



151 Martin St., Birmingham, MI 48009

248-530-1800

VIRTUAL MEETING - PUBLIC ARTS BOARD

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15, 2020

6:30 PM

<https://zoom.us/j/116546273>

Or dial 1(929) 205-6099, MEETING CODE 116 546 273

MEETING AGENDA

***** Board members who are not able to attend this meeting are encouraged to notify the staff**

representative in advance for consideration of a quorum. ***

- A. Roll Call
- B. Approval of Minutes – January 15th, 2019
- C. Unfinished Business
 - 1. Terminating Vistas**
 - 2. Crayon Electrical Box**
 - 3. Charging Station USB Design**
 - 4. Piano in the Park**
 - 5. Birmingham in Stitches**
- D. New Business
 - 1. Call for Artists**
 - 2. Online Activities for Residents**
- E. Communication
 - 1. Farmers Market May 3rd, 2020**
 - 2. Sidewalk panel design judging**
 - 3. Michigan Spring**
- F. March Agenda Items
- G. Public Comments
- H. Adjournment

Upcoming PAB Meeting: May 20th, 2019

NOTE: Persons with disabilities that may require assistance for effective participation in this public meeting should contact the City Clerk's Office at the number (248) 530-1880, or (248) 644-5115 (for the hearing impaired) at least one day before the meeting to request help in mobility, visual, hearing, or other assistance.

Las personas con incapacidad que requieren algun tipo de ayuda para la participacion en esta sesion publica deben ponerse en contacto con la oficina del escribano de la ciudad en el numero (248) 530-1800 o al (248) 644-5115 (para las personas con incapacidad auditiva) por lo menos un dia antes de la reunion para solicitar ayuda a la movilidad, visual, auditiva, o de otras asistencias.

Public Arts Board Minutes

Rooms 202 & 203 Birmingham City Hall – February 19th, 2019

A. Roll Call:

Members Present: Linda Wells, Barbara Heller, Monica Neville, Jason Eddleston, Anne Ritchie, Ann Van Gelderan

Members Absent: Natalie Bishae

Administration: Brooks Cowan, City Planner

B. Approval of Minutes – January 15th, 2019

Motion to approve minutes made by Linda Wells, seconded by Jason Eddleston.

Yeas: 6 Nays: 0

The motion carried.

C. Unfinished Business

The PAB reviewed their Terminating Vista report and felt that it was getting close to being finalized. The Board wanted to add recommendations regarding murals in Birmingham and for the City to revise its policy towards murals. The Board also discussed their recommendations for electrical boxes and charging stations and reached a consensus that painting one electric box per summer is a reasonable time frame.

The PAB discussed their goals for public pianos in 2020. They would like to have three pianos placed throughout downtown. The preferred locations were Shain Park, Henrietta, just south of Maple and adjacent to Roots, and possibly in the alley beneath Clark Hill which connects to Pernoi.

The PAB discussed handing out chalk throughout the summer in various locations of Birmingham for chalk art. They would also like to bring in various chalk artists to do specialty designs. The Board determined that they need to figure out how they would coordinate volunteers throughout the summer and how often these chalk drawings would occur. They want the events to be more spontaneous so the application would have a broad boundary and range of dates, but only the volunteers would know exactly when things would occur. They would try to coordinate with the City's social media for day-of or day-before postings.

The PAB reviewed upcoming agenda items and events for this spring, summer, and fall. The goals discussed were to volunteer at one farmers market per month, have an electrical box painted in June, host the piano painting the same day as the Birmingham Fair, and city chalking throughout the summer. The Board wished to review the application at the next month's meetings.

D. New Business

The Public Arts Board reviewed a summary of the draft of the Master Plan and their comments were that it should support a updated ordinance to allow temporary and permanent murals, and that the new plazas proposed would be good places for sculptures.

E. Communication

DPS had indicated that the sculpture pads at the library and Barum Park could have aggregate concrete buffers added to them as an extra buffer from the lawnmower.

