Project Description:

The Transformative Culture Project (TCP) is a non-profit organization located in Boston, Massachusetts, that proposes to use the Civic space to provide a rotating gallery that will exhibit artwork from a variety of genres of art that TCP teaches in its in-school classes. TCP also plans to provide programming for youth-led and curated exhibitions from the greater Boston community. TCP's primary partner, Save the Harbor, will also provide free programming in this space.

Financial Viability and Capability:

TCP plans to launch a capital campaign in partnership with other small nonprofits to create a destination for the black and brown arts and culture community that has limited access to the waterfront. TCP will amplify its annual Bearing Witness event to encourage its donors to increase their donations for a sustainable future. TCP has recently submitted a letter of interest for a capital investment grant to be ahead of its transition to a new location.

Organization Programming and Service Delivery:

TCP programming and highlights from 2022 include Beyond Creative youth producers receiving hands-on training with documentation, journalism, and content creation. Students collectively shot and directed a video project titled "Following Neighborhoods". TCP's teaching artists facilitate Photography, Beat making, Hip Hop, Expressive Arts, and Fashion graphic design classes 5 days a week to middle school and high school students throughout various Boston public schools. Over the summer, TCP's Beyond Creative youth producers created an 11-song music project titled "The Chosen People", allowing students to grow their voice, tell their stories, express themselves, and build confidence.

TCP also partnered with the Peter Tosh Foundation to facilitate a 5-part "Word, Sound & Power" workshop with Beyond Creative youth producers over the summer. Right before winter break, TCP distributed free "Arts2go" bags connecting Boston families and community members with art supplies. TCP also created a series of virtual "Art therapy" classes for its "Virtual Creative Classrooms" visible to the public that focused on creative freedom, self-expression, and using art to release tension and anxiety. TCP's community academy students created a Black History Month video project celebrating Black history month. TCP also created a Black history month poetry video featuring Boston creative voices.

TCP in partnership with other small non-profits and creatives will maintain the space for hours of operation Monday-Friday 10AM-3PM. TCP will also be partnering with 2-3 small nonprofits to activate space usage during evenings and weekends.

Contribution to Community:

TCP has always been very conscious of the community that organization lives in and has had multiple opportunities over the last decade to be a valuable asset to its neighbors. TCP plans to contribute to the LoveJoy Wharf community in the same way by establishing a vibrant and popular year-round destination where art and culture are expressed and enjoyed. TCP plans to create synergies with existing and planned area uses, including Lovejoy Wharf, the Harborwalk, and other water-dependent marine activities and uses with its Save the Harbor partner.

TCP plans to establish a facility and programming to be a neighborhood resource more than an amenity for an office or tourist district. TCP plans to enhance access to and along the water's edge for public recreation and use and enjoyment for Boston's black and brown communities.

Collaboration Opportunities:

TCP will collaborate with Save the Harbor to bring their free STEAM-based curriculum of their Youth Environmental Education program to the Civic Space. Save the Harbor will provide opportunities for school groups to learn about marine life and ocean health while enjoying the beauty of the harbor.

In conclusion, the Transformative Culture Project proposes to use the Civic space to provide a rotating gallery that will exhibit artwork from a variety of genres of art that TCP teaches in its in-school classes. TCP also plans to provide programming for youth-led and curated exhibitions from the greater Boston community.