



G.T. Bynum
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Dr. Freeman Culver
President/Chairperson
Greenwood Chamber of Commerce
131 N. Greenwood Ave., 3rd Floor
Tulsa, OK 74120

Dr. Culver:

As you are aware, I delayed the removal of the Black Lives Matters mural so we could discuss the Greenwood Chamber's options, as the property owner along both side of the street in question. You advised me that the Greenwood Chamber of Commerce did not want to vacate the street because of the financial and legal liability associated with that action.

During my call with you and Merchant & Tenant Association President Dr. Patricia Breeckner, I was advised that you did not want to advocate for a license to use or occupy the street with the City Council because you wanted the mural removed. In particular, I was told that Black Lives Matter is part of a national political movement that not all people agree with, so it should not be painted on the street. I was told the Greenwood Chamber is trying to improve black lives through private enterprise. I was told most of the people advocating for the mural don't have businesses in Greenwood.

In our call, you also voiced your displeasure that I had halted the mural removal that morning, and that you wished we had already removed it. You told me that by delaying the City would cause the Greenwood Chamber more grief from local activists - that you have to do most of your fundraising outside of town.

I understand that, as President of the Greenwood Chamber of Commerce, you have probably come under tremendous pressure from activists since I pointed out your objection in public. I am sorry for anything you have had to endure, but it does not change the facts: as the property owner on both sides of the street, if the Greenwood Chamber wants to keep the mural in place you can request approval from the City Council or request that the City vacate the street.

The City Council is the entity authorized by City charter to grant a license to use and occupy the street, for the painting or any other purpose. Article VIII Section 13 provides:

The Council may grant a permit to any person or corporation to occupy or use portions of the streets, highways, alleys, public ways, public places, or any other real property of the city under such terms and conditions as the Council shall impose; provided, such use does not unreasonably interfere with the public use thereof. Permits may be revoked by the Council at will. Upon the revocation of a permit, the holder of such permit shall



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remove within a reasonable time any encroachment on the property of the city and pay the cost thereof.

Following your comments to the media this morning, I directed my staff to prepare a formal Request for Action on your behalf. Should you desire to proceed with seeking City Council approval to preserve the mural, please sign and return the attached documentation by close of business Thursday so it can be properly processed. You can email it to me directly at mayor@cityoftulsa.org. You may contact your City Councilor or the City Council Secretary regarding the approval process, at:

Tulsa City Council
75 E. 2nd St., 4th Floor
Tulsa, OK 74103
(918) 596-1990

Best regards,

Mayor G.T. Bynum

Enclosure

City Contract

Version 4.1 released on 10/8/19



CITY COUNCIL USE ONLY	Tracking #:	CITY CLERK USE ONLY
Date Received: _____	Committee: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Scanned Date: _____
Committee Date: _____	Hearing Date: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Posted Item #: _____
1 st Agenda Date: _____	2 nd Agenda Date: _____	

All department items requiring Council approval must be submitted through the Mayor's Office.

Contract Phase

☒ **New Contract** ☐ Renewal ☐ Amendment ☐ Statutory Change Order ☐ Supplemental Documentation ☐ Quantity
☐ Adjustment ☐ Final Payment ☐ Permission to Continue ☐ Terminate/Cancel

Board Approval

Other Board Name: _____ City Council Approval: ☒ Yes ☐ No Contract Number: _____

Department: _____ Contact Name: _____ Email: _____ Phone: _____

Vendor Name(s)

Historic Greenwood Chamber of Commerce Vendor Number: _____ Description (Subject): License Agreement for Street Mural

Contract Type

Misc. Agreements Contract Subtype: _____ Bid/Project Number: _____ Contract Amount: _____

Contract Funding Type

☒ **No Payment Involved**
☐ Revenue Contract
☐ Expense Contract

Funding Source(s)

Applicant: _____ Department: _____ Legal: _____ Board: _____ Mayor: _____ Other: _____	Date: _____ Date: _____ Date: _____ Date: _____ Date: _____
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Background Information

A mural has been painted on the surface of Greenwood Avenue, between I244 and Archer Street, reading "Black Lives Matter." The Historic Greenwood Chamber of Commerce requests a license agreement to maintain this use and occupancy of the street, pursuant to Article VIII, Section 13, of the City Charter, which provides: "The Council may grant a permit to any person or corporation to occupy or use portions of the streets, highways, alleys, public ways, public places, or any other real property of the city under such terms and conditions as the Council shall impose; provided, such use does not unreasonably interfere with the public use thereof. Permits may be revoked by the Council at will. Upon the revocation of a permit, the holder of such permit shall remove within a reasonable time any encroachment on the property of the city and pay the cost thereof."

Summation of the Requested Action

The Historic Greenwood Chamber of Commerce requests City Council approval of a license agreement.

Other Pertinent Details

Post Execution Processing

☐ Mail vendor copy (add'l signature copies attached)
☐ Must be filed with other governmental entity
☐ Add'l governmental entity approval(s) required

Additional Routing and Processing Details

Historic Greenwood Chamber of Commerce
 Attn: Dr. Freeman Culver, President/Chairperson
 131 N. Greenwood Avenue, 3rd Floor
 Tulsa, OK 74120