F. Comments

G. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

DATE: April 15th, 2020

TO: Public Arts Board Members

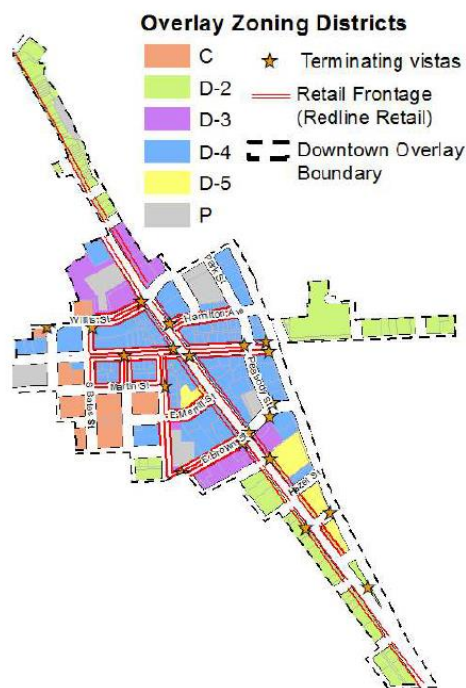
FROM: Brooks Cowan, City Planner

APPROVED: Jana Ecker, Planning Director

SUBJECT: Terminating Vistas

On May 22, 2019, The Public Arts Board proposed a popcorn box design to City Commission for the electrical box on S. Old Woodward in front of the Birmingham 8 Theater. The City Commission approved the electrical box design and also directed the Public Arts Board to examine possible ways to enhance the City's Terminating Vistas through the use of public art in other parts of the City. Birmingham's Downtown Overlay Plan identifies multiple intersections as Terminating Vistas where Section 3.04(E)(15) of the Zoning Ordinance states:

Any building that terminates a view, as designated on the Regulating Plan, shall provide distinct and prominent architectural features of enhanced character and visibility, which reflect the importance of the building's location and create a positive visual landmark.



Photos of all Terminating Vistas in Birmingham as designated on the Regulating Plan were provided for review by the Public Arts Board as directed by City Commission. On October 16th, 2019, the Public Arts Board reviewed photos of the Terminating Vistas and determined that their top five priorities for sculptures are Chester & Willits, Bates & Willits, Park & Maple, S. Old Woodward & Bowers, and S. Old Woodward & Woodward.

On November 20th, 2019, the PAB reviewed designs for the repaving of Maple Road. The Terminating Vista at Maple at Henrietta (#3) will have design elements meant for an art sculpture. The Public Arts Board agreed to make this location a priority for a sculpture as well. The priority sites for terminating Vistas (Organized by numbers in the photos attached) are as follows:

Chester & Willits:



Bates & Willits:



Maple & Henrietta:



Park & Maple



S. Old Woodward & Bowers (East Side)



S. Old Woodward & Woodward



Although the six sites were selected as priorities, there was consensus that the PAB did not want to place too much hierarchy in the priority of sites because they believe each site should be evaluated within the context of each art piece provided. The Public Arts Board believes that these locations are ideal for sculptures and public art that is either dedicated or loaned to the City.

The Public Arts Board has previously approved a map of pre-qualified public art sculpture locations throughout the City which highlights the location's priority as either high, medium, or low. The prioritized Terminating Vista locations have been added to this map and have all been prioritized as "High + Terminating Vista". The updated map of prequalified sites is attached below. The numbers on the pre-qualified sculpture map are only used for reference while the color indicates the site's priority.

The Public Arts Board discussed how the landscape islands and open green space in Terminating Vistas could incorporate various forms of artistic enhancements to make the spaces more engaging and prominent. Expanding the City's sculpture program to do so was the most favorable recommendation. One of the issues the Public Arts Board currently faces with this is that the process of having sculptures installed on City property has been troublesome due to the nuances of each sculpture design. The Public Arts Board would like the City to amend its sculpture installation process and have an installation expert act as a liaison between the artists and City staff who are involved with the installation process.

The Public Arts Board would also like to see more temporary and permanent murals on buildings in order to enhance the aesthetics of blank walls throughout the City, especially ones in Terminating Vistas. For instance, the Terminating Vista at Bowers between Woodward and S. Old Woodward involves a bridge connecting the north and south portions of the 555 Building which has vast spaces of blank concrete walls that could be enhanced with temporary or permanent murals. As of now, the City has little to no murals because they are deemed as signage and are subject to signage standards. Other cities have allowed murals to be painted directly onto the building, or a large canvas has been put up for temporary display. A possible solution to allow more murals is to create an application process that is reviewed and voted upon by the Public Arts Board.

