

Elevate: Public Art and Placemaking Program

Project Updates



+ THE ANN ARBOR ART CENTER

1 - WAYFINDING: ANN/ASHLEY TO KERRYTOWN FARMERS MARKET

Large-scale wayfinding and placemaking (\$80,000)

Focus:

Connect the Ann/Ashley Parking Structure and Miller Ave Bikeway to the Kerrytown neighborhood and Farmer's Market. Shift from a reliance on text-heavy wayfinding.



Process Timeline

A2AC Drafts
Call to Artists
for Project

Call is Posted

Submission
Deadline

A2AC
Reviews
Submissions

Selection
Committee
Ranks
Submissions

Agreement not
made with top
ranked artist
(Dreemweavers)

Artist contract
pending (Jesse
Kassel) / proposal
developed

Install
*Summer/Fall
2026*



SELECTED ARTIST

Jesse Kassel & Brandon Gaia Marshall

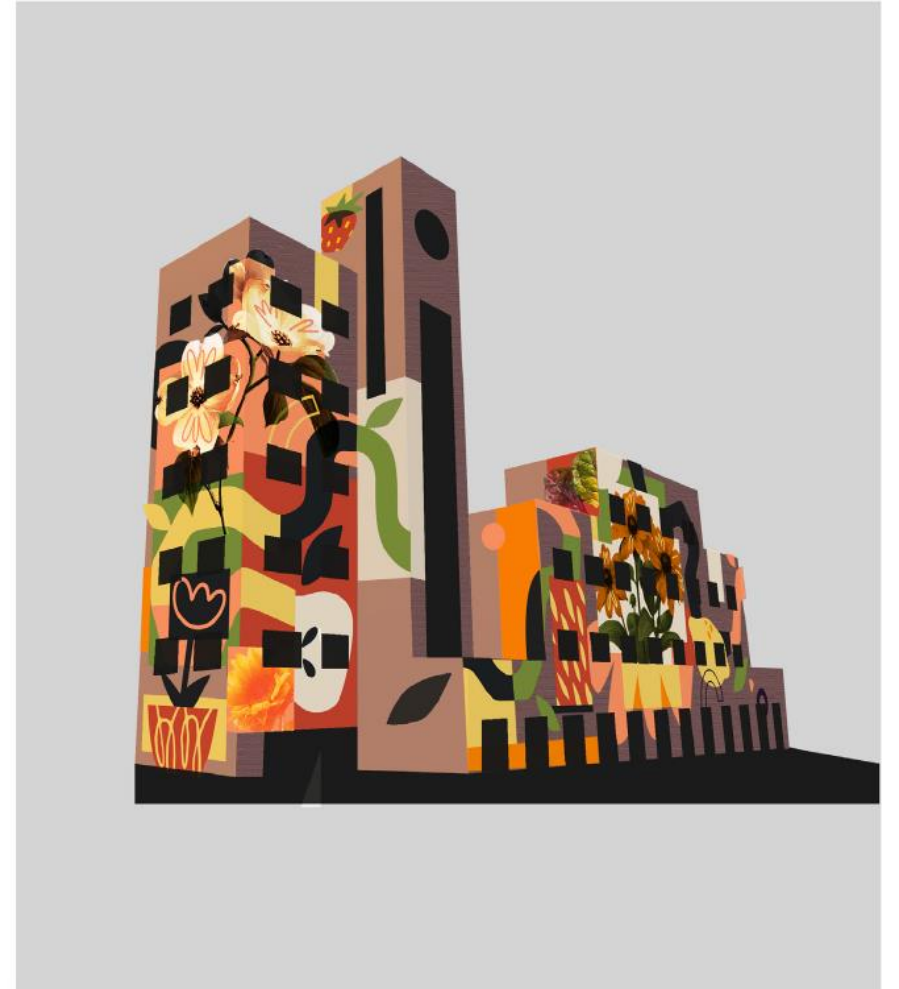
Jesse Kassel, based in Detroit, and Brandon Marshall from Memphis, TN share over 20 of years' experience and over 150 public and private commissions between them. Their design concept combines graphic and photorealistic elements that celebrate and lead people to the Farmers Market from the Ann/Ashley Parking Structure & Miller/Catherine Bikeway.



