

April 9, 2025

To: Ann Arbor City Council

From: Ann Arbor Public Art Commission

Re: Public Art Enhancement Recommendations for FY2026-2031 CIP

Per Chapter 24 of the City Code, one of the primary responsibilities of the Ann Arbor Public Art Commission is to make recommendations to the City Council for capital investment projects which may be suitable for enhancement with public art. After discussions with City staff, to whom we offer thanks for their time and input, we present the following list for your consideration.

Once this report is formally accepted by the City Council, the acceptance will provide staff with authority to include the art enhancement in the project budget as it moves forward toward design and construction. As such, we strongly encourage your acceptance of this report. There are, of course, numerous other opportunities to refine the project budgets including the enhancement amounts as projects move toward reality.

We fully understand that this list is based on very limited information in the current Capital Improvements Plan. Some of the projects will not move ahead; others will end up with funding sources with which enhancement is not possible. That said, all of the following seem, based on what we know now, to be appropriate for enhancement. Where we have thoughts on an appropriate enhancement we have included that with each item. The suggested enhancement budgets wherever possible is recommended at about 1% of the project budget without enhancement following previous protocols and successful projects.

After review of the new CIP with staff, we have the following recommendations for upcoming new projects:

- TR-SB-16-16 -- Ann (First St to Fifth) Resurfacing - site previously reviewed for a street mural celebrating black-owned businesses and community that presided here for most of the 20th century. Previous requests had been for Black Lives Matter mural, but the commission is open to any public art pieces that are representative or recognize the history of the area.
- TR-AT-26-15 – S. State at Southern Athletic Campus Crosswalk – may recommend that U-M fund* an art enhancement for this crosswalk. We understand that crosswalks have been off-limits in the past, but we'd like to see city staff and council reconsider these concerns based on recent research and case studies that show art in crosswalks actually reduces speeds and increases safety. More information can be found here:
<https://asphaltart.bloomberg.org/guide/>

- TR-AT-26-16 – Packard (Stadium to Stone School) Non-Motorized Improvements and Speed Management - various opportunities for public art here including pedestrian island, crosswalk, and others.
- OI-26-08 – Madison Transit Center -- may recommend that U-M fund* an art enhancement - Transit centers have for many years been a common place for public art. Opportunity for mural, sculpture, light display, and numerous other types of public art projects to enhance the transit users experience.

Examples:

- Chicago: <https://www.transitchicago.com/art/>
- <https://www.azuremagazine.com/article/three-dynamic-art-installations-animating-city-transit-stations/>
- <https://www.metrotransit.org/public-art-in-transit>
<https://www.annarborartcenter.org/exhibitions/intransit/> (not current, but apparently the Art Center tried to do something with Toyota and The Ride in the past. There is a precedent in our City).

**The Art Commission requests that City Council direct the City Administrator to engage with the U-M in a discussion of art opportunities in coordination with U-M funded projects.*

For reference, included here are the previously recommended and approved projects and their current status:

CIP Number	Project	Council Approval	Current Schedule	Current Estimated Total Project Budget	Requested Art Budget	Status or Comments
TR-SB-06-05	Detroit Street Brick Rd Pavement Reconstruction	Prior to 4/17/2017 report	Beyond CIP window	\$1,756,000	\$50,000	Delayed due to limited street millage funding
MF-SW-06-03	Drop-off Station	Prior to 4/17/2017 report	FY26	\$9,675,000	\$55,000	
MF-CB-18-03	Fire Station 3 Replacement (renamed from New Station A)	4/17/2017	FY30-31	\$14,000,000	\$43,000	Moved back past Fire Station 4
MF-CB-18-05	Fire Station 4 Replacement (renamed from New Fire Station B)	4/17/2017	FY26-27	\$14,000,000	\$27,000	

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MF-PR-10-01	Playgrounds and Neighborhood Parks	4/17/2017	Annual	\$200,000/year	\$5,000	
TR-AP-99-11	Terminal Expansion	4/17/2017	FY31	\$776,000	\$20,000	
UT-WS-16-17	WTP: Plant 1 Replacement	4/17/2017	FY18-32	\$142,000,000	\$150,000	
TR-SB-18-02	Springwater Phase IV Road Reconstruction	4/17/2017	FY29-30	\$2,501,000	\$9,980	Art Commission request for art in this neighborhood in assoc with this suite of projects. Includes water projects (UT-WS-18-36, UT-WS-18-58) and stormwater projects (UT-ST-18-20, UT-ST-18-13)
TR-SB-18-19	Springwater Phase V Road Reconstruction	4/17/2017	FY30-31	\$2,200,000	\$13,200	
TR-SB-20-14	Nixon (Huron Pkwy to S of Bluett) Phase 1 and 2 Road Improvements	2/5/2018	FY26-FY27	\$11,079,000	\$55,200	Combined phase 1 & 2, rolled art budget together
TR-SB-20-16	Nixon (Dhu Varren to S of M-14) Phase 3 Road Improvements	2/5/2018	Beyond CIP window	\$2,700,000	\$20,000	Will be considered Fall 25 for re-scoping to a much lower \$ project to allow sooner construction. May reconsider art at that time
TR-SB-20-17	State St (I-94 WB Ramps to Oakbrook) Road Improvements	FY2018-2019 Report	Beyond CIP window	17,400,000	\$160,000	Split \$250,000 request proportionately

