

**CITY OF WEST DES MOINES
PUBLIC ARTS ADVISORY COMMISSION**

AGENDA

**5:30 p.m.
Thursday, March 24, 2022**

**City Hall Council Chambers
4200 Mills Civic Parkway**

**Members of the public wishing to participate telephonically, may do so by calling:
515-207-8241, Enter Conference ID: 907 289 852#**

- 1. Call to Order / Approval of Agenda**
- 2. Citizen Forum**
- 3. Introduction of New Commission Member – Mahesh Mathrubutham**
- 4. Approval of Minutes of February 24, 2022 Meeting**
- 5. Old Business**
- 6. New Business**
 - A. Motion – Approval of Artists and Artwork Locations – 2022 WDMurals
- 7. Committee Reports**
 - A. Events Committee
 - B. Communications Committee
 - C. Exhibition Committee
- 8. Project Work Group Reports**
 - A. Amphitheater Public Art
 - B. Railroad Park Restrooms Public Art
 - C. DART Bus Shelter Public Art
- 9. Staff Reports**
 - A. Arts, Culture & Enrichment Supervisor
 - B. Director of Parks and Recreation
- 10. Other Matters**
- 11. Receive, File and/or Refer**
 - A. Public Arts Advisory Commission Roster
 - B. City Council Communications

The City of West Des Moines is pleased to provide accommodations to disabled individuals or groups and encourages their participation in city government. Should special accommodations be required please contact the City Clerk's office at least 48 hours in advance, at 222-3600 to have accommodations provided.

WEST DES MOINES PUBLIC ARTS ADVISORY COMMISSION PROCEEDINGS
Thursday, February 24, 2022

The regular meeting of the West Des Moines Public Arts Advisory Commission was called to order on Thursday, February 24, at 5:36 p.m. by Chair Phillips

Commission	Jeff Phillips <i>Chair</i>	Brenda Sedlacek <i>Secretary</i>	Amenda Tate	Ryan Crane	Rita Luther <i>Vice Chair</i>
Present	X	X	X via phone	X	X
Commission	Diane Boyd	Josh Duden			
Present	X				

Staff	Sally Ortgies <i>Director of Parks & Recreation</i>	Allison Ullestad <i>Arts, Culture, and Enrichment Supervisor</i>	Miranda Kurtt <i>Administrative Secretary</i>	Marnie Strate <i>Arts, Culture, and Enrichment Coord.</i>	Kevin Trevillyan <i>Council Liaison</i>
Present	X	X	X		X

On Item 1. Approval of Agenda

Sedlacek moved to approve the agenda as presented. Crane seconded. Motion carried, 5 yes.

On Item 2. Citizen Forum

No report.

On Item 3. Approval of Minutes of December 9, 2021, Meeting

Luther moved to approve the minutes as presented. Boyd seconded. Motion carried, 6 yes.

On Item 4. Old Business

No report.

New Business

On Item 5A. Presentation – DART Bus Shelter Art

Matthew Harris, Des Moines Area Regional Transit Authority, provided an overview of the DART Art Shelters Project. There are three locations proposed in West Des Moines: Stagecoach Drive (Walmart), Westtown Parkway and 22nd Street, and Jordan Creek and Vista Drive. DART has provided the specifications including detailed instructions to support art concept development for size, color, visibility, content, and more. DART is requesting a one-time \$2,500 Replacement Fund Contribution per shelter from the Commission. A list of potential artists that have an interest in this type of project has been created. The Commission’s selection committee would invite one or more artists to submit proposals from which a finalist would be selected. The goal would be to have a finalized art concept submitted to DART by September 1, 2022. Luther questioned if plastic was an option instead of glass. Harris stated that it is not a viable replacement. Boyd questioned if there is a possibility that the same artist could be selected by various communities. Harris stated that is a possibility, however, they have a large selection of artists to choose from and hopes to spread out the work. The Exhibition Committee will meet to discuss the process to be used for the project.