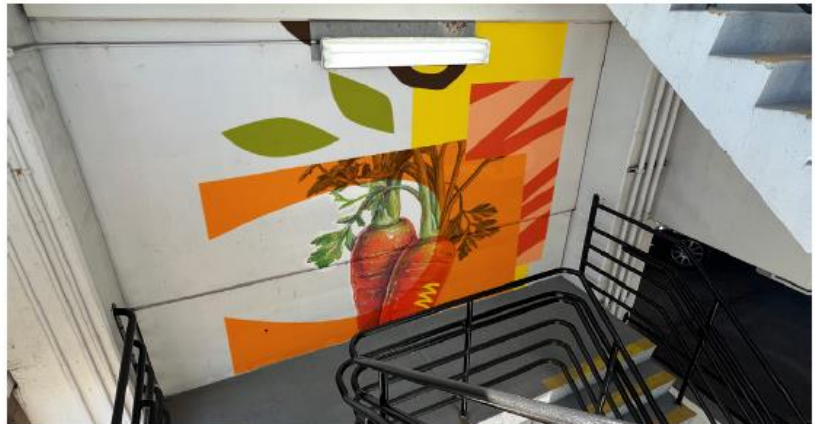
Parking Structure Exterior

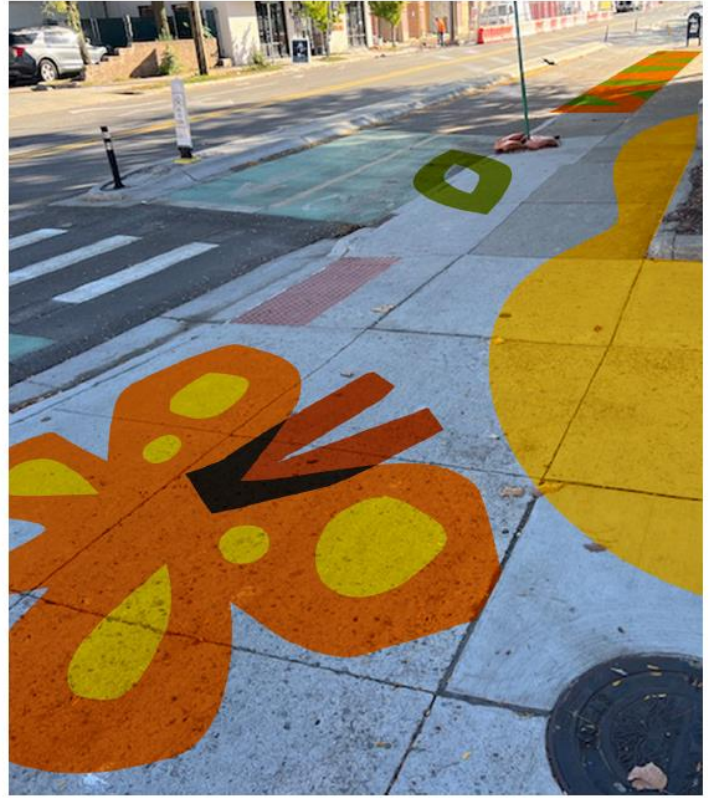


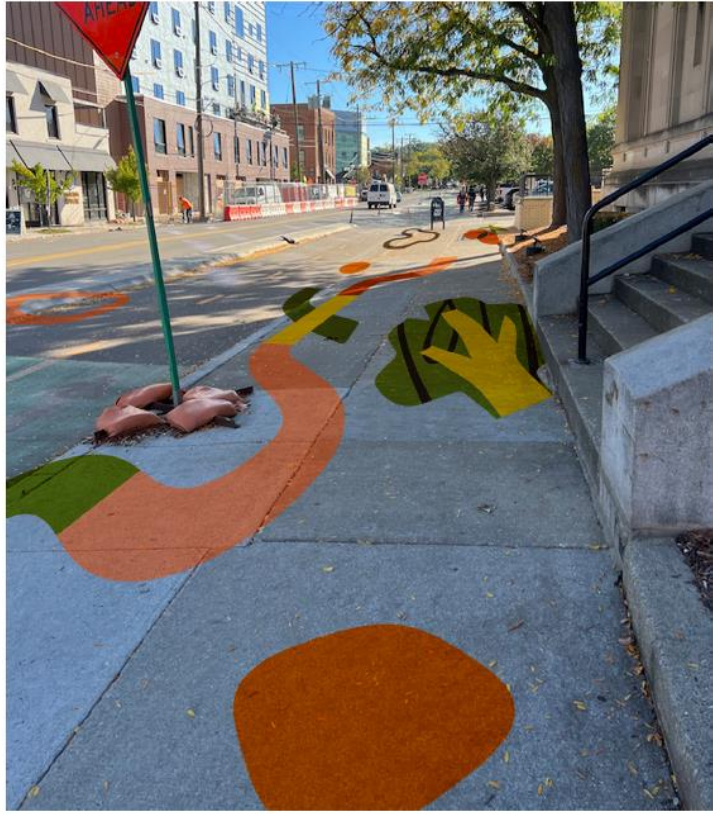
Elevation Sketch



Digital Mock-up









Sidewalk - Destination Mural



WAYFINDING NEXT STEPS

1. Finalize Contract Spring 2026. Waiting on City legal approval.
2. Tentative install Summer 2026.

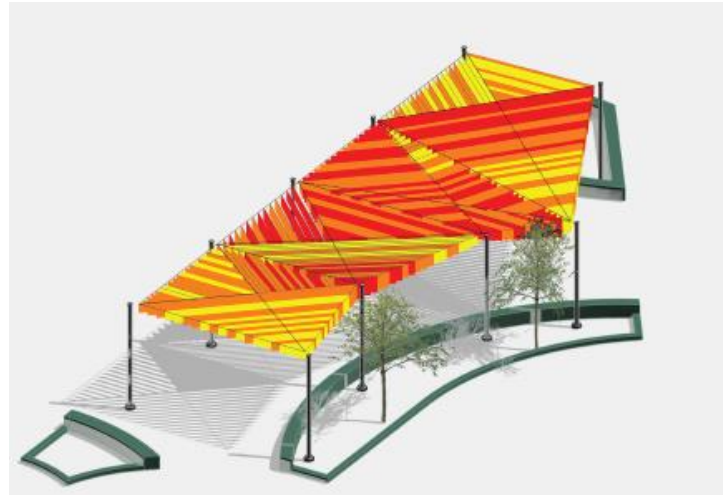
2 - SUNSHADE IN FARMERS MARKET PLAZA

SUNSHADE (\$50,000)

Focus: A functional, yet joyful & creative plaza addition.

Increase plaza shade and comfort & encourage people to spend more time in Kerrytown.