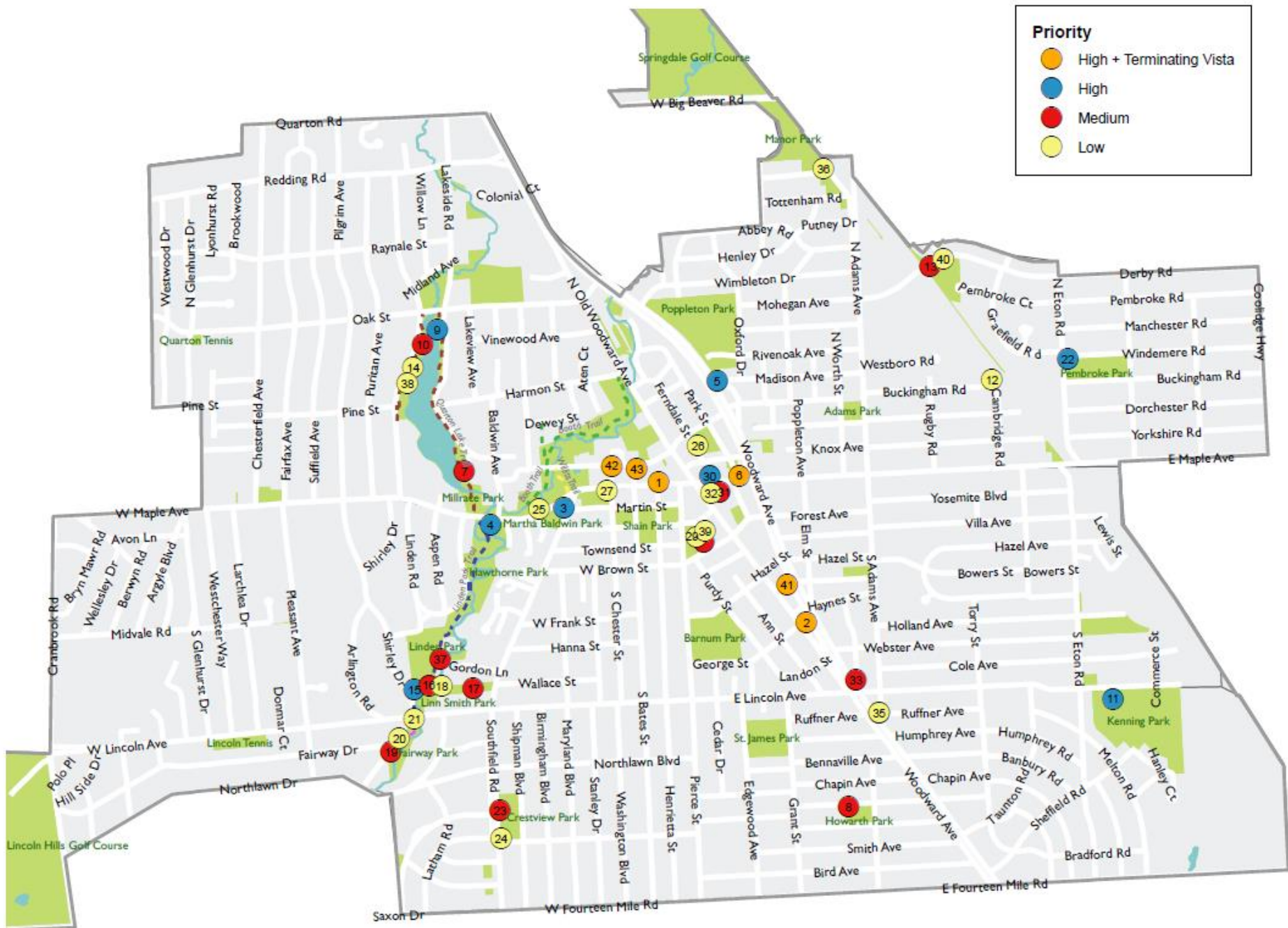
Electrical Boxes are located along the sidewalk throughout the downtown and a number of them are within the identified Terminating Vista areas. The electrical box at Merrill and S. Old Woodward in front of the Birmingham 8 Theater has been painted as a popcorn box and has generally received a positive review. The Public Arts Board examined other electrical boxes at Hamilton & N. Old Woodward, Merrill and S. Old Woodward, Henrietta & Maple, and Park & Maple. In terms of theme, the Public Arts Board believes the boxes should be painted in a pop-art theme that stands out amongst its surroundings. Items selected to be painted should be relatively rectangular and the Public Arts Board would like the artistic approach towards the electrical boxes as making small, common items look big.