On Item 5B. Motion – Approval of Amendment to FY 21-22 Budget – Railroad Park Restroom Public Art

Ralph Haskins, representing the Valley Junction Homeowners Association, and Meredith Wells, President of the Historic Valley Junction Foundation, attended the meeting. Both Haskins and Wells also serve on the Historic West Des Moines Master Plan Steering Committee. Haskins stated the

Association would like the restroom artwork to represent the historic attributes of the area. Discussion by the Historic West Des Moines Master Plan Steering Committee revolved around incorporating stone panel inserts into the brick wall of the building. Based upon this request, an alteration to the original structure design would be needed resulting in a change order to the construction contract. Ortgies stated that the estimated cost for the changes and the artwork is \$50,000. Along with approving the amendment to the budget, Ortgies asked that the layout of the inserts be determined to allow the contractor to prepare a change order. Haskins shared that the Valley Junction Homeowners Association preferred option one. After discussing the various options, the preference of the Commission is option one with a single larger panel on either side of the restroom doors.

Ortgies reminded the group that there could be a significant time lapse from the completion of the restrooms to the installation of the art. The construction change order will include ensuring that the inset areas are weathertight until the artwork can be installed. Trevillyan questioned if there will be signage stating that these areas will contain future artwork. Ortgies stated there would be signage and this could be a great opportunity to get community feedback on art suggestions. The group also discussed that while stone panel inserts may be one idea for artwork, artists may have other proposals, such as tiles or mosaics.

Sedlacek moved to approve the Amendment FY 21-22 Budget – Railroad Park Restroom Public Art as presented. Crane seconded. Motion carried. 6 yes.

Committee Reports

On Item 6A. Events Committee

Ullestad stated that the Committee will need to meet to discuss the Mayor’s Bike Ride being held on Saturday, June 4, and the unveiling of *Frequency*. The Mayor’s Bike Ride route will travel by the WDMurals, located on underpasses. The Committee will need to meet to discuss opportunities for engagement at the mural locations.

On Item 6B. Communications Committee

No report.

On Item 6C. Exhibition Committee

No report.

Project Work Group Reports

On Item 7A. Amphitheater Public Art

Ullestad stated Douwe Blumberg plans to install *Progression* the first week of April.

Staff Reports

On Item 8A. Arts, Culture & Enrichment Supervisor

Ullestad stated that Tim Adams has agreed to allow his piece *Park It* to be used as a temporary display in various city parks throughout the month of July. Maintenance funds are being used for the replacement of light fixtures on the Railroad Avenue Gateway Features.

On Item 8B. Director of Parks and Recreation

Ortgies introduced Tina Tate, Parks and Recreation Secretary.

On Item 9. Other Matters

On Item 10. Receive, File and/or Refer

None.

Boyd moved to adjourn the meeting. Sedlacek seconded. The meeting adjourned at 7:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Miranda Kurtt
Administrative Secretary

ATTEST:

Brenda Sedlacek
Public Arts Advisory Commission Secretary

**CITY OF WEST DES MOINES
PUBLIC ARTS ADVISORY COMMISSION**

DATE: March 24, 2022

ITEM: Motion – Approval of Artists and Artwork Locations – 2022 WDMurals

FINANCIAL IMPACT: Expense of \$14,000 for the artist stipends (\$2,000 per new mural) and \$300 for the Best in Show award for a total of \$14,300. This amount is included in the FY 21-22 public art fund.

SYNOPSIS: The Commission is sponsoring the second, temporary WDMurals exhibit from May of 2022 through March of 2023. The WDMurals Selection Committee meeting was held on Tuesday, March 8, to review and score 37 proposals that were submitted by 21 artists/artist groups from Iowa. For comparison, 12 proposals by 7 artists were submitted for the 2021 WDMurals exhibit.

The selection committee members included: Diane Boyd (Commission member), Ryan Crane (Commission member), Missy Berg (Bicycle Advisory Commission member), David Ball (Citizen), and Tricia Kubicek (Citizen, Artist).

