

Downtown Advisory Board
AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY



SUBMITTER: Jamie Carpenter, Downtown Manager **MEETING DATE:** February 8, 2022

TITLE OF ITEM: Sidewalk Mural Expansion

SUMMARY:

WHO - Elizabeth Queen was one of the artists behind the sidewalk mural project, the sidewalk “Hendo Bee Line” and brought this proposal to the Community Character Team.

WHAT - Elizabeth is proposing a painted sidewalk connection from the 5th Avenue sidewalks to Hands On Children’s Museum and the Good of the Hive Mural.

This was presented a detailed proposal and discussed at length with the Community Character team. The team, along with Elizabeth came up with the following plan:

- Take a lower impact approach to the sidewalks – no primer along the sidewalk, just footprints. This will be a easier project to complete and a demonstration for future more permanent public art pieces. At some point, some of the sidewalks will be replaced, and we want to see how the sidewalks painted last fall will hold up before any extensive murals.
- She has written a children's book that would be a companion piece to the sidewalk path. The pages of the book will also be a part of the sidewalk path, the words will either be in a QR code or otherwise installed on the sidewalk (stickers like stand here stickers?) and no physical signs except maybe at the start/finish.

WHEN - As a part of Garden Jubilee, the Bee City committee and Elizabeth will do some pollinator tours, and would like to have the painted path as a part of the project. This would be completed before then.

WHERE – From 3rd Avenue W to King Street to 5th Avenue W where the current sidewalk murals are.

WHY – How this fits within the Downtown Workplan:

1. **Pedestrian Connection** - A consistent theme of our work is to build connections between Main Street and 7th Avenue and encouraging 5th Avenue as the safe pedestrian route to Maple Street. This continues to add to that connection in a low cost, quick action way.
2. **Volunteer Activation and Champions** – A component of our Main Street Accreditation and best practices are volunteer-led, grassroots efforts that serve the goals of our workplan. This project sets a good example for volunteer-led projects going forward that are well-planned, thoughtful, and meet the goals of our downtown workplan.
3. **Catalyst Project** – The spirit of the AARP grant we received are to be catalyst projects for livable communities. Keeping that energy going is always a good thing! This may also lend itself to future demonstration projects on South Main Street and connections to the Ecusta Trail.

HOW - The sidewalk will use leftover paint from the sidewalk mural project, and some remaining grant funds (about \$900). With the work on the sidewalk murals already completed, Elizabeth is proven to be resourceful and organized in completing the project.