



701 East Broadway, Columbia, Missouri 65201

Council Memo

Department Source: Cultural Affairs

To: City Council

From: City Manager & Staff

Council Meeting Date: May 18, 2026

Re: Artist agreements for Sculpture on the Move installations in North Village Park

Impacted Ward: Ward 1

Executive Summary

The City of Columbia is a member of the Creative Communities Alliance and takes part in the Sculpture on the Move project. The Office of Cultural Affairs and Parks & Recreation Department are collaborators in this program and will utilize the Sculpture on the Move project in the new North Village Park. Three artworks from three artists have been selected for display, and agreements with the three artists require approval.

Discussion

The City of Columbia is a member of the Creative Communities Alliance (CCA) and takes part in the Sculpture on the Move project. The Office of Cultural Affairs and Parks & Recreation Department are collaborators in this program and will utilize the Sculpture on the Move project in the new North Village Park. Artwork is planned to be rotated every two years.

Each year, Sculpture on the Move presents a slate of eligible sculptures for display in communities. Available artworks are from artists from across the United States. Each community submits its top ranked choices, and then after the selection draft administered by CCA, artworks are matched with communities. The City's Standing Committee on Public Art oversees the selections submitted by Columbia. This committee met in February 2026 and determined its top ten ranked choices. Subsequently, Office of Cultural Affairs staff attended the CCA selection draft and was matched with three artworks from different artists.

Agreements with three artists for display of the sculptures require approval. Each artwork will be installed in the new North Village Park and on display until May 2028. Each artist will receive a payment of \$1,000 per year for their artwork displayed in the park, which is to be paid from Parks & Recreation funds.

The artists and artworks that have been selected are as follow: Indiana artist Alexander Mendez and artwork titled, "Every Piece Has a Place;" Missouri artist Travis Baker and artwork titled, "Tulip;" and Maryland artist Kirk Seese and artwork titled, "Icosahedron."

City staff will designate the final installation locations within the park after completion of the park project. The City will plan to have installation sites that will accommodate the artworks, which will be transported to Columbia at the sole expense of the artists. Upon request of the



701 East Broadway, Columbia, Missouri 65201

artists, the City may assist with installation and subsequent removal of the sculptures. The City will also provide an identification plaque for each of the artworks.

Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: \$3,000 per year (\$1,000 per year per artist) funded by Parks & Recreation.
Long-Term Impact: N/A

Strategic & Comprehensive Plan Impact

Strategic Plan Impacts:

Primary Impact: Resilient Economy, Secondary Impact: Organizational Excellence, Tertiary Impact: Reliable and Sustainable Infrastructure

Comprehensive Plan Impacts:

Primary Impact: Livable & Sustainable Communities, Secondary Impact: Economic Development, Tertiary Impact: Not Applicable

Legislative History

Date	Action
3/16/26	R46-26 : Authorizing a memorandum of understanding and memorandum of agreement with Creative Communities Alliance for membership participation associated with the "Sculpture on the Move" rotating public art project.
3/18/24	B53-24 : Naming North Village Park; approving the North Village Park Master Plan; authorizing construction of improvements at North Village Park; calling for bids for a portion of the project through the Purchasing Division.

Suggested Council Action

Staff recommends that Council authorize execution of the artist agreements and authorize the appropriate City officials to sign all related documents.