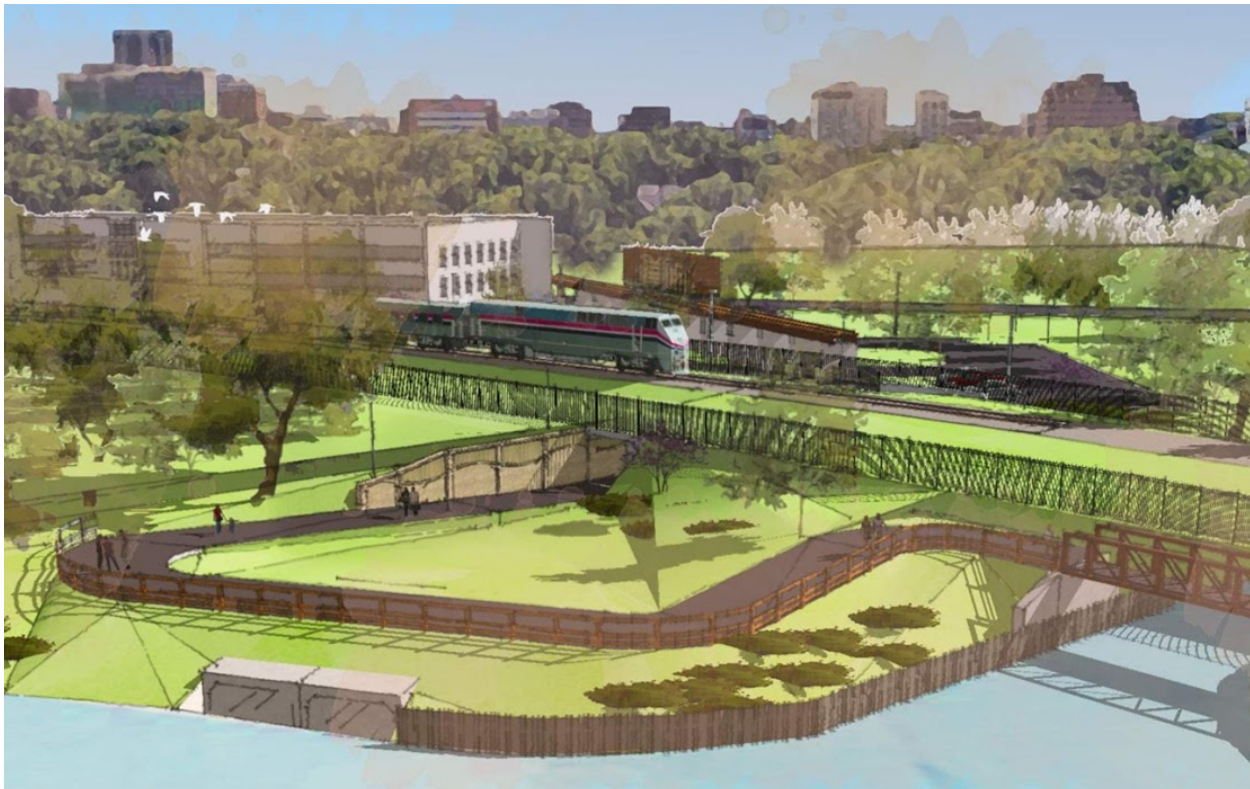


2021 Plan + Goals

Potential Projects & Desirable Goals



The Allen Creek Berm project was created in 2020 with an area designated for Public Art near the entrance/exit of the tunnel that goes under the railroad. Art is anticipated for inclusion in 2021.

Ann Arbor Public Art Commission (AAPAC):

Allison Buck (Chair), Deb Mexicotte (Vice-Chair), Travis Radina (City Council Liaison), Jonah Copi, David Esau, Sarah Fuller, Sophie Grillet, John Kotarski, Peggy Leonard, and Wasentha Young.

Overview

Per [Chapter 24](#) of the [Ann Arbor Ordinance section 1:838 2B](#), “the oversight body shall by February 1 of each year, submit to City Council a plan detailing potential projects and desirable goals to be pursued in the next fiscal year, including enhanced projects and any proposed expenditure of donated, grant, or other funds. The plan shall also include a recommendation as to which projects from the current Capital Improvements Plan are appropriate for designation as enhanced projects” The following is the information

identified above. Each of these working groups work to achieve the tasks set forth Chapter 24 of the [Ann Arbor Ordinance 1:838 \(2\)](#).

Working Groups + Goals/related ordinance

Business Owners + Developers Work Group

David Esau, Sophie Grillet, & John Kotarski

During 2020 this working group was created in order to help facilitate and encourage private developers to include public art within their plans/designs. This was primarily achieved by adding an AAPAC commissioner as a non-voting member of the Design Review board which routinely meets with private developers and consults on their site plans for projects within downtown Ann Arbor.