Update: Artist working with structural engineer on final design



Process Timeline

A2AC Drafts
Call to Artists
for Project

Call is Posted

Submission
Deadline

A2AC
Reviews
Submissions

Selection
Committee
Ranks
Submissions

Top 3
Submissions
Advance to
Final Round

1st Choice
Artist Contract
Could Not be
Negotiated

2nd Artist
Contract
Signed

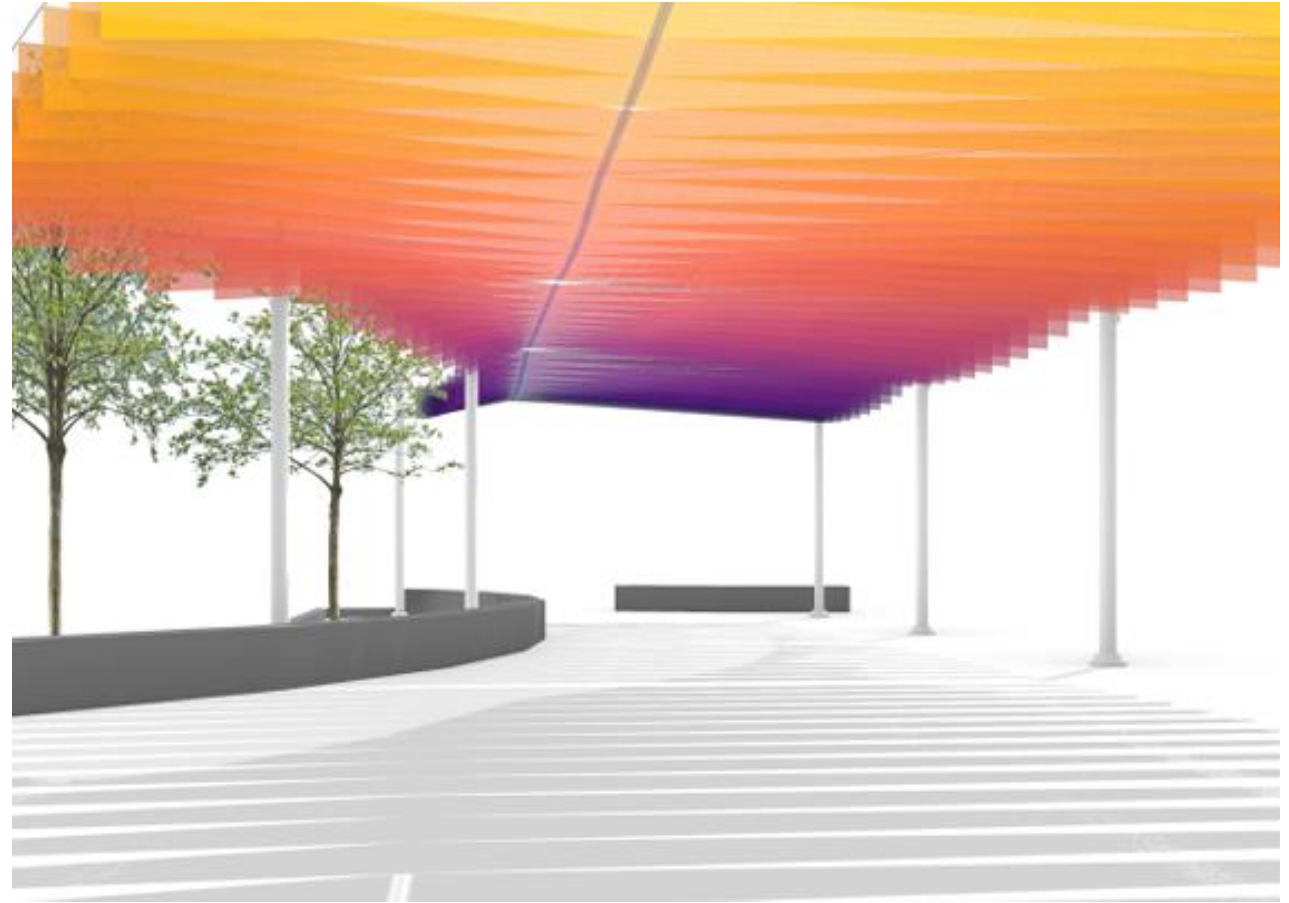
**Project to be
Completed**

Fall 2026

SELECTED ARTIST

TUNG NGUYEN

Tung Nguyen's sunshade design aims to transform the Kerrytown site to a living, breathing fabric of connections, where each element interacts, influences, and enhances the others in an ongoing, delicate balance.



