

**CITY OF HACKENSACK
ORDINANCE NO. 03-2024**

**AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A “CREATIVE TEAM”
FOR THE CITY OF HACKENSACK AS PART OF
SUSTAINABLE JERSEY EFFORTS**

WHEREAS, participation in cultural activity and art in the public realm correlates to increased civic engagement, stronger communities, economic growth, and improved educational outcomes; and

WHEREAS, the City’s “Green Team” has recommended that a group be commissioned to foster the recognition, support, and appreciation of the arts and cultural organizations and participation in arts/cultural activities in the public realm in the City of Hackensack; and

WHEREAS, Sustainable Jersey is a nonprofit organization that provides tools, training and financial incentives to municipalities that choose to pursue sustainability programs in their communities; and,

WHEREAS, the financial incentives offered include substantial grants to qualifying support communities for the programs that they seek to implement; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Hackensack is presently a support community for Sustainable Jersey and a supporter of its efforts to link quality of life with creative sustainable programs that will advance the arts and cultural assets of the community; and,

WHEREAS, in its continuing efforts to advance the goals of the Sustainable Jersey program, and in an effort to better qualify for grants offered by that organization, the Mayor and Council desire to formally establish a Creative Team to assist the Governing Body in planning creative sustainability programs that will further the organization's goals while benefiting the residents of Hackensack.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HACKENSACK, as follows:

Section 1:

Chapter 17A of Code of the City of Hackensack, “Environmental Commission and Green Team” is amended to add a new Section 17A-9 to read as follows:

Chapter 17A Environmental Commission and Green Team

§ 17A-9 Creative Team Establishment and Responsibilities.

Effective January 1, 2024, there is hereby established in and for the City of Hackensack a “Creative Team,” which shall be part of the City of Hackensack's participation in the Sustainable Jersey program. The Creative Team shall consist of a minimum of six (6) members and a maximum of eleven (11) members to be appointed by the City Council to

serve two (2) year terms, and members need not be residents of the City so long as they have a demonstrable interest in the City's cultural development. One (1) member shall be an elected or appointed official of the City. The members may further serve on any other City board or commission without limitation, shall serve on a voluntary basis and without compensation, and perform the following duties:

- A. Assist the City in developing creative programs that meet the guidelines established by the Sustainable Jersey program.
- B. Develop a vision for the City as to how arts and culture, and the creative industries can connect with, and contribute to sustainability in the City, and coordinate with the Green Team in such efforts.
- C. Prepare the report required by Sustainable Jersey.
- D. Educate and encourage all City employees, residents, and businesses to participate in arts and culture and the creative industries.
- E. Actively solicit and evaluate ideas and suggestions from the Hackensack community and other pertinent stakeholders regarding arts and culture development and recommend same to the City Council.

Section 2:

Repeal of Inconsistent Provisions. All ordinances or parts thereof in conflict or inconsistent with this Ordinance are hereby repealed, but only however, to the extent of such conflict or inconsistency, it being the legislative intent that all ordinances or part of ordinances now existing or in effect unless the same being conflict or inconsistent with any provision of this Ordinance shall remain in effect.

Section 3:

Severability. The provisions of this Ordinance are declared to be severable and if any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase thereof for any reason is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining sections, subsections, sentences, clauses and phrases of this Ordinance, but shall remain in effect; it being the legislative intent this Ordinance shall stand notwithstanding the invalidity of any part.

Section 4:

Codification. This Ordinance shall be a part of the Code of the City of Hackensack as though codified and fully set forth therein. The City Clerk shall have this ordinance codified and incorporated in the official copies of the Code. The City Clerk and the City Attorney are authorized and directed to change any Chapter, Article and/or Section number of the Code of the City of Hackensack in the event that the codification of this Ordinance reveals that there is a conflict between the numbers and the existing Code, and in order to avoid confusion and possible accidental repealers of existing provisions not intended to be repealed.

Section 5:

This Ordinance shall take effect upon passage, adoption, and publication in the manner prescribed by law.

Introduced: January 23, 2024
Adopted: February 20, 2024

ATTEST:

CITY OF HACKENSACK

By: _____
Deborah Karlsson, City Clerk

By: _____
John P. Labrosse Jr., Mayor