

Cultural Council of Greater Jacksonville
August 8, 2018
ART IN PUBLIC PLACES PROJECT REPORT

DIA Urban Arts Projects, Phase II

On July 18, the Cultural Council publicly announced the artists/artist teams commissioned for DIA Phase II (with a spot First Coast Connect). The four commissions are awarded to the following: Karen Kurycki of Jacksonville, Eric Moed, Caila Moed and Samuel Maddox of Boston, Shasti O’Leary-Soudant of Buffalo, and Casey O’Connell of Atlanta. The artists were welcomed by the Jax Chamber and had a history lesson by Wayne Wood and then completed their site tour with JEA, Public Works, Traffic Engineering, DIA and DVI to review potential sites. The “Put the Public In Public Art” public meeting for community members and stakeholders to interact directly with the selected artists was held July 19, 6-7:30 pm at Jax Makerspace. The cultural identity of Jacksonville, especially downtown and the Elbow was discussed in order to inform the artists’ designs.

Courthouse Art Project

Art in Public Places is researching legal services to produce an Artist Contract which is required to release a Call to Artists for the project.

Law and Liberty: The Mayor’s office, Director of Public Works and the judiciary have given approval for the reinstallation project as Proposal 2. The project will commence if the donor agrees to fund the design, the fabrication and installation. APP will be working with TTV Architects and Haskell to determine feasibility and estimated costs for the installation construction.

Water Street Parking Structure Art

The Artist Contract with project specifications is nearing completion. In August, semi-finalists will receive design criteria to start the 2-month concept design phase. The full Project Performance Schedule and Scope of Work for services are complete. It is anticipated that the ASP will judge concept designs and reconvene in October to award one finalist the project. A JEA representative is assigned to the project to provide material knowledge and expertise in lighting. The public art budget is approximately \$275,000.

Cuba Hunter Park Artwork

The Art Selection Panel has been approved by the APP Committee. APP staff is developing a timeline and performance schedule. Staff will also meet with the ASP Chair to create the Call to Artists over the coming months. The exterior of the facility has been identified as a potential location for the project installation. Nearby businesses, communities, and schools are now being identified and solicited to participate in public meetings and to identify project stakeholders. The budget for art is approximately \$47,119. Art in Public Places is researching legal services to produce an Artist Contract which is required to release a Call to Artists for the project.

Winton Drive/Bob Hayes Legends Community Center Projects

CCGJ staff and COJ departments are working to prepare the site permissions and make other necessary preparations for the project. Art in Public Places is researching legal services to produce an Artist Contract which is required to release a Call to Artists for the project.

Downtown Sculpture Initiative

Site location at Bay and Newnan: Design development and budgeting for this unique integral sculpture/structure along the vacant site perimeter is complete and ready for client meeting for review/approval.

Liberty Street/ Coastline Drive: Deinstallation of Public Art

Efforts continue with the project’s general contractor to illuminate both River Runners (not part of the original design). Reinstallation and conservation of all three artworks including the Fire Memorial is anticipated fall 2019. A funding source or sponsor, needs to be identified for plaques and fixtures. \$34,500 in conservation treatment costs is estimated for the Fire Memorial and both River Runners.

Conservation and Maintenance

The RFP for Conservation closed on July 11. The City's Procurement department collected 3 proposals total and APP staff will score and recommended one vendor to award this work to--conservation will be completed on 24 City-owned artworks and memorials. Next steps are being determined and the Maintenance & Conservation Panel will convene to develop a list of priority projects based on the Community Survey.

APP Five Year Plan and Advocacy Plan

CCGJ is making revisions to the APP Five Year Plan including general updates to the APP ordinance and project list as needed. Advocacy with City Council will be scheduled to begin when the legislation is filed. One-on-one visits will ensure that Council members are fully informed and given the opportunity to ask questions and obtain answers prior to review and approvals by assigned Council committees.

APP Committee Nominations

The APP Committee is recommending Kimberly Kim's candidacy to the Mayor's office for the APPC Community Representative seat for Planning District 6. Kims qualifications were reviewed by the committee. COJ Boards & Commissions have accepted the nomination and will begin to draft legislation now.

MEDIA ADVISORY

THE CULTURAL COUNCIL ANNOUNCES

**NEWLY COMMISSIONED PUBLIC ARTISTS TO BE FEATURED AT
“MEET THE ARTISTS” PUBLIC MEETING
FOR DOWNTOWN JACKSONVILLE PUBLIC ART PROJECT**

From: Cultural Council of Greater Jacksonville, Inc.