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TR-SB-20-18	State St (Interchange at I-94 Bridge and Ramp) Reconstruction	FY2018-2019 Report	Beyond CIP window	11,529,000	\$90,000	between the two phases requested
MF-CB-22-01	Housing Commission: 350 S 5th	2022	FY22-FY29	\$188,159,000	\$50,000	
MF-CB-22-02	Housing Commission: 121 E Catherine	2022	FY22-FY26	\$33,706,000	\$50,000	
MF-CB-22-03	Housing Commission: 353 S Main	2022	FY26-FY30	\$28,193,000	\$50,000	
MF-CB-22-05	Housing Commission: 404 N Ashley	2022	FY26-FY30	\$31,709,000	\$50,000	
MF-CB-22-07	Housing Commission: 1510 E Stadium	2022	FY26-FY28	\$6,143,000	\$50,000	
MF-CB-22-09	Housing Commission: 2000 S. Industrial	2022	FY26-FY31	\$29,819,000	\$50,000	
MF-CB-22-11	Housing Commission: 123 Summit	2022	FY26-FY28	\$3,056,000	\$50,000	
MF-CB-22-10	Housing Commission: Springbrook and Platt	2022	FY28-FY29	\$3,600,000	\$50,000	
MF-PR-10-15	Spray Park	2022	FY28-29	\$800,000	\$10,000	
TR-AT-14-08	Border to Border Trail: Bandemer to Barton Connection	2022	FY22-FY26	\$5,820,000	\$40,000	
MF-CB-22-08	Fire Station 5 Replacement	2022	FY29-30	\$14,000,000	\$55,000	
MF-PR-08-07	Game Court Renovations	2022	Annual	\$100,00/year	\$4,000	
OI-26-07	Downtown Alley Improvements	2022	FY25	\$700,000	\$7,000	Formerly TR-SC-20-01
UT-ST-14-24	Briarwood Mall Ponds	2022	FY25-26	\$950,000	\$7,000	

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MF-PR-22-01	Gallup Park Pedestrian and Vehicle Bridge Replacement	2022	FY23-25	\$4,315,000	\$30,000	2/10/25 Update: just finished the artist selection process and the artist contract is currently being reviewed by legal. expecting sculpture installed this summer. This was Parks' first large public art process and took longer than expected, so it wasn't completed on the same timeline as the bridge.
MF-CB-24-01	City Clerk Election Center	2023	FY25-26	\$2,110,000	\$10,000	
MF-CB-24-09	Downtown Public Restroom Assessment & Capital Support	2023	FY26	\$380,000	N/A	
MF-PR-24-03	Gallup Park Road, Border-to-Border Trail and Parking Improvements	2023	FY28-29	\$7,000,000	\$70,000	
MF-PR-24-04	West Park Band Shell	2023	FY25-26	\$2,200,000	\$20,000	
MF-PR-24-05	Allmendinger Sidewalk	2023	FY30	\$570,000	\$5,000	
MF-PR-24-06	Riverwood Sidewalk	2023	FY29	\$372,000	\$3,000	
TR-SC-24-03	Dhu Varren and	2023	FY27-28	\$3,591,000	\$13,000	

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	Pontiac Trail Roundabout					
TR-SC-24-04	Moore/Pontiac Trail/Longshore Roundabout	2023	FY28-29	\$2,755,000	\$16,000	will be delayed to FY30-31 construction in next CIP update. Project did not receive grant award
Projects Currently On Hold						
TR-AT-01-07	Arboretum/Gallup Underpass	Prior to 4/17/2017 report	On Hold		\$150,000	Pending cost-sharing commitments from U-M and MDOT
TR-OT-18-08	Huron East (Division to State) Streetscape	4/17/2017	On Hold		\$15,000	Fall 22: placed on-hold; Lack of funding. To be revisited after State Trunkline Study.
TR-SC-08-01	Fuller Rd/Maiden Ln/East Medical Center Dr Area Rd. Design	4/17/2017	On Hold		\$100,000	Not realistic within the upcoming 6-year CIP cycle due to funding limitations and other project priorities
TR-AT-18-22	Border to Bordert Trail: Fuller/Maiden Ln	4/17/2017	On Hold		\$50,000	Not likely to happen in the next 6 years due to funding limitations and

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