UPDATED DESIGN IN PROGRESS

SHADOW CHOREOGRAPHY | DRAWING INDEX

SHEET	TITLE
A00	TITLE SHEET
A01	SITE PLAN
A02	ELEVATIONS
A03	ELEVATIONS
A04	AXONOMETRIC VIEW
A05	DETAILS
A06	DETAILS
A07	DETAILS
A08	INSTALLATION SEQUENCES
A09	RENDERS
A10	RENDERS
S	STRUCTURAL
S01	STRUCTURAL DETAILS
S02	STRUCTURAL NOTES

OWNERS

City of Ann Arbor
 301 E. Huron St., Ann Arbor, MI 48104
 Ann Arbor Downtown
 Development Authority
 150 South Fifth Ave., Suite 301, Ann Arbor, MI 48104,

ARTIST

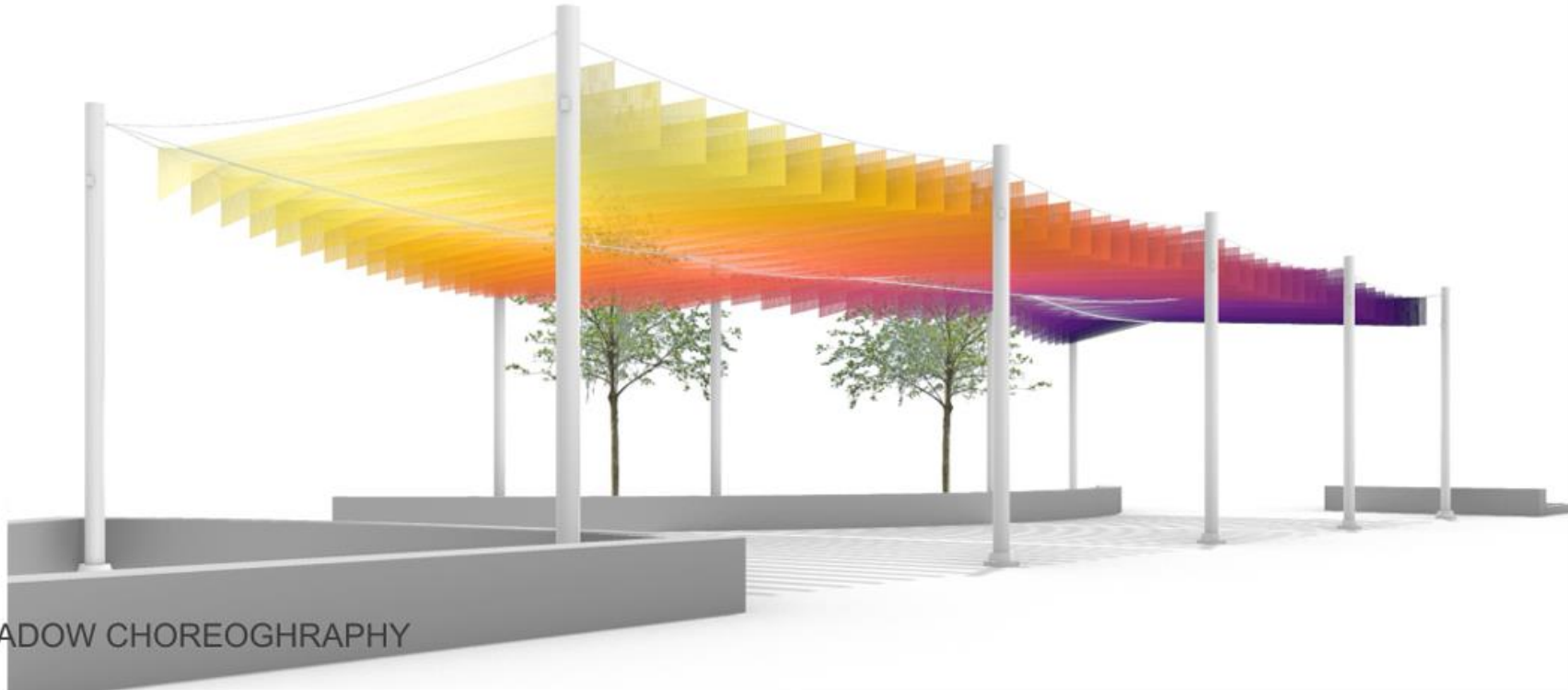
TUNG NGUYEN
 TDN LLC
 2400 W Dallas St, Houston TX, 77019
 PH: 713.516.0107
 email: studio2406@gmail.com