Small charging stations with USB ports are also located throughout downtown beside the public benches. There was discussion that many people do not know what these are for and that some people perceive them as ash trays. The Public Arts Board recommends these smaller rectangular boxes for USB charging be painted with electric charging themes such as big lightning bolts or USB thumb drives.



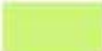






The Public Arts Board's recommendations for Terminating Vistas are as follows:

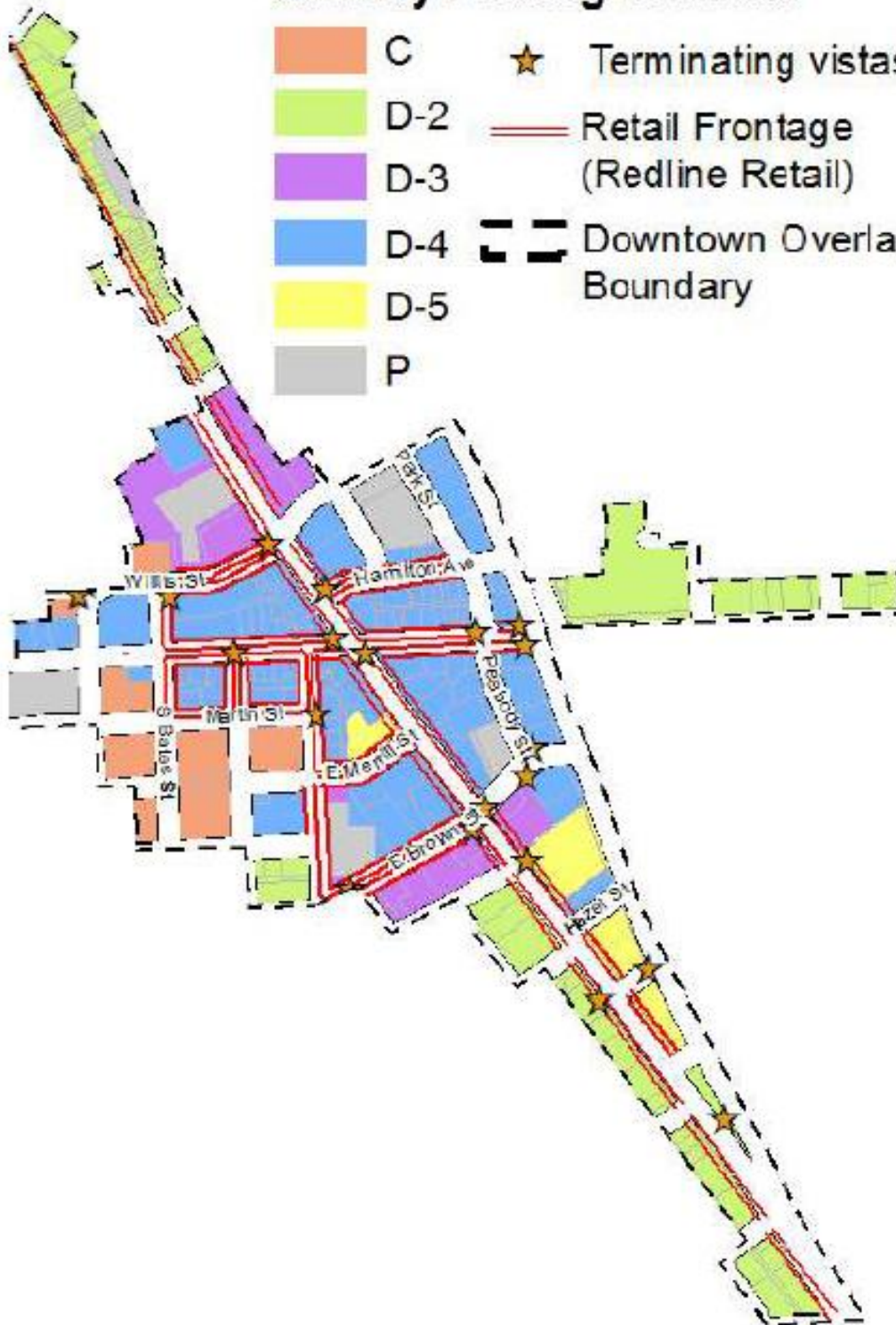
1. Add the top six Terminating Vista priorities including Chester & Willits, Bates & Willits, Henrietta & Maple, Park & Maple, S. Old Woodward & Bowers, and S. Old Woodward & Woodward to the Prequalified Public Art Location map and indicate all Terminating Vista locations as High Priority.
2. Revise the City's sculpture installation process for sculptures donated or on loan to the City.
3. Seek professional service consulting from a sculpture installation professional who will provide expertise in the installation process and act as a liason between the artist and the City staff involved with the installation process.
4. Create a mural policy and application process that allows for permanent and temporary murals on buildings throughout the City.
5. Paint electrical boxes in the right-of-way with a pop-art theme that stands out amongst its surroundings.
6. Paint the USB charging stations with an electric charging theme.

