

## **Art at Argo Public Engagement Process - Draft**

1. Prior to the artists' first visits, seek open-ended public input as to what they would like to see at the Argo Cascades. (May 27 – June 17)
  - a. Suggestion box at Argo Livery.
  - b. Question on A2 Open City Hall.
2. Three finalists individually visit the site and community. (June 17 – July 12)
  - a. There will be 2-3 opportunities for the public to engage with the artist. Possibilities include a presentation at Argo Cascades and a casual late afternoon gathering.
  - b. Stakeholder groups may request presentations or synopsis presentations post-visits.
  - c. The artist should spend a great deal of the day at the site; in particular during the busy afternoon hours.
3. Three finalists make individual town hall meeting presentations at the Downtown Library. (August 19 – September 13)
  - a. CTN coverage
  - b. Synopsis of three presentations available for stakeholder groups.
4. Feedback on the presentations sought from the public. (September 13 – October 4)
  - a. Survey on-line and in Parks' facilities. Instead of voting, questions will focus on positives and negatives of each proposal.
5. Selection is vetted through Commission presentations and resolutions to Council. (October 4 – November 4)

## **Stakeholders**

A number of stakeholder groups will be engaged to encourage input throughout every stage of the process. Recommendations/survey results from the City Council task force are likely to influence the final plan for public engagement. Stakeholders include:

- Parks and livery users.
- Neighborhood and City residents
- Arts groups
- City Council task force
- Huron River Watershed/Wolfpack
- Water Resources office
- North Main Huron River Vision Task Force
- Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation
- Local service groups

Mr. Miller,

I am on the board of directors for the non-profit organization Community Action Network Southeast, a subsidiary of Community Action Network focused on the Bryant and Hikone neighborhoods in southeastern Ann Arbor. This is a vibrant part of the city but lacks the resources that many other areas have. Our board is focused on doing everything we can to unify and strengthen the community. Art is a powerful way of achieving both goals and the board has expressed an interest in public art for the area. Arbor Oaks park is at the center of this community, right next to Bryant Elementary and would be an ideal location for a piece of art.

As the Chair of the Ann Arbor Public Arts Commission, I am hoping you can suggest how our board proceeds. We are obviously still the early exploratory phases, but your input would be extremely valuable.

Thank you,  
David

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David K. Jones, MSPH, MA

David,

Glad to hear from you and I'm encouraged that you've made the effort to get in touch. I'm cc'ing the city's public art administrator Aaron Seagraves on this correspondence as so he can further elaborate on our current goals in relationship to your request.

One of AAPAC's recent interests and focuses is to incorporate underserved areas of our city into AAPAC's annual plan, we have divided the city into quadrants and are attempting to identify locations and communities that would benefit from public art. Your interest ties in with our goals and would potentially make for a good fit moving forward in choosing a location for AAPAC identifying a location for work.

As you may know we are financially stifled and are waiting for city councils special AAPAC task force to refine the structure of our funding.

I'm happy to discuss over the phone if you like as well, your presence would also be more than welcome at our monthly meeting if you'd like to attend.

Best,

Bob Miller

Hi David,

Thanks for contacting the Public Art Commission.

You probably know that I have presented to a Bryant Neighborhood meeting and several Public Art Commissioners presented at an additional meeting in October. The second meeting featured a great deal of brainstorming about locations and ideas for artwork in the area. Arbor Oaks Park was mentioned and so was a mural at the community center's recently purchased second building.

After City Council decides on any changes to the Public Art Ordinance, we will have a much better idea about exactly how the Public Art Commission and the city's public art program could assist a public art project in the Bryant and Hikone communities. As Bob mentioned, I think the two communities fit the goals the Public Art Commission had agreed upon for potential future projects. Council will have the Public Art Ordinance on their May 6<sup>th</sup> agenda and will likely finalize any changes later in the month. So, some of this discussion is hypothetical until the Public Art Ordinance is addressed by Council, but that shouldn't keep us from exploring this idea more before that happens.

Feel free to ask me any specific questions you might have.

Aaron