



CHATTANOOGA PUBLIC ART COMMISSION

Thursday, October 23, 2025, 1:00 - 3:00 PM

City Council Building | J.B. Collins Conference Room

PRESENT: Nandini Makrandi, Dixon Stetler, Matthew Stovall, Jack Wood, Rebecca Brooks, Ian-Alijah Bey, Ryan Kopet

GUESTS: None

STAFF: Austin Center, Katelyn Kirnie, Harolda Bryson

The meeting was called to order at 1:05PM.

I. Call to Order:

A. Approval of August 28, 2025 minutes

The meeting was called to order and a motion was made to approve minutes from August 28. The motion to approve the minutes passed with agreement and no opposition.

II. Items for Vote

A. Veterans Bridge Mural

Staff and project consultant, presented the artist, SEVEN's proposed design for the Veterans Bridge Detour Project Mural.

A motion was made to APPROVE the artist design for the **Veterans Bridge Phase 2 art installation** by artist **Eric Finley** (a.k.a. The Artist SEVEN), as presented by Public Art Chattanooga staff.

Motion was seconded. Motion carried.

B. Stadium Gates Project

Staff presented an overview of the Invitational Call process and Selection Panel criteria used to identify two finalists for the Stadium Gates project from 12 invited local artists. This expedited approach was necessary due to the rapid timeline and specific technical skills required for the gates, which are planned for winter installation by the Sports Authority's sub-contractor. After reviewing the finalists' materials, the Commission requested design sketches for a better understanding of the artists' approach before voting on the award recommendation. The sketches will be presented to the Selection Panel for a final vote.

A motion was made to APPROVE granting Public Art Chattanooga staff authority to award the contract for the **Erlanger Park - Stadium Gates Design** to the Selection Panel's recommended artist following the review of design sketches by the artist finalists, **Isaac Duncan III** and **Tomas Betancourt [Tommy Bronx]**.

Motion was seconded. Motion carried.

C. Westside

Staff presented ONE Westside Phase 1 projects and proposed Choice Neighborhood Grant fund use. The Commission offered feedback on staff's proposed budget allocation and selection methods. A vote was deferred until next month's meeting.

I. Items for Discussion

A. EPB - ArtSpark Goes to School Program

Staff presented their utility box design competition. The Commission appreciated the program's breadth and success with art programs in Hamilton County schools. They suggested including local artists (stipend offered) at a ratio of 1 artist for every 3 student boxes. They requested staff handle box location decisions going forward, preferring non-downtown/riverfront neighborhoods for student designs. They also requested a Commission representative join the selection committee instead of public art staff.

B. Rotating Sculpture Program

Staff proposed a new take on the initial rotating sculpture program for Main Street. This involves removing sculptures needing major repair, considering new locations for re-installation post-refurbishment, and deaccessioning some artworks. Spacing and re-siting are necessary due to increased development, to ensure optimal viewing, public appreciation, and to spread public art to other areas. The Commission supported the idea and requested further exploration of a project plan and budget.

II. Project Updates

A. MLK Underpass

Staff provided an update on plans to relocate the mural by artist Cecilia Lueza to another location on MLK blvd.

B. City Stages

Staff presented a status update regarding the upcoming Call to Artists for the City Stages temporary sidewalk murals project, which is funded by a TN Arts Commission Grant.

C. Collection Management

Staff presented recently completed collection repairs and upcoming plans for sculpture refurbishment.

III. CPAC Business

- A. Staff and Commission discussed the need to revise **Public Art Guidelines** to provide more clarity for Public Art staff and Commission operating procedures.
- B. Staff and Commission discussed the need to develop a schedule for **CPAC Orientation Sessions** at the end of regularly scheduled meetings of the full commission.

IV. Public Comment: No public comments were made.

Next Meeting: Thursday, November 20, 2025 1:00 - 3:00 PM