



Department Source: Cultural Affairs
To: City Council
From: City Manager & Staff
Council Meeting Date: August 6, 2018
Re: Old 63 Mural

Executive Summary

Resident Arts, a local nonprofit arts organization, has proposed a large-scale mural on the Old 63 retaining wall located south of Broadway and north of Hinkson Creek. Resident Arts has been awarded a \$10,000 Science Rising grant from the Union of Concerned Scientists, which will completely fund this project. This is a collaborative community-based mural that involves numerous partners including the city's Office of Sustainability, Parks & Recreation, Public Works, the Office of Cultural Affairs, as well as partners involved with the Hinkson Creek Watershed Restoration project. Planning has already begun this summer, and the final design is scheduled to be approved in mid-August. Completion and unveiling of the mural is planned for late September.

Discussion

Project Proposal

Resident Arts will complete a large-scale mural on the Old 63 retaining wall located south of Broadway and north of the Hinkson Creek trail in partnership with the city's Office of Sustainability, Parks & Recreation, Public Works, the Office of Cultural Affairs, as well as partners involved with the Hinkson Creek Watershed Restoration project. The mural team consists of five artists - two lead artists and three teen mural artist trainees. The design for the mural will highlight the importance of science in the relation to the city's Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (Office of Sustainability) and the #ScienceRising movement using a bold and graphic style. The mural will be designed using a collaborative community mural painting process, identical to the process used on the MKT Trail mural project (completed in an ongoing partnership with the city's Department of Parks and Recreation).

Resident Arts has successfully led other mural projects in Columbia. The mural process includes the following: information gathering from partners, hosting a community feedback session where community members can give feedback on the proposed design, design approval from stakeholders where stakeholders/partners can make final changes and approve the design, design transfer to wall using a gridding and scaling process, a community painting day where anyone at any skill level can assist in painting the mural with guidance from the mural team, mural painting and completion, and a public unveiling event where the public is invited to view the completed mural and partners are invited to share their thoughts on the process with the community at large.

As an independently initiated public art project, Resident Arts has followed the application procedures and approval process as determined by the various City of Columbia



department partners.

Location

Old 63 S



The entirety of the retaining wall is approximately 450ft long and 9ft tall. The wall is untreated concrete and is intact with no cracks. There has been unmitigated graffiti on this wall for at least four years and community murals have a proven history of helping to deter graffiti. The mural will occupy the central third of the wall with some graphic elements on the sides of the design to ensure visual cohesion of the entire wall. It is outdoors on a public street and is therefore accessible.

Lead Artist, Madeleine LeMieux

Resident Arts has been creating large-scale community-based collaborative public art projects in partnership with the City of Columbia for the last three years. Madeleine LeMieux, Resident Arts director and project manager for this mural, has a significant history of large-scale making public art various cities throughout the US.

Ms. LeMieux received her BFA with an emphasis in Art History, Theory, and Criticism from The School of the Art Institute of Chicago in 2007 and her MA in Visual Arts Administration from New York University in 2011. She is currently an MFA candidate in painting from University of Missouri.

Funding

Resident Arts has been awarded \$10,000 Science Rising grant from the Union of Concerned Scientists, which will completely fund this project. Selected proposals for public-facing art were chosen by the funding agency to highlight the role science plays in protecting our health and safety.

Timeline

The preliminary design process is underway, with meetings with special interest groups having taken place over the summer. A Community Feedback session at the site is scheduled for



City of Columbia

701 East Broadway, Columbia, Missouri 65201

August 8, after which a meeting will be held with the city and community partners to finalize the proposed design. A Community Painting day is scheduled for August 18, with the full mural completed through mid-September. A public unveiling event is planned for September 30.

Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: None.

Long-Term Impact: None.

Strategic & Comprehensive Plan Impact

Strategic Plan Impacts:

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

Comprehensive Plan Impacts:

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

Legislative History

Date	Action
N/A	N/A

Suggested Council Action

Information only. No Council action is required.