



**CITY OF CONCORD**  
*New Hampshire's Main Street™*  
**Community Development Department**

## **REPORT TO MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL**

**From:** Timothy J. Thompson, AICP, Assistant Director of Community Development  
**Date:** July 23, 2024  
**Subject:** **Sound & Color Music and Arts Festival – License Agreement for art installation on Storrs Street Garage**

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### **Recommendation:**

Approve the attached consent resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a License Agreement to allow for the installation of a photographic exhibit on the upper portion of the windows of the Storrs St. Garage Main Street stair tower for a period of 1 year (September 2024 to August 2025) and installation of battery powered LED lights on the same windows for not more than one week during the festival in October 2024.

### **Background:**

As summarized in the attached request, The Sound and Color Music and Arts Festival is a free two-day festival (October 18-19, 2024) taking place at venues and outdoor locations throughout downtown Concord. The Festival Committee's goal is to remove all barriers to arts access and promote the importance of the arts community to the region and beyond. The festival is being planned and executed by a collaborative of arts organizations, including the Capitol Center for the Arts, Concord Community Music School, Intown Concord, The Pillar Gallery, and the Greater Concord Chamber of Commerce. More information about the festival can be found at: [concordsoundandcolor.com](http://concordsoundandcolor.com)

### **Discussion:**

The Sound and Color Music and Arts Festival Committee seeks permission to install a photographic and LED light exhibit on the Main Street stair tower windows of the Storrs St. Garage.

The festival organizers revised their design over the course of the past several months to address staff concerns relative to obscured visibility in the west stair tower and public safety concerns associated therewith. The initial design called for full window height graphics, whereas the updated proposal limits the graphic design to only the upper half of the windows, ensuring that there remains visibility into the stair tower from the outside.

The festival organizers presented their updated proposal to the Parking Committee on July 22, 2024, and the Committee voted unanimously to support their proposal to install a semi-opaque

vinyl photographic exhibit on the upper portion of the windows of the Storrs St. Garage Main Street stair tower for a period of 1 year (September 2024 to August 2025) and additionally to install battery powered LED lights on the same windows for not more than one week during the festival.

The festival organizers will be solely responsible for the costs, design, any additional required permitting, installation, ownership, operation and maintenance of improvements constructed on the City's property.

If this request is approved by the City Council, the License Agreement shall contain the City's normal and customary provisions, and shall be acceptable to the City Manager and City Solicitor.