Seven entries were selected to be installed on trail underpass entrance/exit walls. The mural, Wildflower Wonderland, won the 2021 Best in Show Award and will remain in place for the duration of the 2022 WDMurals exhibit. Therefore, four trail underpasses will be the location of 8 (7 new, 1 old) total murals. The committee's recommendations include:

Entry Name	Artist Name	Mural Location
Hello Sunshine	Emily Lawson with Ally Frame	1
We Tried	Ally Frame	2
Blu Skies	Paxton Williams	3
Escape	Brandon Hopper	4
Eternal Spring	Laura Todd	6
Big Impact	Christie Engelbert	7
People You Meet on the Trail	Cat Rocketship	8

The seven proposals are attached for your information. A map of the proposed locations is also included and is part of the recommendation. With the Commission's approval of the artists and locations, staff will prepare the City's standard artist agreement for each artist. The final artist agreements will be included on the City Council meeting agenda for April 25, 2022. The artists will paint their murals May 1-15, 2022.

BACKGROUND: None

OUTSTANDING ISSUES (if any): None

RECOMMENDATION: The Commission approves the recommendation of the 2022 WDMurals selection committee.

Lead Staff Member: Allison Ullestad, Arts, Culture and Enrichment Supervisor

STAFF REVIEWS

Department Director	Sally Ortgies, Director of Parks and Recreation
Agenda Acceptance	Sally Ortgies, Director of Parks and Recreation

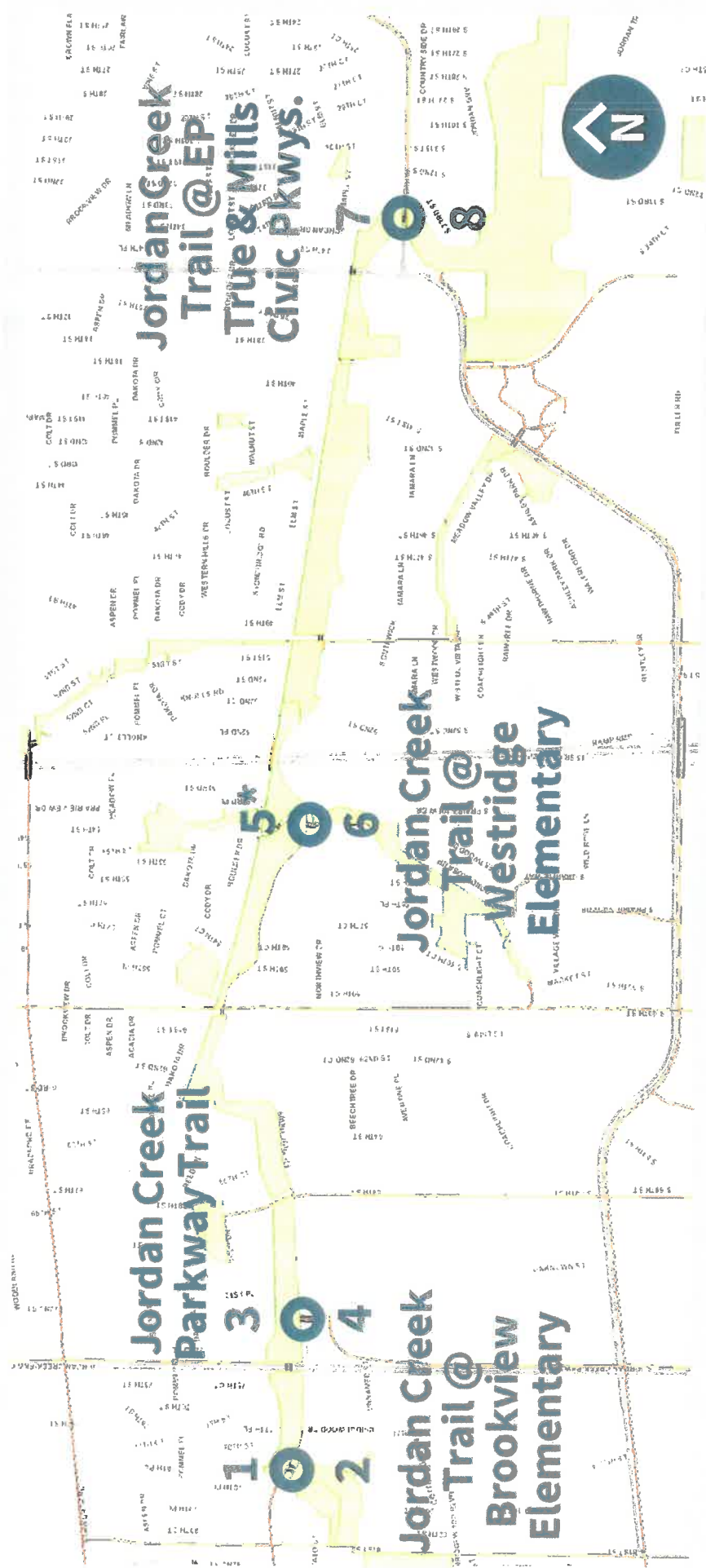
PUBLICATION(S) (if applicable)