Specifically, [Ann Arbor Ordinance 1:239](#) added (c) which states: "The Ann Arbor Public Art Commission may appoint 1 of its members to serve as a nonvoting liaison to the Design Review Board for the purpose of providing comments to petitioners regarding the potential for incorporating private artwork into projects under review by the Design Review Board. The Ann Arbor Public Art Commission liaison shall continue to serve until they are no longer members of the Ann Arbor Public Art Commission or until the Ann Arbor Public Art Commission appoints a different member."

In 2021, the Business Owners + Developers work group would like to achieve the following goals:

- A. Formalize the Public Art Idea Book to stimulate imagination and inspire Public Art and Design projects for inclusion with private developments. Include periodic presentations of ideas at Design Review Board meetings.
- B. Develop and add a Public Art & Design section to Design Review Board Guidelines.
- C. Connect with specific developers in town where appropriate and designate liaison from AAPAC to participate in their public art and design projects planning.

- ❖ [1:838 \(F\) Promote awareness of public art;](#)
- ❖ [1:838 \(E\) Foster public/private partnerships to support public art;](#)

Capital Improvement Project Working Group

David Esau, Sarah Fuller, Jonah Copi, & Allison Buck

The attached list of current enhancements that were recommended and approved by City Council previously was created by this working group with support from city staff [attached as "[AAPAC CIP Enhancements 2017-2026 Updated Summary Feb 2020.pdf](#)". This working group updates this list of potential projects annually as new projects are identified.

- ❖ [1:838 \(B \) The plan shall also include a recommendation as to which projects from the current Capital Improvements Plan are appropriate for designation as enhanced projects;](#)

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- ❖ 1:838 (C) Work with city staff to determine which capital improvement projects are appropriate for designation as an enhanced project and what type and amount of public art may be appropriate for such projects;
 - ❖ 1:838 (D) Make recommendations, subject to the approval of the City Administrator, regarding disbursement of public art funds to acquire, produce, install, maintain, alter, relocate or remove public art;

Communications + Art Placement Work Group

Allison Buck, Sarah Fuller, & Debra Mexicotte

This working group was established to promote and communicate about City of Ann Arbor public art projects. In 2020, a full library of the current holdings within the city's collection in the [Public Art Tour](#) and is shared on AAPAC's website. With support from city staff, this working group will look for new ways to celebrate and communicate with the community about the collection.

In 2021, the Communications + Art Placement work group would like to achieve the following goals:

- A. Establish strong connections with the city communication department to identify communication outlets and avenues for using these channels.
- B. Identify any works with missing signage/acknowledgements and create/install signage (ie. manhole covers).
- C. Establish connection to partners who may be able to bolster AAPAC communication efforts such as Destination Ann Arbor.

- ❖ 1:838 (F) Promote awareness of public art;

Fundraising Work Group

Allison Buck & Deb Mexicotte

This working group was established to write grants on behalf of AAPAC and the City of Ann Arbor, work to fundraise private donations, and oversee the funds within the Ann Arbor Art in Public Places Endowed Fund at the Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation(AACF). "This fund was established in 1999 by the City of Ann Arbor Commission on Art in Public Places to encourage public art, particularly in new developments and raise funds for securing works of art. This endowed fund enables the Commission to accept donations for the purchase, installation, maintenance and preservation of public art throughout the city."

In recent months this working group assisted with the receipt of a \$50,000 donation to the Ann Arbor Art in Public Places Endowed Fund and worked with the AACF to increase the allowable uses of the interest earned by this fund moving forward.

City Staff recently consulted with this working group when accepting the donation of a fountain from the University of Michigan. *Hamilton Fountain*, created by Albin Polasek in 1919 was a "gift of Francis Hamilton, mayor of Ann Arbor 1905-07, who bequeathed money to the City of Ann Arbor for a fountain in this location (he died in 1914). The figures in the

bas relief represent Youth, Labor, Poetry and Philosophy. The artist stated that it was his aim to make something 'dignified, with a touch of youthful delight.' The fountain was unveiled at Commencement 1919 and dedicated at the 50th anniversary of Hamilton's graduation from U-M (1869)." This piece was added to AAPAC's collection in 2020 and can be found at the corner of State Street and N. University.

