

Akron Public Art Commission

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Agency: None

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Summary

- Mac Love and Allyse Love told the Akron Art Commission about their progress with the Public Art Inventory project which began earlier this year. Mac and Allyse Love are founders of [ART x LOVE](#), which manages art initiatives. The inventory is a collaboration between them and the city.
- The commission voted on a location for the Chapel Hill [traffic signal box project](#). They decided on the corner of Brittan Road and Tallmadge Avenue.
- The Public Art Commission reviewed several potential projects such as the Ed Davis mural and the idea of starting a mural project in Akron.

Follow-Up Questions

- What does the term submittable mean?
- Why are Mac and Allyse Love creating a Public Art Inventory? (Editor's note: see [Signal Akron's story](#) about this program.)

Notes

Commission members [present](#):

- Andy Hillier
- Jon Fiume
- Erik Reynolds
- Stephanie Leonardi
- Jessica Travis
- Roberta Rogers
- Megan Delong

Public Arts Liaison:

- Summer Hall

An agenda for this meeting was not available online. You can find past agendas that list what type of topics the commission discusses [here](#). Meetings are available to the public via [YouTube livestream](#).

The meeting began at 4:12 p.m. and was followed by a roll call of commission members.

The first item of business that the commission covered was the upcoming Ed Davis mural for the new [Ed Davis Community Center](#). The grand opening for the center will be sometime in November. The artist creating the painting is [Derin Fletcher](#). It will be a canvas portrait done in oil paint with City Hall in the background. There is no cost to the city since the mural is being donated by the Davis family.

The Public Art Inventory

The next item of business involved Mac and Allyse Love updating the [Public Art Inventory](#). Currently, the [Public Art Inventory](#) has 487 records, 1,002 high-quality photographs, 1,807 detail photographs, and 82.96% of the items are publicly available. They still need to confirm the public art items along the Ohio & Erie Canalway.

The Public Art Inventory includes art that is owned by the City of Akron, art that was funded by the City of Akron and art that is on the property of the City of Akron. In this inventory, “art” is defined as an item made by an artist, creative team, or skilled craftsman that can only be replaced by such a person. 28% of what was inventoried is in excellent to very good condition, 60% of the Akron Public Art is in neutral to poor condition, and less than half of the 11% that is damaged is at risk.

The main cause of the neutral score is that the work is dirty. Cleaning and annual maintenance would transform the public perception of these assets. Mac Love plans to complete the inventory by the end of the month and launch the Akron Public Art Commission’s interactive art map. They explored some options for interactive maps.

Fiume asked, “What was the approach in finding where all the artwork is? How do we check to see if anything was missed?”

“I know we committed to 100%,” Mac Love said. “I think we will be at 100% with us physically visiting every single city property.”

“I think the map is all we’ve been able to use” Allyse Love said. “The maps that Summer gave us have each ward and on that highlights city-owned property.”

They still have public works remaining and are planning to restore public access to [The John Brown Monument](#) at the Akron Zoo on Oct. 15.

Fiume asked if the Towpath Trail is owned by the City of Akron? Mac said they asked Ohio & Erie Canalway Coalition CEO [Dan Rice](#) whether all of the public art on the Towpath trail is property of the canalway or the city of Akron. He said it was City of Akron property.

St. Louis Memorial Project

Fiume talked about the [St. Louis Mural project](#) which is where artists in St. Louis create murals around the city to create a sense of community. They commissioned two murals per ward. He thinks this could be an opportunity in Akron. This could be something the commission could consider to seek some funding for in the future.

Chapel Hill Project

The commissioners voted and approved the location on the corner of [Brittain Road and Tallmadge Avenue](#) for the Chapel Hill traffic signal box art project. Some high-traffic areas that were also recommended were the corner of Home Avenue and Independence Avenue and the corner of Independence Avenue and Buchholzer Boulevard.

Work Plan 2025

Work Plan 2025 is an annual list of goals for the Akron Public Art Commission to achieve. This year, the group is focusing on education and marketing, inventory and opportunities, and partnerships.

Art events

Travis mentioned the [Art Over Addiction Silent Auction](#), which will feature some of her work.

The meeting adjourned at 5:24 p.m.

Notes to reader: Unless quotation marks are used, all text is paraphrased. If you believe anything in these notes is inaccurate, please email us at

documenters@signalakron.org with "Correction Request" in the subject line.