Published In	
Dates(s) Published	

SUBCOMMITTEE REVIEW (if applicable)

	WDMurals Selection Committee		
Committee			
Date Reviewed	3/8/21		
Recommendation	YES	NO	SPLIT

2022 WDMurals Exhibit Locations



*2021 Best in Show Award Winner, Wildflower Wonderland, to stay in place

- 1 - Hello Sunshine
- 2 - We Tried
- 3 - Blue Skies
- 4 - Escape

- 5 - Wildflower Wonderland*
- 6 - Eternal Spring
- 7 - Big Impact
- 8 - People You Meet on the Trail

WDMurals 2022 - Location 1

Emily Lawson with Ally Frame

Des Moines, IA

TITLE: Hello Sunshine

DESCRIPTION:

Our mural is a celebration of how West Des Moines trails are used to support mental health in the community.

Mental health is an issue a large majority of the community has struggled with during these difficult times. We know many people have found solace in daily walks, socially distanced walks with loved ones, and time in nature soaking up some vitamin D and beauty.

Using bright, bold colors, and diverse illustrations, our mural sheds light on a topic not only close to our hearts, but the community at large.



WDMurals 2022 - Location 2

Ally Frame

Des Moines, IA

TITLE: We Tried

DESCRIPTION:

Walking the trails is an amazing way to spend time with family and get fresh air. However, not every outing goes as perfectly as planned. Sometimes things just happen like the dog chasing a squirrel and pulling its unsuspecting kid along with it. This mural pays homage to all the families trying their best and aims to find humor in the not-so-instagram worthy moments of life.



WDMurals 2022 - Location 3

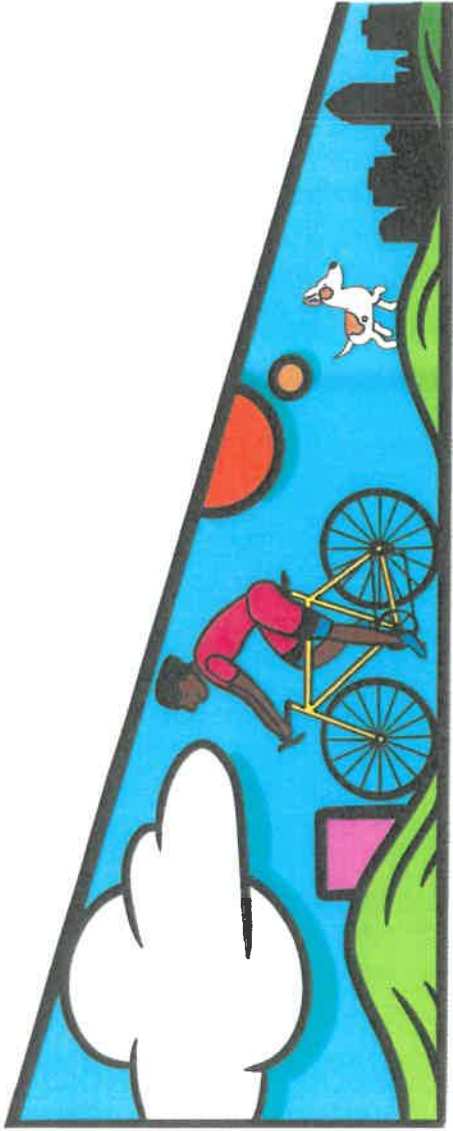
Paxton Williams

Cedar Rapids, IA

TITLE: Blu Skies

DESCRIPTION:

