

Item Cover Page

COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY BOARD AGENDA ITEM REPORT

DATE: August 9, 2023
SUBMITTED BY: Jean Farmer, Community Redevelopment Agency
ITEM TYPE: Presentation
AGENDA SECTION: PRESENTATIONS
SUBJECT: Public Art Pilot Programs Proposal
SUGGESTED ACTION: Approve

Is this item Quasijudicial?

No

Does this item require a public hearing?

No

EXPLANATION:

Planned Public Works projects are a good way to include the intentional integration of art.

Currently Public Works has asphalt projects and new sidewalks underway. This could be an opportunity to install aesthetic elements to the improvement projects. The three pilot art projects are asphalt, sidewalk poetry, and signal box art.

These are relatively low-cost, often short term and scalable projects that can create immediate positive impact and catalyze long-term improvements to the CRA areas.

1. Asphalt art includes crosswalks, streets and intersections. One of the first places ready to be implemented is the intersection of Old Main Street and 12th Street in the Village of the Arts, located on MLK/9th Ave. W. which intersects with the Bradenton CRA and the 14th St. CRA.
2. Sidewalk art through stamped poetry is proposed. The next sidewalk area to be implemented by Public Works is in the Bradenton CRA.
3. Signal boxes. These can be individually painted or wrapped, similar to car

wrapping. The city owns three signal boxes, so the idea is to start with one as a test site.

All of these projects can include community involvement:

1. Asphalt, intersection and crosswalk art can be simple designs that are applied with a machine, or it can be created by an artist with many areas to be painted individually by volunteers. It is considered temporary art, which can also be used to test traffic patterns and safety outcomes.
2. Original poetry created by the citizens of Bradenton allows the CRA to secure copyright approvals through contracts with the poets. Poetry contests can be implemented and could even lead to the appointment of a city poet laureate. The Manatee County Library is willing to assist with facilitating the contest for both youth and adults.
3. Signal boxes allow the opportunity to use muralists, or any other type of art that can be printed onto a material that will wrap around the box. This allows for more artists to be involved. Art Center Manatee has expressed an interest in helping with getting the word out to their membership for a call to artists.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

N/A

SUGGESTED MOTION:

Motion to approve Public Works and the CRA Public Art Coordinator to move forward with detailed plans to implement public art in asphalt, sidewalks and signal boxes.

ATTACHMENTS: