

Agenda Item 4

From: Membership <Membership@grandfoundation.org>

Sent: Tuesday, March 9, 2021 2:39 PM

To: Public Comment <publiccomment@cityoftracy.org>

Subject: Agenda item#4-financial forecast report

As a board member for the Grand Foundation, a born and bred Tracyite in my 30's, and a mother of two raising kids with the amenities Tracy has to offer, I'm writing in to voice my concern over the proposed \$1.5 million reduction to subsidies for recreational and cultural arts. My main concern is the impact at The Grand. As it stands now and prior to the pandemic, there's a shortage in staffing, due to the budget, and the level of musical entertainment and program offerings the community demands at The Grand cannot be met, due to the budget. The Grand grew out of THIS community's desire for a facility that could provide exposure to the arts in a variety of ways - through presentations and concerts, classes, and other educational opportunities. After almost fifteen years since the doors opened, it's important to review how that center functions and whether it is meeting the goals of the community. Further reducing an already tight budget for The Grand would be detrimental to cultural arts in our community and further misalign it from the goals of our residents. Furthermore, The Grand was never designed to be a profit producing machine, much like a park doesn't. It's an AMENITY for the community and the intangible benefits and impact on quality of life will always far outweigh the cost. Lastly, a reminder: the City Council has previously made it one of their Strategic Priorities as a "Quality of Life" facility in our community.



Kaylin Dell'Aringa
Membership Chair