

1/20/2026

Public Art Program

January 20, 2026



Background

Develop a Public Art Program as a Priority Action Item

- Project Consists of Creating a Public Art Program to Address Program Management and Governance, Funding, Project Selection, Community Engagement and Program Evaluation

Guiding DG Streetscapes Plan identified areas throughout Downtown, Fairview, and along Rogers St. for public art pieces

- 30+ gateway and public art features called for in the plan



Phased Approach

Phase 1: Purchase existing artworks for flexible amenity areas that will be constructed in 2026

- Development of an ongoing Public Art Program would not allow for artworks to be installed as construction is completed in mid 2026
- Purchased pieces could remain or be moved after Public Art Program is developed

Phase 2: Develop an ongoing Public Art Program to coordinate artworks for remaining spaces identified in the Streetscapes Plan



Council Direction

- ~~• Looks Like it Belongs in the Downtown Area~~
- Is Relative to DG, Unique to DG
- Is Authentic and Timeless
- Is Vibrant, Attractive
- Is Welcoming and Inclusive to All Visitors
- Is Suitable for Viewing by All Ages
- Creates Placemaking and Sense of Belonging
- Reflects a Balance between Tradition and Progress
- Is Permanent Durable, Resilient in Design & Composition, Withstands Extreme Weather
- Looks Great All Year
- Requires Little Maintenance
- ~~• Complies with Downers Grove Municipal Code and Downtown Design Guidelines~~
- Fits On or In the Art Space within the Flexible Amenity Areas
- Is of an Appropriate Scale for Its Location
- Is Non-Controversial - Avoids Negative Attention
- Allows for Interaction with the Public
- Suitable for Photos and Posting on Social Media



Phase 1 Locations

Burlington & Main (SE corner)



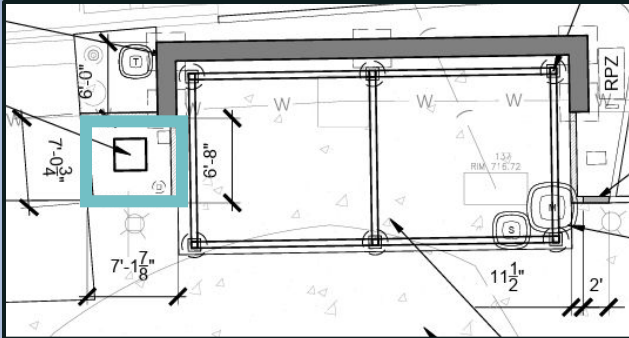
Main Street



Curtiss & Main (NE corner)



Phase 1 Locations



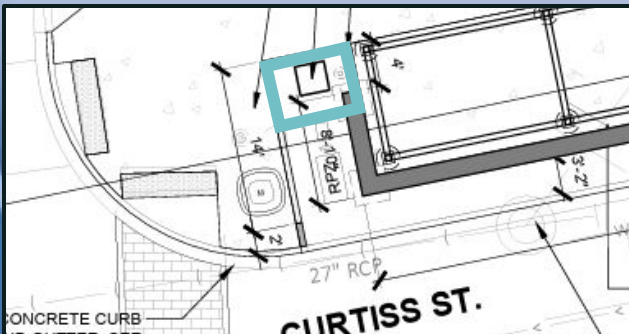
Burlington & Main (SE corner)

- ~7' X 8' curbed landscape bed
- Adjacent to outdoor dining area/shade
- Opposing corner to Linda Kunze Plaza gateway



Main Street

- ~8' x 7' space inside curbed landscape bed
- Adjacent to a bench (opportunity for pictures or interaction)



Curtiss & Main (NE corner)

- ~6' x 4' space inside curbed landscape bed
- Adjacent to outdoor dining area/shade
- Adjacent to traffic light control box, trash receptacles, and close to walkway



Examples of Available Artworks for Downtown Amenity Areas



Next Steps

- Staff will use VC feedback to select final pieces based on Council feedback and available budget
- Staff will prepare an agenda item for Phase 2 of the Public Art Program Discussion