City of Birmingham Prequalified Public Art Locations



Overlay Zoning Districts

- | | | | |
|---|-----|---|-------------------------------------|
|  | C |  | Terminating vistas |
|  | D-2 |  | Retail Frontage (Redline Retail) |
|  | D-3 |  | Downtown Overlay Boundary |
|  | D-4 | | |
|  | D-5 | | |
|  | P | | |



Birmingham Terminating Vistas for Review:

1.) Chester & Willits:



2.) Bates & Willits:



Birmingham Terminating Vistas for Review:

3.) Maple & Henrietta:



4.) Martin & Pierce



Birmingham Terminating Vistas for Review:

5.) Old Woodward & Maple (NW Corner)



6.) Old Woodward & Maple (SE Corner)



Birmingham Terminating Vistas for Review:

7.) Hamilton and N. Old Woodward



8.) Willits & N. Old Woodward



Birmingham Terminating Vistas for Review:

9.) Park & Maple



10.) Maple and Woodward



Birmingham Terminating Vistas for Review:

11.) Peabody & Brown (South)



12.) Peabody & Brown (North)



Birmingham Terminating Vistas for Review:

13.) S. Old Woodward & Brown



14.) S. Old Woodward & Daines



Birmingham Terminating Vistas for Review:

15.) S. Old Woodward & Bowers (West Side)



16.) S. Old Woodward & Bowers (East Side)



Birmingham Terminating Vistas for Review:

17.) S. Old Woodward & Woodward



Birmingham Electrical Boxes in the Right-of-Way:

Maple and Henrietta:



N. Old Woodward and Hamilton:



Birmingham Electrical Boxes in the Right-of-Way:

N. Old Woodward and Merrill Street



Maple and Park





MEMORANDUM

Planning Division

DATE: April 15th, 2020

TO: Public Arts Board Members

FROM: Brooks Cowan, City Planner

APPROVED: Jana Ecker, Planning Director

SUBJECT: Electrical Box at N. Old Woodward

On May 22, 2019, the City Commission approved a recommendation from the Public Arts Board to have the electrical box at S. Old Woodward painted as a popcorn box. The design was approved along with the condition that the Public Arts Board examine possible ways to enhance other Terminating Vista throughout the City through the use of public art.

The Public Arts Board has since held multiple discussions regarding Terminating Vistas and made multiple recommendations. A portion of the discussions involved what to do about the multiple electrical boxes located in the right-of-way throughout downtown. The Board discussed multiples themes versus various ideas for each electrical box. There was consensus among the Board that they wanted the designs to have a pop-art theme and make small items appear large. The Board also felt that painting one box per summer is a reasonable time frame.

After much discussion, the Board has reached a general consensus that the electrical box at N. Old Woodward and Hamilton should be painted by Anne Ritchie in the summer of 2020 as a Crayon Box with the crayons facing the sidewalk. Designs of the proposed plans are included below.

Suggested Language:

Motion to recommend that the electrical box at N. Old Woodward and Hamilton be painted by Anne Ritchie in the summer of 2020 as a Crayon Box with the crayons facing the sidewalk as indicated in the attached design.





MEMORANDUM

Planning Division

DATE: April 15th, 2020

TO: Public Arts Board Members

FROM: Brooks Cowan, City Planner

APPROVED: Jana Ecker, Planning Director

SUBJECT: Charging Stations

The Public Arts Board was directed to examine ways to enhance Terminating Vistas through the use of public art. The catalyst for this charge was when the Board recommended that the electrical box in front of Birmingham 8 Theater be painted as a popcorn box. While painting, artist and Board member Anne Ritchie noticed that not many people were using the City's USB charging stations, and that some thought it was an ash tray. It was recommended that the charging stations be painted with an electrical theme, and a USB charger was supported. An image of the USB theme is provided below.

