W.F.T. (San Francisco)* (2019) at the Bill Graham Civic Auditorium, and the forthcoming installation by Andrea Bowers, *We've Got to Give Them Hope* (2026) at SFO.

Description of Services

Under this as-needed contract, Neon Works, Inc. will provide a broad range of technical fine art services including:

- Neon fabrication and transportation
- Neon component procurement
- Installation and de-installation of permanent neon artworks at City facilities and public sites
- On-site technical coordination with artists, contractors, and engineers during project fabrication and installation
- Support of maintenance, cleaning, and conservation of neon artworks in the City's Civic Art Collection
- Consultation and condition reporting to support project planning and collection stewardship

These services are critical to the successful implementation of the ongoing care and preservation of the City's neon artworks.

Procurement Background

In March 2026, SFAC received a waiver of solicitation requirements (OCAWVR0012636) to enter into a sole source contract with Neon Works, Inc. for the scope described above.

Chapter 6 vs Chapter 21 Contracts

SFAC maintains separate Chapter 6 and Chapter 21 contracts to ensure compliance with City procurement rules based on the funding source and project type:

- Chapter 6 (Public Works and Construction): Used when artwork activities are integrated into or occur alongside City construction or capital improvement projects, such as installations coordinated with Public Works or other departments' building projects.
- Chapter 21 (Purchasing): Used for general services not tied to construction, including ongoing collection maintenance, conservation, or independent public art projects.

SFAC seeks authorization for this Chapter 21 contract with Neon Works, Inc., to maintain and conserve neon artworks in the Civic Art Collection.

Recommendation

Staff recommends approval of this as-needed contract with Neon Works, Inc., to ensure SFAC's ability to maintain the neon artworks in the Civic Art Collection that require the supplier's unique artist-centered approach and material expertise.