

BILL/ RESOLUTION REQUEST

- 1. Title:** Authorizes the sale of four paintings by Clyfford Still by Sotheby's Auction House with proceeds benefitting an endowment for the Clyfford Still Museum
- 2. Requesting Agency:** Denver office of Cultural Affairs
- 3. Contact Person with actual knowledge of proposed ordinance**
 - Name:**Jan Brennan
 - Phone:**720-865-4312
 - Email:**Jan.Brennan@denvergov.org
- 4. Contact Person with actual knowledge of proposed ordinance who will present the item at Mayor Council and who will be available for first and second reading, if necessary**
 - Name:**Jan.Brennan@denvergov.org
 - Phone:**720-865-4312
 - Email:**Jan.Brennan@denvergov.org
- 5. Describe the proposed ordinance, including what the proposed ordinance is intended to accomplish, who's involved**
 - a. Scope of Work**

Approval of a contract authorizing Sotheby's to assist the City and County of Denver, through its Director of Arts and Venues Denver, with the sale of four paintings by Clyfford Still, with all net proceeds of sale being remitted to the Clyfford Still Museum endowment, all as authorized and directed by the Order of the Circuit Court for Carroll County, MD issued March 24, 2011. The scope and terms of sale will be: (a) a private sale or public auction, (b) minimum net, reserve or guaranteed proceeds of \$25 million, and (c) a maximum selling commission of 15% of total sale price (inclusive of any buyer's premium) or \$15 million.
 - b. Duration**

Maximum term of 12 months
 - c. Location**

New York, NY
 - d. Affected Council District**

District 10
 - e. Benefits**

Generate sufficient endowment funds for the Clyfford Still Museum to ensure its ability to operate independent of any funding from the City and County of Denver for the foreseeable future.
 - f. Costs**

\$0

6. Is there any controversy surrounding this ordinance, groups or individuals who may have concerns about it? Please explain.

While there are critics of sales of works of art that are in a museum's collection, there should be no objections to this sale of paintings authorized and directed by order of the Circuit Court for Carroll County, MD on March 24, 2011, with the support of the City and County of Denver through the City Attorney's Office in order to create an endowment for the Clyfford Still Museum. In addition, the contemplated sale does not violate any of the guidelines established by either the American Association of Museums or the Association of Art Museum Directors.

Bill Request Number: BR11-0584

Date: 8/9/2011