

Akron Public Art Commission

Documenter name: Jess Fijalkovich

Agency: None

Date: July 10, 2024

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Summary

- The Akron Public Art Commission will collaborate with Art x Love on the restoration of the Black Lives Matter mural on North Howard Street.
- Artists and possible locations of the traffic signal box project have been confirmed.
- The Akron Public Art Commission will select a contractor and installation locations for the traffic signal box project next.

Follow-Up Questions

- What artists have been selected for the traffic signal box project?

Notes

- [Watch the recording](#)
- Meeting start time: 4:15 p.m.
- [Akron Public Art Commissioners](#) Andy Hillier, Stephanie Leonardi, Jessica Travis, Roberta Rogers, Megan DeLong and Summer Hall were in attendance.
- Minutes from the June 12 meeting were approved.
- Mac Love of [Art x Love](#) spoke about a restoration of the [Black Lives Matter mural](#) on [Howard Street](#). He plans to commission the original group of artists who completed the mural in 2020 to work on the restoration project.
 - Love stated that the project is city-funded and does not need to be approved.
 - The Public Art Commission will confirm the closure of the street for one day to restore the mural. Love proposed July 27 for street closure and mural restoration.
 - Additionally, Love said that [Tony Troppe](#) agreed to lend the facade of a building he owns at [250 N. Howard St.](#) to the project for additional mural space. Love proposed removing weeds growing around the building and painting it charcoal gray. The intention is to allow for a new group of artists of color to create murals on the facade, with approval by the Akron Public

Art Commission.

- Public Arts Liaison Hall spoke about the logistics of painting the facade of the building. Since it is private property, it is not considered public art. Hall asked Love to hold off painting on the building until they get approval.
- Love will fill out a form requesting street closure dates and then they will move forward with the project.
- Hall asked if the street will need to be cleaned before painting. Love said that isn't necessary, as they swept just before painting in 2020. He mentioned they will need to notify local businesses and apartment residents.
 - Delong brought up the current closure of North Street and said that this might be a logistical concern.
 - Love extended an invitation to the commission to help paint the mural.
- The commission discussed the [traffic signal box public art project](#). Artist submissions and possible locations are secured.
 - Hillier stated they would not be making any project-related decisions at the July 10 meeting, as they were missing several commissioners.
 - The group discussed new quotes from selected contractor [Central Graphics](#).
 - Leonardi suggested AAV for creating wraps for the boxes.
 - Hall replied that if the commission does not accept any of the applications from the original RFP, they will have to reopen it for a second round of RFPs.
- The commission moved on to new business of potential installation location for traffic signal boxes. The group decided to narrow it down to three possible locations per ward.
 - As the commission moved through images of possible locations in each ward, they discussed the pros and cons of several locations, ultimately deciding that final selections and suggestions of unlisted locations from each commissioner will be submitted to Hall via email by July 17.
- The meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

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