

DOWNTOWN LINKS CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE (DLCAC)  
PUBLIC ART  
REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, October 22, 2013

*Accepted and Approved by the Downtown Links CAC  
Public Art Review Subcommittee on February 3, 2014*

**FROM: TDOT Project Manager Tom Fisher**

**DECK PARK SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:**

**Chair**, Mary Ellen Wooten, Tucson-Pima Arts Council  
Susan Marshall, Citizen Transportation Advisory Council  
Gail Ryser, Barrio Anita Neighborhood Association

**PROJECT TEAM PRESENT:**

Tom Fisher, City of Tucson Department of Transportation (TDOT)  
Sam Credio, City of Tucson Department of Transportation (TDOT)  
Michael Bertram, HDR Engineering, Inc.  
Brent Kirkman, HDR Engineering, Inc.  
Kathy Jirschele, Kaneen Advertising and Public Relations  
Laura Mielcarek, Wheat Scharf and Associates

**DOWNTOWN LINKS CAC MEMBERS PRESENT**

Susan Gamble, Warehouse Arts Management Association

**1. Meeting Called to Order**

Meeting called to order at 1:32 p.m. at 100 N. Stone Avenue, Suite 109, Tucson, AZ  
Quorum confirmed

**2. Introduction of Committee Members and Staff**

Downtown Links CAC Public Art Review Subcommittee and Project Team Members introduced themselves.

**3. Elect Chair for DLCAC Deck Park Review Subcommittee**

A motion by Susan Marshall to elect Mary Ellen Wooten as Chair was seconded by Gail Ryser and passed with a unanimous voice vote.

**4. Announcements**

Mary Ellen Wooten, Chair, announced that she would allow the audience members to participate in the discussion as long as they were recognized by the Chair before they spoke.  
Sam Credio announced that the 75% Downtown Links Phase III plans had been submitted to TDOT and he expected them to be in review for about 4 weeks. After TDOT finishes their review, the plans will be sent to the utilities for review and comment. Sam also announced that the RTA had approved the \$6.5 million for acquisition. Sam said this gives us the green light to begin conversations with property owners.

**5. Staff Reports and Presentations to DLCAC**

Mary Ellen Wooten presented a brief PowerPoint hi-lighting the following public art elements:

- Recap of artists under contract for Downtown Links artwork – Living Lenses, Cork Marcheschi, Creative Machines (Joe O’Connell), and Richard Posner. The art selection and design approval

panel consisted of Jennifer Donofrio, TDOT representative; Mike Bertram, Project Engineer, HDR; Alex Beeshligaii, Barrio Anita community member; Lorraine Stockdale, Dunbar Spring community member; Mary Lucking, El Presidio community member; Judy Sensibar, West University community member; Kory Kruckmeyer, Pie Allen community member; Jeff DiGregorio, Iron Horse community member; Elizabeth Garber, Armory Park community member; Joe Hatton, artist, Warehouse District; Marvin Shaver, artist, Warehouse Arts Management Organization; Cara Rene, Downtown Partnership community member and Kurt Tallis, Fourth Avenue Merchants Association community member

- Recap of artwork along the Downtown Links route – Mary Ellen reviewed the selected artists’ concepts and approximate locations along the Downtown Links corridor where they would be installed. One of the artists, Richard Posner, has since passed away. His remaining art budget of \$75,000 will be re-allocated.
- Overview of physical opportunities and requests for Phase 3 of Downtown Links – Mary Ellen discussed the existing or planned artwork existing or planned along (or adjacent to) the Downtown Links Corridor, they include:

Existing:

- Hozographos with Albert Gonzalez – Anita Song Wall 3, frontage road at I-10
- Living Lenses: Traveling Through Time – under construction as part of west end, Phase 2
- Creative Machines: Wet Wheel – future
- Donovan and Olmstead: Enjoy the Ride – Streetcar Maintenance and Storage Facility (MSF)
- Melody Peters: Pas de Deuz – 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue pocket park, Spencer Park
- Cork Marcheschi: Untitled – future
- Simon Donovan: Diamondback Bridge – Broadway, east of Links

Additional art opportunities:

