



Department Source: Cultural Affairs
To: City Council
From: City Manager & Staff
Council Meeting Date: October 19, 2020
Re: Traffic Box Art Program

Executive Summary

The Office of Cultural Affairs (OCA) intends to address a thirteenth downtown traffic signal box via its Traffic Box Art program as part of the city's overall graffiti abatement program. The existing agreement with the artist needs amending to respond to change from painted to vinyl wrap installation due to COVID-19.

Discussion

In 2007, the OCA was part of a working committee meeting with the Police Department to address the problem of graffiti. With similar projects in other cities nationwide serving as examples, one traffic signal box in downtown Columbia was selected to be painted. At the time, it had been repeatedly vandalized with graffiti. That September, local artist David Spear painted the box, using materials recommended by the OCA for outdoor use. The box has deterred vandalism, and the OCA has observed that the materials used stand up to outdoor elements.

Since then, OCA staff developed guidelines for additional boxes to be addressed by artists; the Commission on Cultural Affairs approved the guidelines in September 2008. In 2009, local artist Dennis Murphy was selected to paint a second box; a third was completed by local artist Kate Gray in July 2010; the fourth completed in the summer of 2011 by Stephanie Foley; the fifth completed in the summer of 2012 by Andrew Glenn; the sixth completed in September 2013 by Ben Chlapek; the seventh completed in October 2014 by Peggy Guest; the eighth box completed in July 2015 by Lisa Bartlett; the ninth box was completed in July 2016 by Madeleine LeMieux; the tenth box was completed by Brittany Williamson in 2017; the eleventh box was completed by Amanda Harms in 2018; and the twelfth box completed by Christine Doerr in 2019. They, too, have remained untouched by vandalism since completion.

City Council approved a design proposal and agreement with local artist Roy Fox on August 3, 2020 after such design was approved by the Standing Committee on Public Art and the Commission on Cultural Affairs.

Mr. Fox's agreement was based on his intent to paint his design on the signal box. Due to the risk of exposure to COVID-19 while painting on location, Mr. Fox indicated he would prefer to have his design installed as a vinyl wrap to the signal box.

The amendment will make the following changes to the original agreement:



City of Columbia

701 East Broadway, Columbia, Missouri 65201

1. The original agreement transferred the title of the original artwork to the City. As the artist will now retain the original artwork, the City will only receive the title to the digital imagery of the original artwork and the right to reproduce the digital imagery.
2. The original agreement required the artist to install the artwork. With the amendment, the City will be responsible for installation and associated installation costs.
3. The original agreement compensated the artist at \$1500 with an additional allowance of up to \$500 for supplies. The amendment eliminated the allowance for supplies.
4. The amendment adds an additional month for completion of the installation.
5. The amendment removes the one year warranty on the installation as the artist will not be installing the vinyl wrap.
6. The amendment removes insurance requirements as the artist will not be on site for installation.

Printing and installation of the vinyl wrap will be completed by a local contractor following the standard bid process.

Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: \$1500 shared by OCA, the CVB, and the downtown CID. Funds already appropriated.

Long-Term Impact: Minimal maintenance cost covered by the OCA.

Vision & Strategic Plan Impact

Strategic Plan Impacts:

Primary Impact: Public Safety, Secondary Impact: Economy, Tertiary Impact: Social Equity

Comprehensive Plan Impacts:

Primary Impact: Economic Development, Secondary Impact: Livable and Sustainable Communities, Tertiary Impact: Inter-Governmental Cooperation

Legislative History

Date	Action
6/23/20	Standing Committee on Public Art recommended Roy Fox's traffic box art design proposal.
7/13/20	Commission on Cultural Affairs recommended acceptance of Roy Fox's traffic box art design proposal.
8/3/20	City Council approved original agreement with Roy Fox.

Suggested Council Action

Approve this legislation.