Suggested Language:

Motion to recommend the USB charging stations on N. Old Woodward at Merrill and Hamilton be painted as USBs with an electrical theme.





MEMORANDUM

Planning Division

DATE: April 15th, 2020

TO: Public Arts Board Members

FROM: Brooks Cowan, City Planner

APPROVED: Jana Ecker, Planning Director

SUBJECT: Piano in the Park

The Public Arts Board began discussions regarding a piano placed in the City in 2018. In 2019, the Board motioned to recommend a piano beneath the pavilion of Shain Park during the summertime with a budget of up to \$750 for painting and moving. The piano was required to have lockable wheels and was to be painted off site.

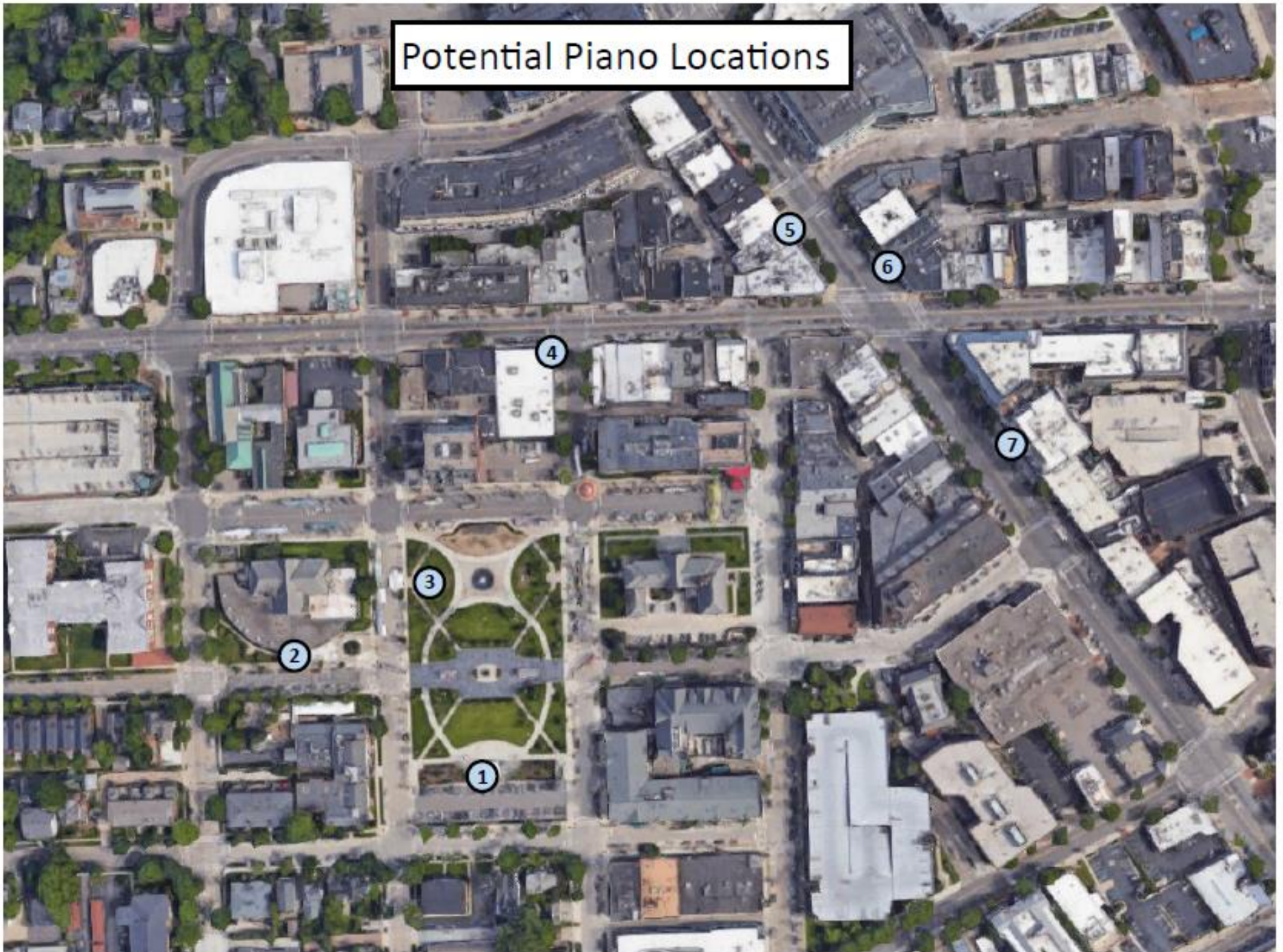
The painting event was held in the covered parking lot of St. James Episcopal Church which provided adequate refuge from the rain. The lockable wheels and piano dolly provided stable support and could be easily moved by DPS during events in Shain Park. The Piano timeframe was extended to winter time, and was then removed before the end of the year by Professional Movers who have partnered with Detroit School of Rock and Pop Music in assistance for the piano program.

