



STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: January 28, 2025

TITLE:

Consider and act on Resolution No. R-2025-26, approving of the Bastrop Bird Junction Project proposed nine (9) locations, and proposed outdoor Bird Sculptures, and consider action to approve the next round of proposed locations and proposed outdoor Bird Sculptures for locations three (3), four (4), and six (6) as identified in Exhibit A, located within the City Limits of Bastrop, Texas; authorizing the execution of all necessary documents; upon request and providing for findings of fact, repealer, severability, effective date, proper notice, and meeting.

AGENDA ITEM SUBMITTED BY:

Submitted by: Michaela Joyce, Main Street Manager

BACKGROUND/HISTORY:

City Staff has been working over the past several months with the Bastrop Cultural Arts Commission on their “Bastrop Bird Junction Project.”

This project currently consists of nine (9) previously proposed locations throughout town. All large outdoor sculptures will be of Bastrop’s (Native and Migratory) birds.

The previously proposed locations are listed below:

1. 1600 Chestnut Street – Film Alley (NW Corner)
2. 900 State Highway 95 – Hay Elotes (SW Corner)
3. 1408 B Chestnut Street – Bridge between Schulmann and Visit Bastrop (East side at bridge)
4. 1408 Chestnut Street – Visit Bastrop
5. 1408 Chestnut Street – Convention Center
6. 1408 Chestnut Street – Convention Center
7. 906 Main Street – Tuck Law Firm
8. 1028 Main Street – Calvery Episcopal Church (SW Corner of Main)
9. 1100 Church Street – Bastrop Public Library

The two locations at SH 95 will be in TxDOT right-of-way. A written approval/Agreement has been completed for any locations along the 95 Hwy and Chestnut corridor.

Maria Montoya, Chair with Bastrop Cultural Arts Commission has provided the history and scope of the project along with the overview of sculptures and timing for each location below:

Intro: The Cultural Arts Commission has begun the process of enhancing the Chestnut corridor with large outdoor sculptures featuring native and migratory birds in the area through a public art project, “The Bastrop Bird Junction.”

Birds have a special meaning for Bastrop. In 2020, Bastrop was one of only four cities across Texas to be designated as “Bird City” by the Texas Parks and Wildlife. In celebration of our Bird City status, a series of bird sculptures will be installed in Bastrop in three different phases.

Located just 30 miles east of Austin on the banks of the Colorado River, Bastrop is one of the oldest towns in Texas. With its rich history and abundant resources, Bastrop has flourished as a culturally rich and diverse community for over a century. Coincidentally, Bastrop is home to many native birds and the city is uniquely situated in a corridor for migratory birds. The Bastrop Bird Junction project is being rolled out in Phase 1 and Phase 2.

Phase 1

This phase is underway with full completion of location number 5, the Pileated Woodpecker and locations 1 & 2 close to installation.

Phase 2

There will be three sculptures, (*tentatively* two on Main Street and one by the library) in Phase 2. Two of the sculptures are each \$25,000. One signature sculpture is \$50,000. Completion of sculptures 7,8, and 9 is slated by the end of May 2025.

RECOMMENDATION:

Consider action to approve the next (3) three out of (9) total proposed locations (location #3, #4, and #6) Bird Sculptures located within the City Limits of Bastrop, Texas.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Resolution No. R-2025-26
- Exhibit A - Bird Junction Statue Location Map
- Bird Junction Phased 1 Information
- Executed TXDOT Multiple Use Agreement