

February 1, 2021

To: Ann Arbor City Council

From: Ann Arbor Public Art Commission

Re: Public Art Enhancement Recommendations for FY2022-FY2027 Capital Improvement Projects

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

Our understanding is that once this report is formally accepted by 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. For some projects, it will be determined once we know more about the scope that there is no place for art, or that it would not be widely enough seen to make sense for funding. 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, and/or a possible budget for the enhancement, we have included that with each item. Budgets are in most cases based on about 1% of the project budget without enhancement unless we felt a smaller amount was sufficient for the project, or a larger amount was needed to provide a reasonable enhancement.

After review of new CIP with staff for FY 2022-2027, we have the following recommendations for upcoming new projects:

MF-CB-22-02, MF-CB-22-11, MF-CB-22-07, MF-CB-22-09, MF-CB-22-04, MF-CB-22-01, MF-CB-22-03, MF-CB-22-05, MF-CB-22-12, MF-CB-22-10: These are new Housing Commission projects, generally on City-owned land, and potentially funded in part with city funds including the recently-passed affordable housing millage. Art could potentially be a point of pride for the residents, as well as an opportunity to encourage interaction between residents and those interested in public art. We recommend each project for an enhancement budget of \$50,000 to cover the artwork and selection process. Depending on timing, some projects may be able to run concurrent selection processes which could save significant funds especially for some of the smaller projects.

We have reached out to Jennifer Hall of the Housing Commission about making these recommendations, but have not been able to connect yet. Some projects may be less suitable, and could be omitted as we get more information.

MF-PR-10-15, Fuller Pool Spray Park. This is a modest but very publicly visible project. We recommend an enhancement budget of \$10,000 for this project.

TR-AT-14-08, Border to Border Trail, Bandemer to Barton Connection: Depending on what fits with the trail designs, this could be a series of smaller artworks, or a single piece to highlight a particular point along the trail. We recommend an enhancement budget of \$40,000 for this project.

UT-WS-18-31, WTP, Architectural and Structural Improvements Phase 3: This is an ongoing, modestly sized project, but includes upgrades to areas that are visible to tour groups. We understand there is an interest particularly in an artwork in a stairwell used by the groups to enhance a blank concrete block wall, and we believe funding may be available on the order of \$25,000.

Respectfully submitted by AAPAC for the CIP work group: David Esau, Chair; Sarah Fuller; and Allison Buck.