



# Council Agenda Report

To: Mayor Grisanti and the Honorable Members of the City Council

Prepared by: Kristin Riesgo, Community Services Deputy Director

Reviewed by: Jesse Bobbett, Community Services Director

Approved by: Steve McClary, Interim City Manager

Date prepared: October 12, 2021

Meeting date: November 8, 2021

Subject: Woolsey Fire Art Donation

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**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Approve the recommendation from the Malibu Arts Commission to accept Artist Anna Kelly's *Saving Malibu* painting on loan for one year to be displayed in the Multipurpose Room at City Hall.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** Funding in the amount of \$100 for mounting supplies was included in the Adopted Budget for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 in Account Number 100-4012-6160-00 (Malibu Arts Budget – Operating Supplies).

**WORK PLAN:** This item was not included in the Adopted Work Plan for Fiscal Year 2021-2022.

**DISCUSSION:** In August 2021, Artist Anna Kelly contacted the City regarding the donation of two paintings, *Saving Malibu* and *Fallen Hero*. The paintings were part of Ms. Kelly's *Saving Malibu* art series and depict the heroic sacrifice and courage of the firefighters who risked their lives for Malibu during the 2018 Woolsey Fire.

Ms. Kelly is an Artist Member of the California Art Club, the Oil Painters of America, and the Pasadena Society of Artists. She received her bachelor of science degree in textile engineering and studied art at Pasadena City College. In 1995, she took part in a comprehensive fine arts curriculum at the Art Center College of Design in Pasadena, studying under artist and art historian Richard Lees. Additionally, her work has been juried into many events of local, state, and national importance.

At the Regular meeting on September 28, 2021, the Malibu Arts Commission discussed the request from Ms. Kelly to accept the donated paintings on the condition that they are displayed at City Hall. The Commission unanimously approved a recommendation to the Council that the City accept one of the paintings, *Saving Malibu* (Attachment 1), on loan for one year with the intent, but not the guarantee, to display the piece with an option to renew the loan after one year upon mutual consent of the City and Ms. Kelly. The Commission also reviewed potential locations for displaying the artwork and recommended the Multipurpose Room in City Hall (Attachment 2).

If approved by the Council, staff would work with the Commission to determine an exact location for display in the Multipurpose Room. Staff would also prepare a license agreement with Ms. Kelly to clearly outline the terms of the loan.

ATTACHMENTS: 1) Artist Statement and photograph of *Saving Malibu* painting  
2) Multipurpose Room and mock display

**Woolsey Fire Art Donation**  
**Saving Malibu Series**  
**Artist Anna Kelly**

**Artist Statement**

Art speaks with a powerful voice, and can awaken us to the wonder of being alive in this world. Since antiquity, poetry, music, and painting have been used to express feelings and record events.

For decades, my fellow artists and I have painted in many locales around Malibu, from Malibu Creek State Park to the city's beaches. When the Woolsey Fire broke out, and we saw these areas of natural beauty in flames, we were heartbroken.

The two displayed works -- "Saving Malibu" and "Fallen Hero" -- were painted between 2019 and 2021 to salute the courage of the firefighters who risked their lives for Malibu. (Another painting in this series, "Help Is Coming," was selected for the 2021 Impressionist National Juried Exhibition, and is presently on display there.)

My thanks to these brave firefighters from the bottom of my heart. Your sacrifice will never be forgotten!

Artist Anna T. Kelly  
September 2021

**Saving Malibu**

*Anna Kelly*

Oil on linen canvas, 22" x 28"

Framed: 29" x 35"





## Recommended Location





## Mock Display