In 2021, the Fundraising work group would like to achieve the following goals:

- A. Establish plan for stewardship of endowment - strategize around using interest earned by endowed funds.
 - B. Identify avenues for community members to donate towards public art projects in addition to the option of donating to the AAACF endowed fund.
 - C. Request addition of line item funding for AAPAC.
 - D. Apply for at least one grant in 2021.
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- ❖ 1:838 (D) Make recommendations, subject to the approval of the City Administrator, regarding disbursement of public art funds to acquire, produce, install, maintain, alter, relocate or remove public art;
 - ❖ 1:838 (E) Raise funds above and beyond the funds for public art that are included as part of an enhanced project, interact with donors of funds or art works on behalf of the city, and foster public/private partnerships to support public art. Mechanisms for fund raising may include but are not limited to crowdfunding, grants, and gifts from corporations, foundations, and individuals;
 - ❖ 1:838 (F) Promote awareness of public art;
 - ❖ 1:838 (I) Provide advice to and assist both potential donors of art and other governmental entities regarding possible public locations for placement of art when such art cannot be placed on any city property or incorporated into a capital project of the city;

Leadership Forum Work Group

Allison Buck, Deb Mexicotte & Peggy Leonard

This working group was established with the intention of cultivating appreciation and support for public art. In 2020 this working group, with the support of the rest of the commission established the desire to create an AAPAC Leadership Forum made up of community leaders, artists, and citizens who are interested in public art and the important role it plays in the cultural and economic life of the community. This group would also serve as both key communicators and advocates to their networks of friends, colleagues, and associates, as well as serving as an advisory board on behalf of our community constituents. This group will also serve as a source of commission candidates for the AAPAC, and may well contribute to membership and participation in other city and civic commissions, boards, and forums.

In 2021, the Leadership Forum work group would like to achieve the following goals:

- A. Redraft list of potential participants and invite via email.
- B. Host "Salon Dinners" via ZOOM to get together in small groups to introduce the role of the AAPAC Leadership Forum and share the breadth of the public art collection with potential participants.

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- ❖ 1:838 (E) Foster public/private partnerships to support public art;
 - ❖ 1:838 (F) Promote awareness of public art;
 - ❖ 1:838 (J) For art proposed under this chapter, seek public input through the city's public engagement process. This process may include, but is not limited to, electronic messages to registered neighborhood associations, public meetings, forums, workshops online or other surveys, and A2 Open City Hall;

Nominations/Leadership Review Work Group

John Kotarski & Jonah Copi

This working group annually reviews the Chair and Vice-Chair of AAPAC by facilitating a survey of the current commission members that establishes feedback on the leadership and makes nominations for leadership moving forward.

Commission Membership Work Group

Allison Buck, John Kotarski, & Debra Mexicotte

This working group recently supported the onboarding of two new commissioners, Sarah Fuller & Wasantha Young. There are currently no openings on the AAPAC but when openings arise, this working group works with the mayor to seamlessly integrate new members.

In 2021, the Commission Membership work group would like to achieve the following goals:

- A. Establish a connection with Performing Arts groups that may have folks interested in becoming commissioners.
- B. Communicate with potential commissioners about the work being done by AAPAC.
- C. Maintain commission of 9 members.

- ❖ 1:838 (F) Promote awareness of public art;

Policy & Governance Work Group

Allison Buck & Debra Mexicotte

This working group recently proposed a change to the Ann Arbor Public Art Commissions Bylaws in order to allow for membership to apply for and participate in public art projects. This change was desired to allow practicing artists to offer their experience expertise as AAPAC members without crippling their ability to continue their professional work. This bylaw change was approved at City Council's November 5th Meeting.

In 2021, the Policy & Governance work group does not have any specific goals identified at this time.

Special Projects Work Group

David Esau, Sophie Grillet, & Wasentha Young

This working group has recently been focused on reviving the Golden Paintbrush Award.

In 2021, the Special Projects work group would like to achieve the following goals:

- A. Promote the Nomination and Selection process for the Golden Paintbrush Award in 2021.
 - a. Identify new annual physical award (i.e. a custom tile from Motawi Tileworks)
- B. Follow up on the previous “People of Ann Arbor” project identified and shared with Mayor Taylor for City Council Chambers to see if there is still interest to implement.

- ❖ 1:838 (E) Foster public/private partnerships to support public art;
- ❖ 1:838 (F) Promote awareness of public art;

Youth Outreach Work Group

Jonah Copi, Travis Radina, & Peggy Leonard

This working group was established to engage youth in the community with the ultimate goal of including youth as non-voting members of the commission. The primary work of this group in 2020 supported the call & selection of the winners for the I Voted Sticker competition which included winners of various ages ranging from Kindergarten and up. Commissioners worked closely with the city clerk's office and engaged with them throughout the process resulting in the selection of three designs which can be seen here: <https://www.a2gov.org/departments/city-clerk/Elections/Pages/Sticker-Design-Contest.aspx>

In 2021, the Youth Outreach work group would like to achieve the following goals:

- A. As requested by the mayor, Support and engage with the City Clerk's office to select a new flag design for the City of Ann Arbor.
- B. Continue to engage with youth in the community in order to add non-voting youth to the commission.
- C. Work with Leadership Forum working group to include youth in their activities.

- ❖ 1:838 (F) Promote awareness of public art;

In Conclusion

It is the intention of the Ann Arbor Public Art Commission to support the city's efforts to maintain, implement, and promote a world-class Public Art Collection by completing the tasks as determined by Chapter 24, which are within the city ordinance and continue to focus on the goals identified above.