

# TOWN COUNCIL



## STAFF REPORT Executive Department

<b>MEETING DATE:</b>	April 7, 2026
<b>PROJECT:</b>	Consideration of Public Financial Support for a Wall Art Mural by Amiri Faris at 89 Bridge Street with a Fiscal Impact of 50% of the Cost, Not to Exceed \$4,250
<b>PROJECT MANAGER:</b>	Chris Forster, MPA, CPFO, CGFM, Assistant Town Manager

### REQUEST:

Town Council consider approval of the Public Arts Committee (PAC) recommendation to support public art by contributing towards a mural at 89 Bridge Street.

### BACKGROUND:

The Public Arts Committee was established in October 2023 to carry out the Council approved public art policy. The committee is responsible for making recommendations to the Council on publicly funding public art or art to be placed on public property.

The Bluffton Book Store, located at 89 Bridge Street, has requested funding towards the cost of installing a mural by Amiri Ferris. The mural will be created on fully removable exterior-grade aluminum composite panels, painted in-studio, and installed on the building using a concealed mounting system. The art is to be located on the side wall facing the parking lot at the corner of Bridge and Wharf Streets, highly visible and accessible to the public. The owner has completed all of the exterior preparation and will cover any remaining costs associated with the installation of the mural.

In the Town of Bluffton Public Art Policy, **Section 1.8 Art in Private Development**, *“recognizes that public art should be incorporated into both public and private development. Accordingly, the Town encourages creative public/private partnerships that enhance the profile of art in the Town, support the Town’s mission and Public Art Policy and contribute to a culturally vibrant and aesthetically beautiful destination.”*

In keeping with this policy, the Public Arts committee has recommended that the Town fund up to 50% of the cost for this public/private art partnership, not to exceed \$4,250. The Town would have an agreement with the Owner to have a right of first refusal to take ownership and possession of the artwork should the Owner’s business close, or if the artwork was otherwise at risk of being removed from Owner’s building for anything other than temporary

maintenance. The Town would have 60 days to exercise its ownership rights with no additional consideration or money paid to the Owner.

**NEXT STEPS:**

Approve, approve with conditions, or deny the recommendation to award funding towards the Bluffton Book Store mural.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. Design Graphic
2. Proposed Motion