DD & CMa

TDN LLC
 Houston TX, 77019
 PH: 713.516.0107
 email: studio2406@gmail.com

CONSULTANTS

STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING
 Paul Laroque, PE
 Principal
 PH: (817) 264 6546
 laroquepaul@gmail.com



SHADOW CHOREOGRAPHY

NO.	ISSUE	DATE
1	FOR REVIEW	1/14/2024
2	FOR FABRICATION	

SHADOW CHOREOGRAPHY
 Ann Arbor Farmers Market, 315 Detroit St, Ann Arbor, MI 48104

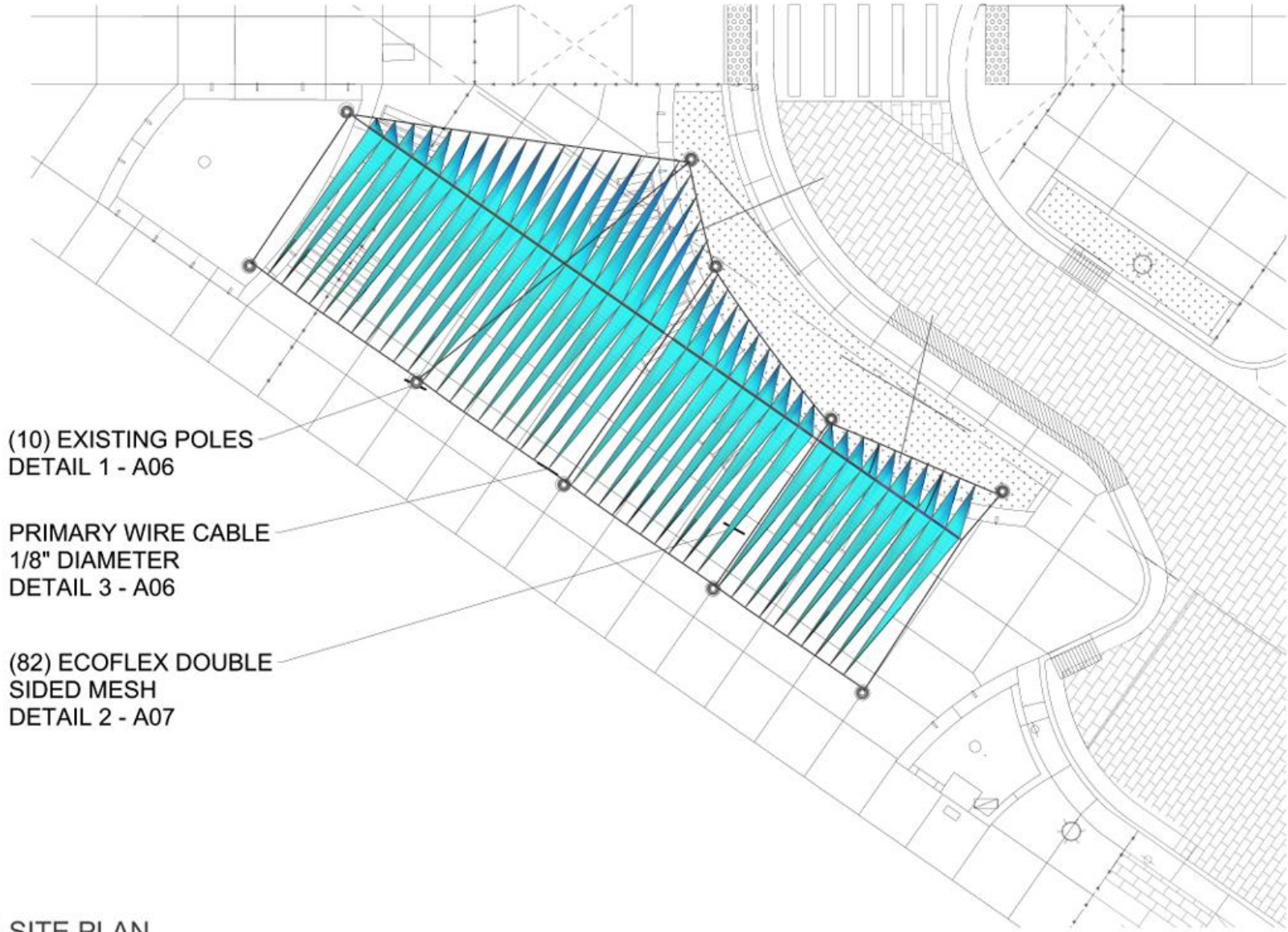
TUNG DINH NGUYEN LLC
 Houston, Texas 77019 713.516.0107 studio2406@gmail.com