- Deck/Deck Park – child friendly interactive sculpture
- Deck – Railings/unique or affixed to standard rail
- Underpass at 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue/UPRR – Formliner design for concrete walls
- Pedestrian bridge at Stone Avenue – Metal work affixed to cage
- Pedestrian bridge at Stone Avenue – Formliner design for approach
- Bridge at 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue – concept design for bridge
- Bridge at 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue – Formliner design for approach
- Additional considerations and/or requests – Memorial to Maclavio Barraza; Addition to mural at I-10 westbound frontage road; Tile panel ‘deaccessioned’ from *A show of Hands* by artist Eddie Dominguez

There was additional discussion regarding the various opportunities along the corridor. Tom Fisher announced that TDOT was in the process of finalizing a land swap with property near the Deck Plaza. The additional property will provide more landscape and design opportunity for the plaza. Laura Mielcarek of Wheat Scharf briefed the members on the status of the Deck Plaza design and inclusion of interactive and rail art.

- Discussion of implications, constraints and budget feasibility for the various opportunities and requests - Michael Bertram defined the opportunities and requirements of artwork for/on railings. He also reminded the committee that the deck walls offer an opportunity for formliner work and that at the very least, the walls should be colored. There was additional conversation regarding formliners. Mary Ellen asked about the timing for adding the art elements into the design plans since plans were already at 75%. Michael B. said that typically between 90% and 100% plans is where art elements come in to play.

Mary Ellen gave a brief history of an existing piece of artwork that was installed in the ’90 as a youth project in memory of Maclavio Barraza. The artwork has since fallen apart. Mary Ellen said she has a commitment to the Barraza family to help re-do the artwork through a call to artist process. Mary Ellen explained that the Barraza family would like the memorial to have a more prominent

setting and hope the memorial can be placed along the downtown Links Corridor. (The Barraza family plans to petition Mayor and Council about renaming Barraza Aviation Parkway along with the new alignment of Downtown Links, to Maclavio Barraza Parkway) After Mary Ellen’s brief history of the old Maclavio Barraza memorial, the Barraza family spoke and presented a short slide-show about their father, Maclavio Barraza.

- Final determination of which opportunities are most valued by CAC subcommittee members and Crafting a recommendation to be presented at an upcoming full CAC meeting: After discussion, the subcommittee determined the following recommendations for the re-allocation of \$175,000 remaining art budget to be presented to the full Downtown Links CAC:
  - Artist works with design team to develop designs for:
    - Form liners for cast concrete areas that continue throughout the length of the improvement (underpass at Sixth St. at 9<sup>th</sup> Ave., approaches to pedestrian bridge at Stone, and another areas deemed feasible)
    - Metal railing detailing, potentially for Deck Plaza structure and other areas deemed feasible.
    - Potentially this design could influence cage for pedestrian bridge at Stone and Deck Plaza.
    - Suggested commission: **\$25,000** for design work only with some input/review during construction documents development and oversight during production.
  - Metal work to be affixed to Deck Plaza railing, facing inside. Locations would be identified and worked through with Design Team and Design Team artist.
    - Suggested total commission for four artworks: **\$30,000**.
    - Provides good opportunity for emerging artists. (The budget for 4 artworks/commissions is based on recently completed work for the Pie Allen Neighborhood of about \$7000 each)
  - Child-friendly interactive sculpture (vertical or horizontal to be determined).
    - Suggested commission: **\$80,000**.
  - Artwork to honor Tucsonan Maclovio Barraza
    - Would replace a work “deaccessioned” (removed) from the public collection. Artwork was a youth project and deteriorated.
    - Family has requested new artwork be visible from Barraza Aviation or Links. Previous location was at 22<sup>nd</sup> Street exit from Barraza Aviation but was not visible in essence from any location.
    - Type of work and specific location TBD. East end of improvement is seen as offering potential.
    - Suggested budget: **\$40,000**

Ultimately, the Call to Artists will be a request for qualifications with the artist select panel and others providing input for the artists as they develop concepts and designs. The panel also has the role of approving the final designs to production.

- Additional Topic: Brief discussion of Public Art Selection Panel structure for upcoming Call to Artists. Mary Ellen suggested the panel should be drawn more from the Downtown Links CAC members.

## **6. Next Steps**

### **Items for Future Meetings**

None

**Confirm Future Meeting Dates**

Will be determined on need

**7. Call to the Audience**

None

**8. Adjournment at 4:13 p.m.**