An imaginative abstraction of a lovely spring day



**MDM MURAL PROPOSAL
"BLU SKIES"**



WDMurals 2022 - Location 4

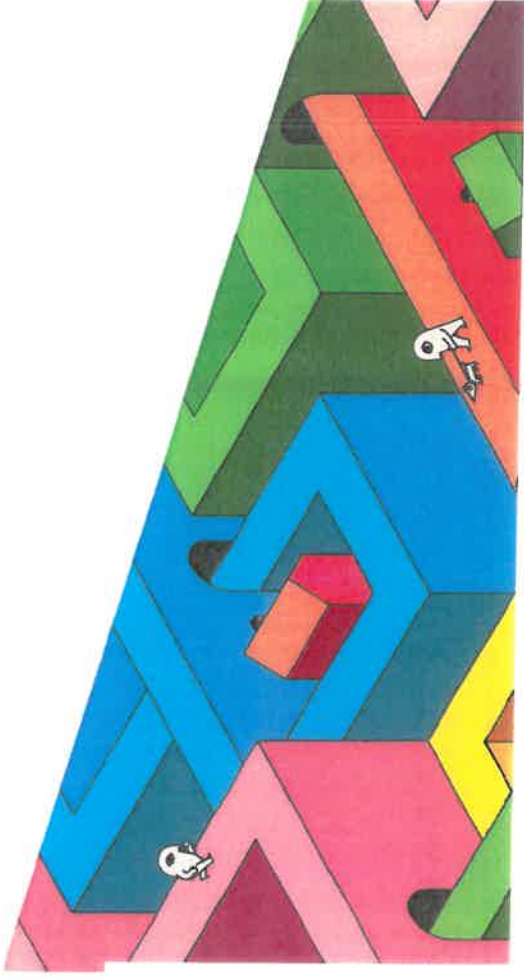
Brandon Hopper

West Des Moines, IA

TITLE: Escape

DESCRIPTION:

The city is interconnected through the trails. They act as a bridge bringing communities together. This piece is an exploration of the modes of transportation and the movement that takes place on the trails. We can all go outside and escape the great indoors.



WDMurals 2022 - Location 6

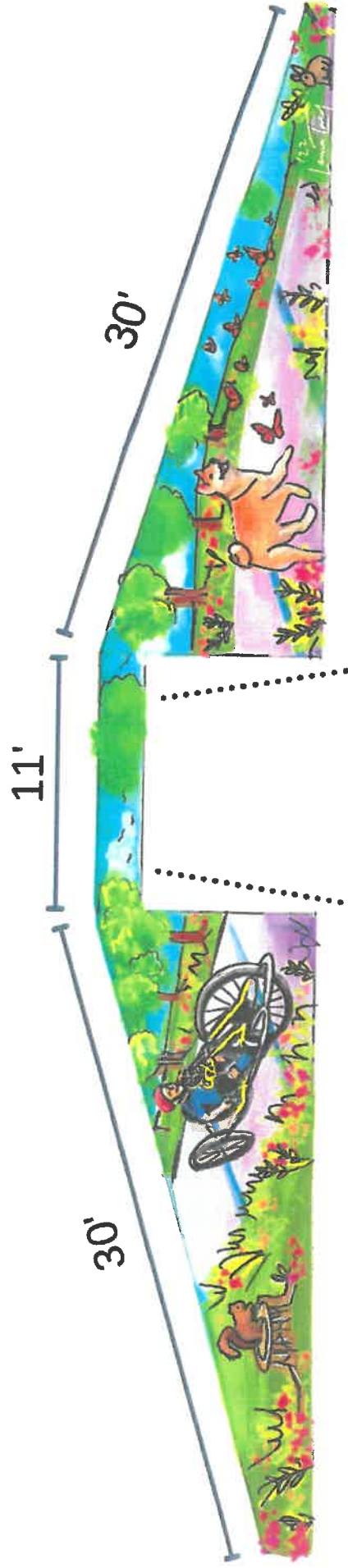
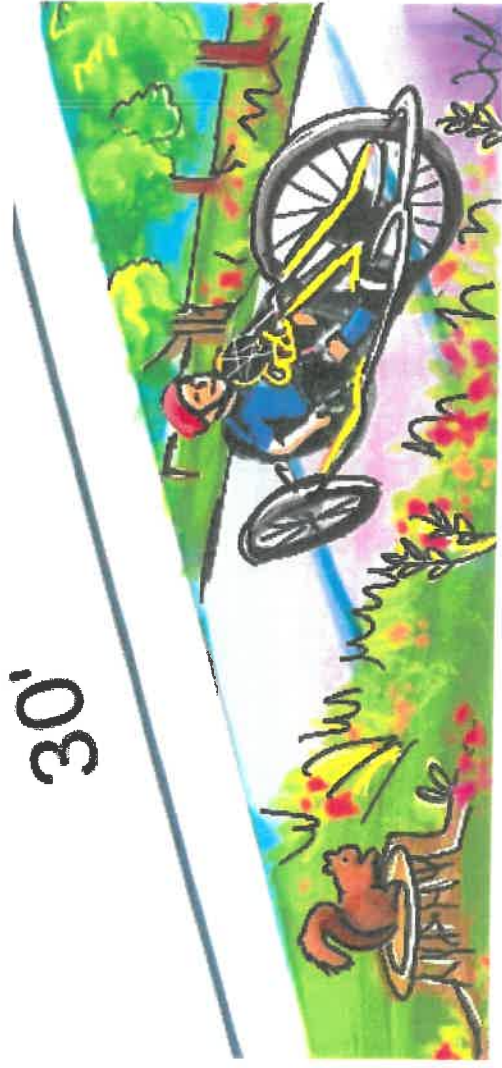
Laura Todd