On February 19th, 2020, the Public Arts Board considered plans for another year of pianos available in the public. The Board wants to have more pianos for the year of 2020 and considered potential spots around downtown. The Board recommended three locations which are Shain Park, Henrietta just south of Maple, adjacent to Roots, and possibly within the alley connected to Café Via. The Board also wishes to host the painting event at the same time as the Birmingham Fair, which would be May 28th, 2020.

Next steps for implementing the Piano program involve obtaining a piano, and figuring out the logistics of getting it to the painting location. A budget for sanding, priming, and painting is also recommended.

However, due to Corona Virus concerns, the Public Arts Board may wish to postpone such a project until virus concerns subside.

Potential Piano Locations





MEMORANDUM

Planning Division

DATE: March 18th, 2020

TO: Public Arts Board Members

FROM: Brooks Cowan, City Planner

APPROVED: Jana Ecker, Planning Director

SUBJECT: Birmingham in Stitches

The Public Arts Board has been sponsoring Birmingham in Stitches which occurs every 2 years. Their goal is to begin doing it every year. It generally occurs around the area of Shain Park where in 2019, the event occurred from September 12th to October 5th, 2019. It is recommended that the Planning Board determine any kind of theme for Birmingham in Stitches that they would like have, and to recommend funding for cloth and yarn and decorative materials.



MEMORANDUM

Planning Division

DATE: March 18th, 2020

TO: Public Arts Board Members

FROM: Brooks Cowan, City Planner

APPROVED: Jana Ecker, Planning Director

SUBJECT: Birmingham Master Plan Review

All of Birmingham's Public Boards were asked to review a 70 page summary of the Master Plan Draft, as well as the entire draft if interested. The Public Arts Board reviewed the summary and provided their comments at the February 19th, 2020 meeting. Their comments are summarized as follows:

- The City should amend its policy towards murals so that temporary or permanent murals may be painted and incorporated into the design of the City.
- The Public Arts Board likes the suggestions for alleys and believes that amending policy towards City alleys would enhance the aesthetics and help to curate interesting events such as Art in the Alley.
- The proposed shed for the Farmers Market would be a great space to host interactive art projects.
- Haynes Square would be a good location for a sculpture.
- The proposed oval at Woodward and Maple is a good location for a sculpture, although the Public Arts Board is opposed to the concept of the oval. The Public Arts Board believes the City should have a walkway under Woodward and have it decorated with art and light, similar to walkways beneath Lakeshore Drive in Chicago and Terminal B at the Detroit Airport.



MEMORANDUM

Planning Division

DATE: March 18th, 2020

TO: Public Arts Board Members

FROM: Brooks Cowan, City Planner

APPROVED: Jana Ecker, Planning Director

SUBJECT: Call for Entry

Birmingham has a number of preferred locations for sculptures throughout the City. In 2019, four sculpture pads were installed in various locations and two have yet to have to be designated for a sculpture. Meanwhile two sculptures were removed at key entryways into the City on Woodward and Maple. The Board has also updated its map of preferred sculpture locations. The Public Arts Board has previously discussed doing a larger call for entry and possibly offering financial incentives. Doing so would require waiting until the budget is approved with adequate financing for the fiscal year of 2020-2021 beginning in July 1st, 2020. The Board may wish to begin discussions so that all other items necessary are in order.

An example from the call for entry from 2005 has been attached.

Selected Artists

The artists that have been selected to exhibit through the CityScapes program are required to adhere to guidelines set forth by the CityScapes committee.