A00

TITLE SHEET
 SCALE AS NOTED

FOR REVIEW

A00



(10) EXISTING POLES
DETAIL 1 - A06

PRIMARY WIRE CABLE
1/8" DIAMETER
DETAIL 3 - A06

(82) ECOFLEX DOUBLE
SIDED MESH
DETAIL 2 - A07

1 SITE PLAN
SCALE 1' = 1/8"

NO. ISSUE	1 FOR REVIEW	DATE
	2 FOR FABRICATION	February 2024
SHADOW CHOREOGRAPHY Ann Arbor Farmers Market, 315 Detroit St, Ann Arbor, MI 48104		TUNG DINH NGUYEN LLC Houston, Texas 77019 713.518.0707 studio@tdnguyen.com
A01		
SITE PLAN	SCALE AS NOTED	FOR REVIEW
A01		

KERRYTOWN SUNSHADE NEXT STEPS

1. In Structural Design Phase. If feasible, will proceed.
2. Tentative summer 2026

3 – ELEVATING HISTORY: A MURAL SERIES FROM THE LIVING ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

Large Mural Series (\$150,000)

Focus: To honor the area's history as a vibrant center for Ann Arbor's Black community, businesses, families, and civic leaders.

Update: Will review finalist proposals with A2AC, AACHM, AADL, and two west side residents.

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Selection
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Selects
Artists