Des Moines, IA

TITLE: Eternal Spring

DESCRIPTION:

The mural "Eternal Spring" is a visual representation of how uplifting the season is in general for us lowans dealing with months of Winter beforehand. It has refreshing imagery of a few native critters, a puppy chasing butterflies (off his leash, because this mural has a sense of fantasy and this dog stays right on the path with his buddy, the boy on his adaptive bike). There are real opportunities for kids with disabilities to be able to ride and enjoy the trails as much as anyone else so it is important that they be represented in modern artwork in our community.



WDMurals 2022 - Location 7

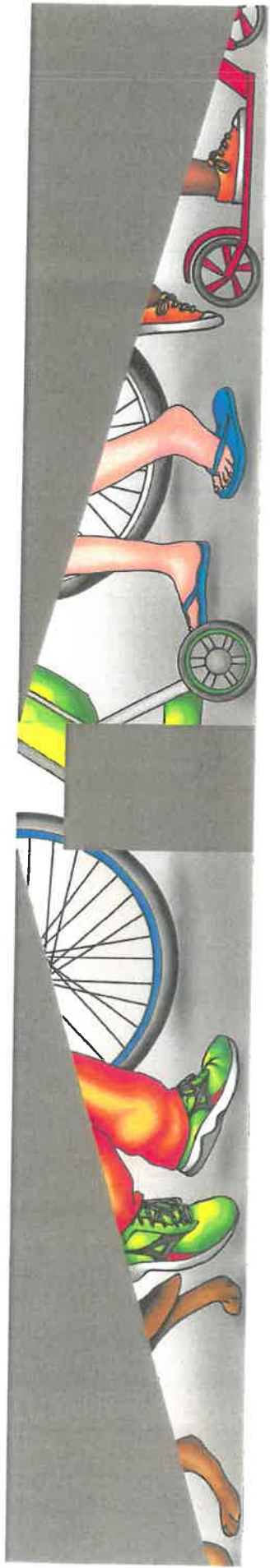
Christie Engelbert

West Des Moines, IA

TITLE: Big Impact

DESCRIPTION:

In the past few years, I have been creating some pieces of art that look at scenes from a different perspective. For this painting, I am taking a lower vantage point perspective by making everything much larger than life. One of my favorite artists is Claes Oldenburg who does the same thing with his sculptures. The bike paths make a big impact on a lot of people's lives and I wanted to show that in this mural. Personally, I have used the WDM bike paths to push my kids in a stroller, it is one of the first places we went when the kids learned to ride their bikes, when they were in elementary school we rode bikes to see their grandmother at a memory care facility, I have walked the bike path with my girlfriends numerous times to exercise and chat. I even for a very short time used the bike paths to try and get into jogging. During the beginning of the pandemic the bike path was a life line to seeing other human beings and feeling safe to be outside. The bike paths make a big impact for many in our community.



