

Memorandum

REPORT TO: City Commission

FROM: Jon Henderson - Assistant City Manager
David Arnado - Facilities Superintendent
Max Ziegler - Facilities Assistant Superintendent

SUBJECT: Authorize the City Manager to Sign a Percent for Art Agreement with Jennifer Alden for Our Town Sculptural Installation and Related Contract Documents for the City Hall Renovation Project

MEETING DATE: August 19, 2025

AGENDA ITEM TYPE: Agreement - Vendor/Contract

RECOMMENDATION: Authorize the City Manager to Sign a Percent for Art Agreement with Jennifer Alden for Our Town Sculptural Installation and Related Contract Documents for City Hall Renovation Project

STRATEGIC PLAN: 5.2 Support for Public Art: Encourage and support partnerships for public art and other arts and cultural initiatives in the city.

BACKGROUND: On November 10, 2020, the Bozeman City Commission adopted Ordinance 2056, Establishing a Percent for Art Program. Under this program, any construction project with over \$500,000 in construction costs shall spend 1% of the construction budget on the purchase and installation of public works of art. Infrastructure projects such as roads and sewers are exempt under this ordinance.

On January 22, 2025, the City entered a Construction Agreement with Jackson Contractor Group for General Contracting Services for the Bozeman City Hall Renovation Project, GF370, for a value of \$1,555,700. In accordance with Ordinance 2056, one percent of the value of that contract was budgeted for the purchase of public art.

To implement projects under the Percent for Art Program, the Bozeman Facilities Department contracts with several Art Consultants to provide advisory and design services, assist in procurement of artwork or commissioning of artwork, and support the commissioning of new artworks. For this project, the City worked with a local art consultant, ECHO Arts, to identify locations for artwork in the renovated spaces of City Hall and solicit proposals from artists local to Bozeman. ECHO Arts met with the project architects, and a committee of representatives from each department of City Hall to determine the goals and desired outcomes of this project. ECHO Arts then worked with local artists to present 8 potential works of art to

consider. After reviewing with the art selection committee for this project, the committee unanimously selected works of art from two artists. The selected work of art in this Percent for Art Agreement is a sculptural installation by the artist Jennifer Alden, titled "Our Town". The artwork will be created from recycled paper clay and features house shaped objects finished to resemble the natural materials found in our region. This work of art is intended to blend the structure of the built world with the fragility and resilience of the natural world.

"Our Town" is to be installed in the City Hall Atrium on an existing wood panel. The artwork will be viewable from multiple angles as people traverse the main stairs and atrium landing, providing an interactive experience. The artwork is to be commissioned and installed following the completion of the City Hall Renovation Phase 2 construction.

UNRESOLVED ISSUES: None.

ALTERNATIVES: As directed by the City Commission.

FISCAL EFFECTS: This contract will incur a fixed cost of \$5,000 to be paid from the City Hall Renovation capital project budget as required by Ordinance 2056.

Attachments:

[Percent_for_Art_Agreement_-_City_Hall_-_Jennifer_Alden_-_Our_Town.pdf](#)

Report compiled on: July 18, 2025