Artist
Contracts
Signed

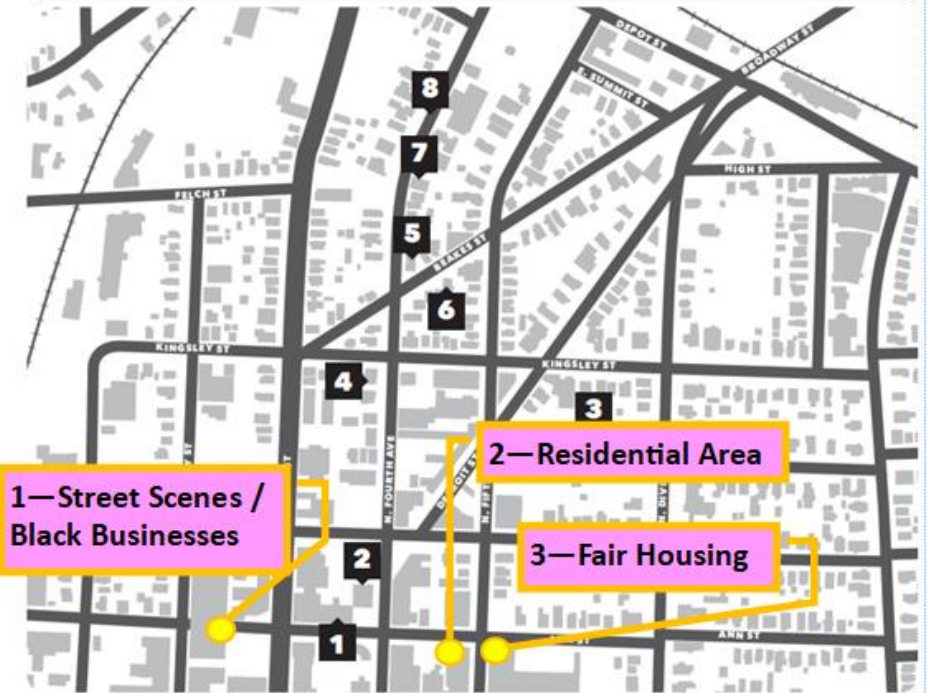
**Project to be
Completed**

Fall 2027

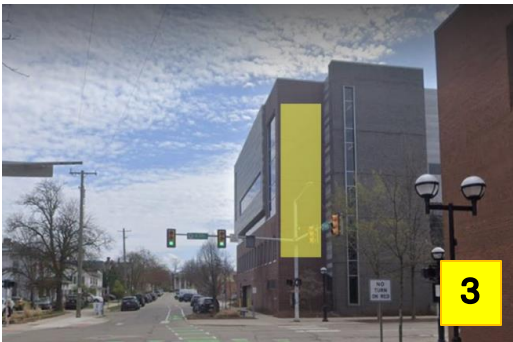
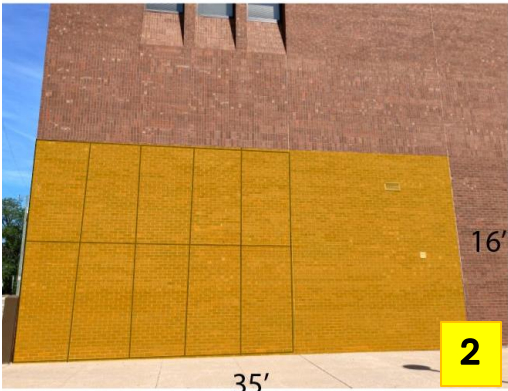
LIVING ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

Walking tour of an historically Black neighborhood in Ann Arbor

PRESENTED IN PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE AFRICAN AMERICAN CULTURAL & HISTORICAL MUSEUM OF WASHTENAW COUNTY AND THE ANN ARBOR DISTRICT LIBRARY



MURAL LOCATIONS AND THEMES

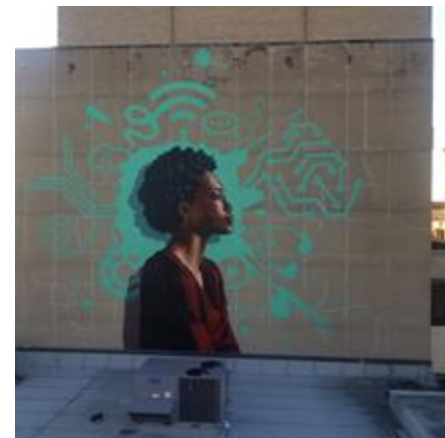


Themes include:

- 1 – Street Scenes / Black Businesses
- 2 – Residential Area
- 3 – Fair Housing

Responses to the Call for Art

- 212 artists responded to the call for qualifications
- 11 are advancing to the proposal round



TOP FIVE SELECTED ARTISTS



Darius Dennis

Chicago, IL

<https://bigwallsigns.com>



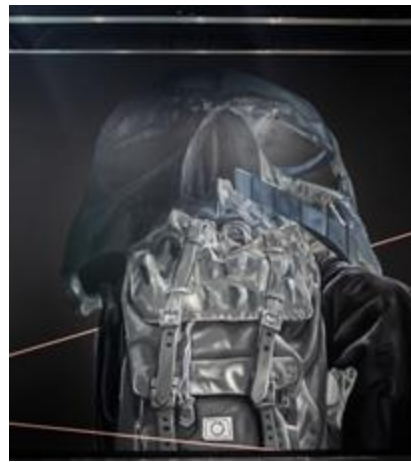


Ijania Cortez

Detroit, MI

<http://www.ijania.com/>





Bakpak Durden

Detroit, MI

<https://Bakpakdurdan.com>





Tierra Armstrong

Miami, FL

No website





Hubert Massey

Detroit, MI

<https://hubertmasseymurals.net>





Robert Gibbs

Mattapan, MA

<https://www.problak.com/>





LaToya Peoples

Baltimore, MD

<https://www.LatoyaPeoples.com>



ELEVATING HISTORY NEXT STEPS

1. Finalist proposals due in April (11 artists / 13 proposals)
 - a. Final selection & contract spring/summer 2026
2. Ann/Ashley Parking Structure install fall 2026 or spring 2027
3. Fire Station and City Hall install spring/summer 2027

Thank you.



Greta McLain Weighted score 7, #of locations selected 9

Minneapolis, MN

<http://goodspacemurals.com>

Artist is interested in the following locations:

Street Scene

Residential

Civic





Michael Rice Weighted score 7, #of locations selected 5

Hartford, CT

<https://www.michaelriceart.com/>

Artist is interested in the following locations:

- Street Scene
- Residential
- Civic





Rafael Blanco Weighted score 5, #of locations selected 3

San Antonio, TX

<https://www.rafael-blanco.com/>

Artist is interested in the following locations:

Street Scene

Civic





Nicole Macdonald Weighted score 4, #of locations selected 5

Detroit, MI

<https://ncolemacdonald.com/>

Artist is interested in the following locations:

Street Scene

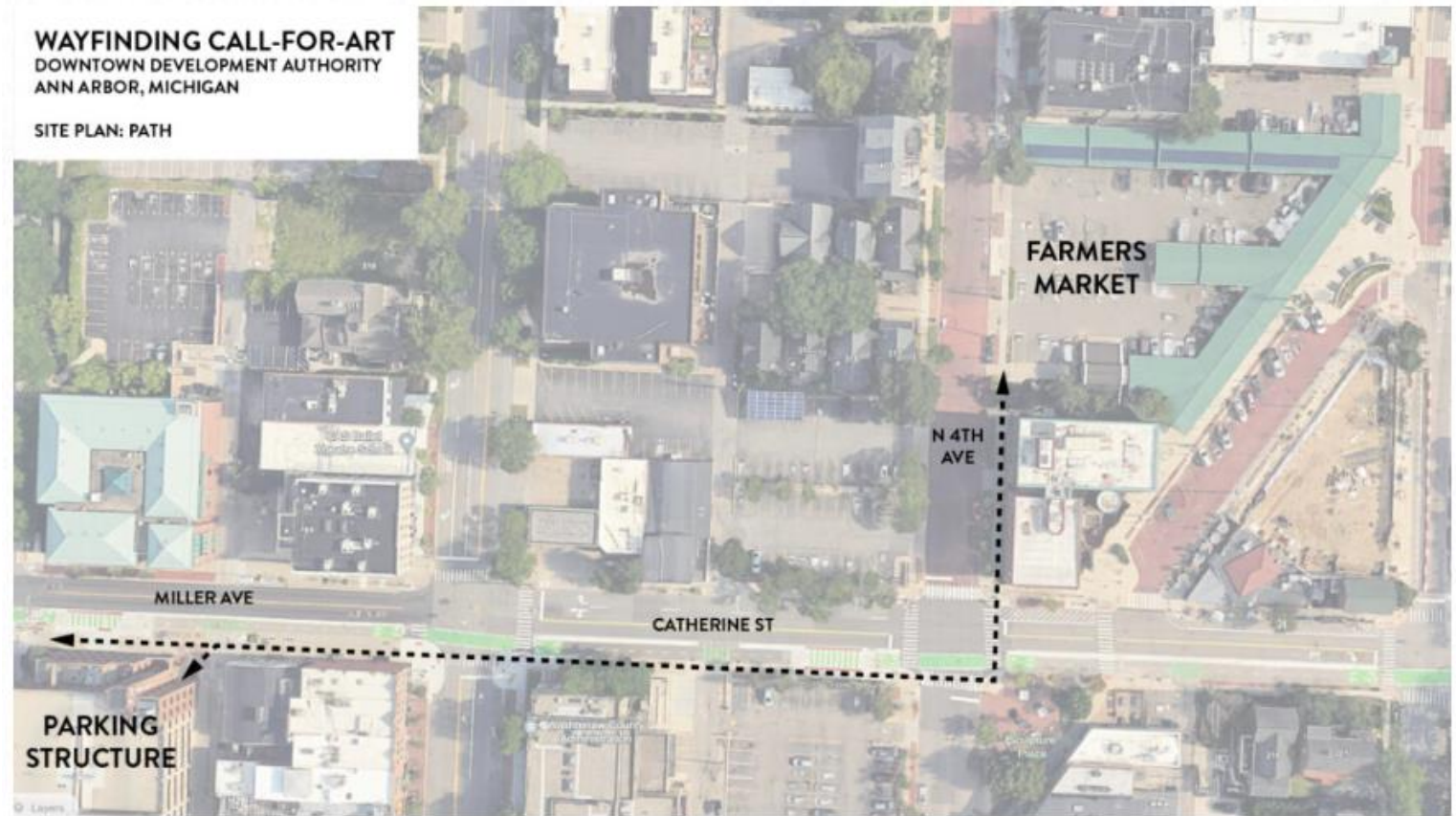
Residential

Civic



WAYFINDING CALL FOR ART

- **Posted on CaFÉ**
 - National call
 - September 7 – October 20, 2024 / 31 Days
 - Hosted on the Ann Arbor Art Center website & shared through their social media channels
- **124 submissions received**
- **10 proposals advanced to selection committee for ranking**



WAYFINDING SELECTION PROCESS

Selection Committee included representatives from the following:

- Farmer's Market
- Office of Organizational Equity
- City Public Services
- Kerrytown District Association
- Public Arts Commission
- Housing Commission
- Community High School
 - 2 students
- DDA

Project Criteria for Ranking

- Unique and creative art as wayfinding
- Emphasis on interaction, playfulness, and fun
- Visually connects pedestrians and cyclists to the Market and Kerrytown with a strong visual presence on the parking structure and along the full path
- Responsiveness to feedback and questions from round one
- Experience & ability to implement
- Feasibility and durability/maintenance

SUNSHADE SELECTION PROCESS

Jury Feedback to select the final proposal anticipated February 2025

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