

VILLAGE OF HOMEWOOD



BOARD AGENDA MEMORANDUM

DATE OF MEETING: October 8, 2024

To: Village President and Board of Trustees

Through: Napoleon Haney, Village Manager

From: Terence Acquah, Assistant Village Manager

Topic: Mural Agreement for Alleyway Wall at 2049 Ridge Road

PURPOSE:

Staff is seeking to engage muralist Nate Otto to create a mural on the alleyway side of the building located at 2049 Ridge Road. This mural will feature Village landmarks and will beautifully complement the upcoming lighting project in the alleyway between 2033 Ridge Road and 2049 Ridge Road.

Village staff has successfully engaged with the property owner to secure permission for the mural work, and the property owner has agreed to allow the mural to be installed on the building. To move forward with this initiative, an agreement must be signed between the Village and the property owner.

PROCESS

During the Board meeting on August 13, 2024, the Board approved the purchase of ten (10) Color Kinetics Red, Green, Blue, White (RGBW) lights, along with one (1) Pharos controller, from Chicago Lightworks in Lisle, IL. As part of the planned work, it was proposed a mural should be complement the lighting project. The goal of the project is to transform the passageway, echoing the ambiance of renowned art installations in cities like Milwaukee, WI (Black Cat Alley), Wichita, KS (Gallery Alley), and Downtown Iowa City, IA (Fall Gallery Walk). This concept will serve as a pilot project, positioning the Village as a leader in integrating contemporary art designs, moving beyond the traditional antebellum Richard Haas murals.

On September 5, 2024, staff presented muralist Nate Otto to the Appearance Commission, where he shared his background and proposed concept. Nate addressed various questions from the Appearance Commission. Afterward, the members expressed their unanimous support for the initiative.

OUTCOME

This agreement allows for a mural to be installed on the property at 2049 Ridge Road creating a destination for Homewood residents and visitors an opportunity to share in the Village's civic pride.

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FINANCIAL IMPACT

- **Funding Source:** None
- **Budgeted Amount:** None
- **Cost:** None

LEGAL REVIEW

Completed

RECOMMENDED BOARD ACTION

Authorize the Village President to enter into an agreement with Invals International LLC, the property owners of 2049 Ridge Road for the installation of a mural on the building.

ATTACHMENT(S)

- Agreement
- Appearance Commission Presentation