

To: Members of the Arts, Culture & Heritage Advisory Committee

From: Karen Rennie, Manager of Arts, Culture and Heritage Division

Meeting Date: June 10, 2021

Subject: Report ACHAC21-022

Public Art Update- Renaissance on Hunter Artist Selection

Purpose

A report to seek endorsement of the Renaissance on Hunter Selection Committee's recommendations.

Recommendation

That the Arts, Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee approve the recommendation outlined in Report ACHAC21-022, dated June 10, 2021 of the Manager of the Arts, Culture and Heritage Division, as follows:

That the artists and projects selected for the Renaissance on Hunter Road Mural Project and Artists' Garden Project be endorsed by ACHAC.

Budget and Financial Implications

The Artist fees and project costs are approved within the 2021 Public Art Budget and approved by Council.

Background

The Renaissance on Hunter comprises two distinct but related public art projects to be installed along Hunter Street this spring: The Road Mural Project and the Artists' Garden Project.

The two initiatives align with the Temporary Downtown Public Space Changes, in particular the traffic calming and mobility strategy for Hunter Street. The plan establishes one-way traffic maintained in the westbound direction creating a curb extension and temporary sidewalk space within the closed traffic lane to provide opportunities to maintain public safety along this corridor. This year a combination of portable planters and barricades in four areas are planned to be installed along the streetscape to de-mark the spaces, provide physical separation, and further enhance accessibility for those with low vision. The four new pedestrian spaces created between Aylmer and Chambers Streets will serve as sites for a series of temporary murals on the asphalt, and themed gardens/interventions in the planters.

The Renaissance on Hunter public art projects were developed in consultation with the Planning and Transportation Divisions and Accessibility Office and will be presented in partnership with the Downtown Business Improvement Area and Green Up. They are being administered and funded through the City's Public Art Program

The call for proposals for the Renaissance on Hunter projects was issued in late April. The calls were open to both emerging and established professional artists, ad hoc artist teams or collectives working in a range of disciplines and media. Partnerships and collaborations were encouraged to create opportunities for a variety of creatives to contribute.

The commission values for the Artists' Gardens Project are based on the number of planters per site and range from \$4,000 to \$6,400. The Road Mural Project commission values are based on the site dimensions and range from \$3,000 to \$9,500. The proposal deadline for both projects was May 28, 2021, at 5 p.m. The expected completion of the projects is late June. All Proposals were be submitted online through the Submittable.com platform.

Applications were assessed by Selections Committees composed of community members (2 ACHAC members and 3 members of the community at large with non-non-voting project partners and staff advisors as applicable to the projects). The assessment of the Artists' Garden Project and Road Mural Project submissions took place on Thursday June 3rd and Tuesday June 8th respectively.

Public art Facilitator Wendy Trusler will provide an overview of each evaluation process and share the committees' recommendations.

Submitted by,

Karen Rennie Manager, Arts, Culture and Heritage Division

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