Exhibiting artists will receive:

- ✕ Honarium of \$5,000.
- ✕ On-site plaque identifying artist, sculpture and sponsor.
- ✕ Publicity for artist and sculpture including recognition in a CityScapes brochure.
- ✕ Insurance coverage for selected piece for display on public property during term of display period.

Exhibiting artists must:

- Attend a review meeting to answer questions concerning selected piece.
- Participate in public relations and educational programming of the CityScapes program.
- Assume cost of delivery, installation and removal.
- Assume responsibility for travel expenses incurred during participation in CityScapes program.
- Comply with Cultural Council contract guidelines for placement of any sculpture or art piece.
- Comply with all City Code regulations, including City reviews.
- Allow pieces to be photographed and used in promotional material.
- Attend opening reception for CityScapes program.
- Execute an agreement with the Cultural Council of Birmingham/Bloomfield for participation in the CityScapes program.

Note: Artwork may be sold according to the guidelines in the CityScapes agreement.

Cultural Council of
Birmingham/Bloomfield
CityScapes
PO Box 465
Birmingham, MI 48012



jigsaw design



Birmingham
CityScapes
call
for
entries



About CityScapes

The Cultural Council of Birmingham/Bloomfield in collaboration with the Birmingham Public Arts Board is reinstating its CityScapes program, which was founded in 1990. CityScapes is an outdoor sculpture program which solicits professional sculptors to lend their work for temporary display in public areas within the City of Birmingham.

Site Selection

Four sites have been selected for display in the CityScapes program pending sponsorship. Display periods will vary between 12 to 18 months depending on the site assigned. The CityScapes committee will assign locations for display in this program.

All sites are located outdoors. Existing footings can be used where present. No maximum height limit. Artists can review each site online by visiting the CityScapes webpage on the City of Birmingham website <http://ci.birmingham.mi.us>

Entry Requirements

CityScapes is currently accepting proposals for sculptures during our 2005 - 2006 exhibit year. Individual artists within Michigan, Indiana, Ohio, Illinois and Wisconsin are eligible to submit proposals. To submit a proposal, artists must include:

1. Vita (no more than 2 pages),
2. Slides and/or digital images on CD of proposed artwork (enclose SASE for slide return). Please label clearly. Slides must be submitted in a plastic sleeve and label slides with your name, title of work and mark "top" on right side of slide.
3. Up to 4 views per piece and up to 5 pieces per application,
4. The art application form must be completed and submitted as part of any application. This form can be accessed at <http://ci.birmingham.mi.us> on the CityScapes webpage.
5. \$25. submittal fee per artist payable to the Cultural Council of Birmingham/Bloomfield.
6. Up to 1 page narrative of artwork to be attached with application.

Selection Committee

A jury will be convened to review and recommend entries for display. The jury will be comprised of members representing the art and business community which may include: Cranbrook Museum of Art, Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center, Birmingham Bloomfield Chamber, other City board or community organization members, in addition to the CityScapes committee. Final approval rests with CityScapes committee and governmental approval.

All proposals must be submitted by:
Wednesday - August 31, 2005.

Submit to:

CityScapes
Cultural Council of
Birmingham/Bloomfield
P.O. Box 465
Birmingham, MI 48012

For additional information on CityScapes, please visit <http://ci.birmingham.mi.us>



MEMORANDUM

Planning Division

DATE: April 15th, 2020

TO: Public Arts Board Members

FROM: Brooks Cowan, City Planner

APPROVED: Jana Ecker, Planning Director

SUBJECT: Online Interactive Art

The Public Arts Board may wish to brainstorm online art projects for members of the City to download and complete at home.



MEMORANDUM

Planning Division

DATE: March 18th, 2020

TO: Public Arts Board Members

FROM: Brooks Cowan, City Planner

APPROVED: Jana Ecker, Planning Director

SUBJECT: Communications

1. Staff continues to coordinate with DPS and a mount fabricator on next steps for sculpture installation at the Library.
2. DPS has indicated they will surround the Library sculpture pad and Windswept pad with aggregate concrete.
3. Public Arts Board will be volunteering at the Farmers Market Kids Zone on May 5th. The activity will include coloring plant pots and planting seeds.
4. Public Arts Board will be in charge of voting for the sidewalk panel design competition during construction of Maple Road.