WDMurals 2022 - Location 8

Cat Rocketship

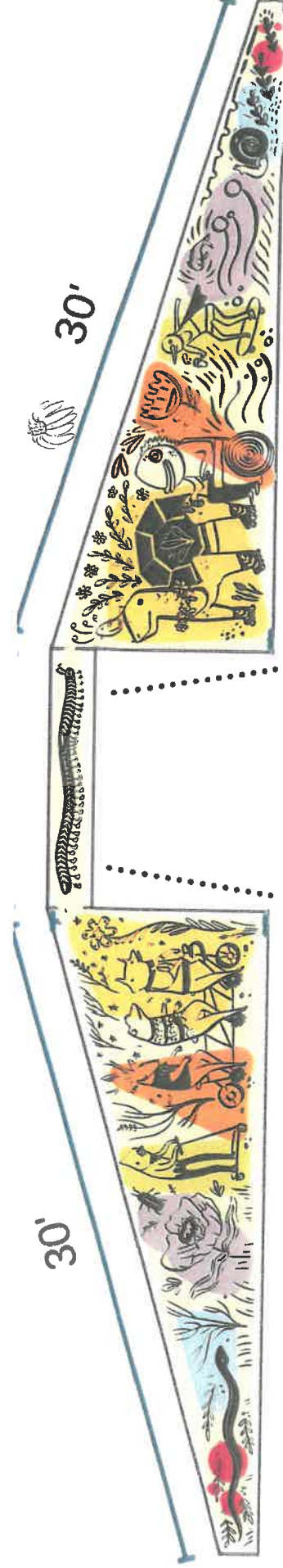
Des Moines, IA

TITLE: People You Meet on the Trail

DESCRIPTION:

This folk art-inspired mural depicts a whole mess of critters. It includes animals you might meet on the West Des Moines: a deer, jay, fish, turtle, fox, frog, and sparrow, plus bugs and a snake. Each of them is running, walking, slithering, crawling, or rolling in a different way, using feet, scooters, bikes, wheelchairs, skateboards, or rollerblades. They are framed by leaves, flowers, and fronds that add delightful texture to the piece. An abstract color scheme provides a bright background to everyone. This mural will add life to the trail, delight self-seekers, and provide an intriguing piece of art for everyone to explore.

This piece will be created with spray paint.



2022 – Public Arts Advisory Commission Roster

Name	Address	Phone	Appointed	Term Expires	Standing Committees	Work Group Appointments	E-Mail
Mahesh Mathrubutham	5850 Fairway Ct. WDM, IA 50266	408-470-0344 (w) 408-470-0344 (h)	3/7/22 (1)	3/31/25	Exhibition	Art on the Campus Selection Committee	mahesh_phd@yahoo.com
Amenda Tate	923 17 th Street WDM, IA 50265	303-887-7484 (c)	4/1/21 (1)	3/31/25	Communications		amendatate@hotmail.com
Diane Boyd	234 57 th Ct. WDM, IA 50266	669-1882 (c) 267-8142 (h)	4/1/11 (3)	3/31/23	Communications	WDM Murals	boyd3diane@gmail.com
Ryan Crane	1400 S. 52 nd St. #62 WDM, IA 50265	515-414-9860 (c)	4/1/15 (2)	3/31/23	Events	Amphitheater Art WDM Murals	ryancrane83@gmail.com
Brenda Sedlacek (Secretary)	1512 S. 42 nd St. WDM, IA 50265	225-0517 (h) 240-9234 (c)	4/1/11 (3)	3/31/23	Events	Art on the Campus Selection Committee	brendasedlacek@icloud.com
Jeff Phillips (Chair)	4439 Wistful Vista WDM, IA 50265	249-7554 (c)	4/1/18 (1)	3/31/22	All, As Needed	Amphitheater Art	Jphillips0177@outlook.com
Rita Luther (Vice Chair)	509 18 th St. WDM, IA 50265	360-4747 (c) 222-2902 (h)	4/1/11 (2)	3/31/22	Exhibition		Jluther70@hotmail.com yhwh17@icloud.com

