



Council Agenda Item

Meeting Date:	January 20, 2026
Agenda Item:	Public Art on Electrical Boxes
Staff Contact (name, email, phone):	Brad Marquardt, bmarquardt@whitewater-wi.gov , 262-473-0139

BACKGROUND

(Enter the who, what when, where, why)

With the successful completion of eight painted traffic control boxes over the summer of 2025, staff decided to put out another call for artists for four remaining boxes. They are located at the corner of Franklin Street and Main Street, Prince Street and Main Street, Starin Road and Jefferson Street, and Starin Road and Newcomb Street. Six applications were received and reviewed by the Public Arts Commission. They recommended to move forward with four applications received from: Bill Miller, Justin Mane, Edith Wence and Aliya (Mou) Noh. Three of the four have words associated with the painting. It was also recommended by the Public Arts Commission that any writing only be on the back side of the box. The Public Works Committee asked for new renderings showing no words.

PREVIOUS ACTIONS – COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS (Dates, committees, action taken)

At the May 13, 2025 Public Works Committee meeting and the May 20, 2025 Common Council meeting, it was approved to move forward with the painting of eight traffic control boxes. At the November 6, 2025 Public Arts Commission meeting, the Commission recommended four artists/paintings for approval to send to the Public Works Committee.

At the December 9, 2025 Public Works Committee meeting, it was recommended that the three applications with wording be resubmitted with no wording for final approval.

At the January 13, 2026 Public Works Committee meeting, it was recommended to approve the renderings submitted by Miller, Mane and Wence, as Noh did not resubmit a new rendering.

FINANCIAL IMPACT (If none, state N/A)

\$8,000 (\$2,000/each) has been included in the 2026 Street Department budget.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Two of the three applicants resubmitted a mockup of their paintings, with no new mockup from Noh. Staff recommends a motion to approve the resubmitted paintings with no wording from Mane and Wence, along with the previous painting from Miller.

ATTACHMENT(S) INCLUDED (If none, state N/A)

1. Recommended Applications
2. Resubmitted renderings.