



CITY OF MANITOWOC

WISCONSIN, USA

www.manitowoc.org

November 11, 2025

To: Members of the Common Council

From: Eric Nycz, City Attorney

Re: Exhibition Agreement for Keith Haring Collected Works

The Rahr-West Art Museum is pleased to report that it has an incredible opportunity to host a Keith Haring Exhibition from December through the end of February. Decisions on these exhibitions have historically been made by the Museum, rather than the Common Council. That is usually the appropriate way to proceed (decisions on exhibitions should be made by museum professionals and/or the Museum Board) as the history of art and politics is fraught with unnecessary conflict. This Exhibition, however, is a little different.

Executive Director Greg Vadney brought it to my attention that the value of the Exhibition, which is \$11,190,500 (see attached Collection with Estimates pdf), exceeds the City's liability policy limit (though not the property insurance limit) and that it would be prudent to receive Council approval prior to accepting the Exhibition.

Therefore, please note that the City's aggregate liability policy limit is \$10,000,000. There is an infinitesimally small chance that something could happen with this Exhibition that would cause the exhaustion of the policy limit. As such, it is my recommendation that the Council approve the Exhibition Agreement and assume the incredibly small risk associated with it.

I will be available to answer any questions you may have at any time prior to and during the COW Meeting on November 17, 2025. Mr. Vadney is available prior to the COW Meeting to answer any questions you may have for him.

Thank you for your consideration.

CITY ATTORNEY ERIC NYCZ

CITY HALL ■ 900 QUAY STREET ■ MANITOWOC, WI 54220
PHONE: (920) 686-6990 ■ EMAIL: CITYATTORNEY@MANITOWOC.ORG