Key Staff/ City Council Liaison

Name	Title	Phone	E-mail
Sally Ortgies	Director of Parks & Recreation	222-3447 (w) 864-8773 (c)	sally.ortgies@wdm.iowa.gov
Ryan Penning	Superintendent of Recreation	222-3448(w) 208-4139 (c)	ryan.penning@wdm.iowa.gov
Allison Ullestad	Arts, Culture & Enrichment Supervisor	222-3455 (w) 333-7169 (c)	allison.ullestad@wdm.iowa.gov
Marnie Strate	Arts, Culture & Enrichment Coordinator	440-4748 (w) 681-3345 (c)	marnie.strate@wdm.iowa.gov
Tina Tate	Parks & Recreation Secretary	222-3445 (w)	christina.tate@wdm.iowa.gov
Kevin Trevillyan	City Council Liaison	240-8786 (c)	Kevin.trevillyan@wdm.iowa.gov

**CITY OF WEST DES MOINES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING COMMUNICATION**

DATE: March 21, 2022

ITEM: Motion – Approval of Art on the Campus Artist Agreements - 2022 Art on the Campus Exhibit

FINANCIAL IMPACT: Expense of \$24,000 for the artist stipends (\$2,000 per work of art). Funds are available in the FY 21-22 Public Art budget.

BACKGROUND: The Public Arts Advisory Commission is sponsoring the tenth temporary "Art on the Campus" exhibit from April 15, 2022 to November 15, 2022. An "Art on the Campus" selection committee meeting was held on November 11, 2021, to review and score 40 (40) proposals that were submitted by sixteen (16) different artists from Iowa, Illinois, Nebraska, and Missouri. Of the sixteen artists, six were new and ten were returning. The selection committee members were Brenda Sedlacek (Commission member), Josh Duden (Commission member, absent), David Basler (Citizen), Shirley Houghtaling (Citizen), and Liz Stephenson (Citizen). The Public Arts Advisory Commission approved the selection committee's recommendation on December 9, 2021.

Twelve entries were selected to be temporarily installed around the pond on the city campus. The recommendations include:

<u>Entry Name</u>	<u>Artist Name</u>	<u>Entry Name</u>	<u>Artist Name</u>
1 For Otto	Steven Maeck	7 Butterfly Figure	V. Skip Willits
2 Stalk	Matt Moyer*	8 Beautiful Changes	Hilde DeBruyne
3 Splash	Albert Rhea	9 Who Rescued Who	Gail Chavanelle
4 Three Red Houses	Andrew Aravantes	10 Madame Rainne	Bradley Cahill*
5 HomeSpun	Nathan Pierce*	11 Confluence	David Zahn
6 Oxbow	Tim Adams	12 Hydraulic Jump 1	Kristin Garnant

*new artist

A photograph of the artwork is attached to each of the agreements. A map of the locations approved by the Public Arts Advisory Commission is also included.

OUTSTANDING ISSUES: None

RECOMMENDATION: That the Council approve the agreements as recommended by the Public Arts Advisory Commission for the 2022 "Art on the Campus" exhibit.

Lead Staff Member: Allison Ullestad, Arts, Culture, and Enrichment Supervisor

STAFF REVIEWS

Department Director	Sally Ortgies, Director of Parks and Recreation
Appropriations/Finance	Tim Stiles, Finance Director
Legal	Richard Scieszinski, City Attorney
Agenda Acceptance	

PUBLICATION(S) (if applicable)

Published In	N/A
Dates(s) Published	

SUBCOMMITTEE REVIEW (if applicable)

Committee	Public Arts Advisory Commission		
Date Reviewed	12/09/2021		
Recommendation	Yes	No	Split