Date: July 18, 2018

Contact: Mason Martin, Project Manager

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RE: “Meet the Artists” Public Meeting for Public Art for DIA Urban Arts Project Phase II in the Elbow District

Presented by Cultural Council’s Art in Public Places and Jacksonville Public Library Foundation

July 19, 2018

6:00 – 7:30 pm

Jax Makerspace at Main Library

303 N. Laura Street

Jacksonville, FL 32202

Jacksonville -The Cultural Council of Greater Jacksonville’s Art in Public Places announces newly commissioned public artists to be featured at an open meeting where they will be introduced to the public. The artists were recently selected to design public art for Phase II of the Downtown Investment Authority’s Urban Arts Project which is slated for 2019 installation in the entertainment district of downtown Jacksonville known as The Elbow. Four public artists were chosen from 144 applicants who responded to a national call that was issued in the spring. A nine-member panel of community representatives reviewed applications for the demonstrated ability to address streetscape aesthetics with innovative, functional and artistically appealing 2-D and 3-D public art intended to enhance an urban area by day and night. The four commissions are awarded to Karen Kurycki of Jacksonville; Eric Moed and Samuel Maddox of Boston; Shasti O’Leary-Soudant of Buffalo and Casey O’Connell who last week moved from California to Atlanta.

Public input is vital in the creation, expression and reception of public art. The public is invited to the “Meet the Artists” event **Thursday, July 19 at six o’clock in Jax Makerspace** at the Main Library, 303 N. Laura Street in Jacksonville hosted by Art in Public Places and the Jacksonville Public Library Foundation. This is a participatory event to “put the public in public art” allowing the artists to engage with residents and learn what is important to the people of Jacksonville. The artists will ask participants about the things that move them about the particular downtown sites, about Jacksonville and about what might affect their environment or the identity of the area. Artists can translate what they hear from the community about identity into designs for public art unique to Jacksonville that resonates with the public.

As part of their visit, the artists will tour the potential sites; learn about the history, culture and environmental features of the city. The public is also encouraged to provide valuable community input for the artists by filling out a public survey at www.surveymonkey.com/r/DIAphase2.

Instigated several years ago as part of a Community Redevelopment Area Plan, Jacksonville Downtown Investment Authority (DIA) envisioned a program to add streetscape enhancements in order to inject more vitality into the downtown. The DIA funded an initial three-phase urban arts project administered by Art in Public Places. Phase I was completed in spring of 2017 and resulted in 38 new artworks in the downtown core which became part of the City’s art collection. Similarly, Phase II will bring to the Elbow District vinyl-wrapped traffic signal cabinets, sculptural bike racks,

outdoor sculpture and 2-D surface application. This second phase of public art emphasizes illumination in an area with a concentration of theaters, music halls, bars and restaurants attracting nighttime crowds.

As the Energy Partner for this new phase, JEA will work with the artists to explore innovative designs to integrate illumination and renewable sources of energy into the public art to showcase eco-friendly solutions to environmental concerns in Jacksonville.

The artist who will create designs to be transferred to vinyl wraps to cover current traffic signal cabinets on five corners along Bay and Forsyth Streets is local designer Karen Kurycki. She combines illustration and design with a sense of humor in her creations, often working in watercolors. Kurycki creates designs for national and international clients and is active in the community including having served as past president of the local chapter of AIGA. She maintains her art studio at CoRK in Jacksonville.

The sculptural bicycle racks designer is Moed + Maddox; an architectural team formed at the Harvard Graduate School of Design and has now completed public projects worldwide. Collaborating with Eric Moed and Samuel Maddox is Caila Moed, social impact strategist and Jacksonville native. Moed + Maddox plan to work with the City's Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator and JEA to bring innovative design and lighting to the functional streetscape art.

The large environmental sculpture for the Elbow District will be designed by multidisciplinary artist, designer and educator Shasti O'Leary-Soudant. In her art practice, she uses a wide range of media and material to create objects and immersive experiences that concern perspective, hidden forces, randomness, iterative form and transformation to initiate meaningful engagements with the public. Her public art commissions have included the City of Toronto and her work may also be found in the Albright-Knox Art Gallery and Burchfield Penny art museums.

Surface application of 2-D art is being produced by 2-D artist Casey O'Connell. Her intent for the DIA Urban Arts Project Phase II is to create an engaging pathway within the Elbow. She plans to utilize surfaces as well as lights and projections to intrigue pedestrians and vehicular traffic. Though this artist's work has been exhibited nationwide, she has roots in the Jacksonville area and studied at Flagler College in Saint Augustine before moving to California.

The DIA Urban Arts Project Program was developed jointly by Art in Public Places Committee and the Downtown Investment Authority. Both entities were formulated under and acting on behalf of the City of Jacksonville. Through such creative placemaking, the City of Jacksonville seeks to distinguish itself as one of the best places to live, play and work. More information may be found at www.culturalcouncil.org/art-in-public-places

ABOUT THE CULTURAL COUNCIL OF GREATER JACKSONVILLE

The Cultural Council of Greater Jacksonville champions the appreciation, relevance and expression of art and culture. The Council stewards the City of Jacksonville's annual appropriation to the arts and culture, contributes to economic vitality through arts and culture initiatives, and leads advocacy efforts to demonstrate the impact and significance of culture in the community. The Cultural Council is sponsored in part by the City of Jacksonville and the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs and the Florida Council on Arts and Culture.

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