



# Public Arts Commission Meeting

February 4, 2026 at 6 p.m.  
Fridley Civic Campus, 7071 University Avenue NE

---

## Agenda

### Call to Order

### Roll Call

### Approval of Meeting Minutes

1. January 7, 2026 Public Arts Commission Minutes

### New Business

2. Art Trail Concept Refinement
3. Draft Call for Art – Utility Box Wrap Program

### Old Business

### Other Items

### Adjournment

---

#### Accessibility Notice:

- If you need free interpretation or translation assistance, please contact City staff.
- Si necesita ayuda de interpretación o traducción gratis, comuníquese con el personal de la ciudad.
- Yog tias koj xav tau kev pab txhais lus los sis txhais ntaub ntawv dawb, ces thov tiv tauj rau Lub Nroog cove neeg ua hauj lwm.
- Haddii aad u baahan tahay tarjumaad bilaash ah ama kaalmo tarjumaad, fadlan la xiriir shaqaalaha Magaalada.

Upon request, accommodation will be provided to allow individuals with disabilities to participate in any City of Fridley services, programs or activities. Hearing impaired persons who need an interpreter or other persons who require auxiliary aids should contact [CityClerk@FridleyMN.gov](mailto:CityClerk@FridleyMN.gov) or (763) 572-3450.

# AGENDA REPORT



---

**Meeting Date:** February 4, 2026  
**Meeting Type:** Public Arts Commission  
**Submitted By:** Mike Maher, Parks and Recreation Director  
**Title:** January 7, 2026 Public Arts Commission Minutes

---

## **Background**

---

Attached are the meeting minutes of the January 7, 2026 Public Arts Commission.

## **Recommendation**

---

Staff recommends approval of the January 7, 2026 Public Arts Commission Minutes.

## **Attachments and Other Resources**

- 
1. PA\_ Commission Minutes- January 7 2026

### **Vision Statement**

We believe Fridley will be a safe, vibrant, friendly, and stable home for families and businesses.



# Public Arts Commission Meeting

January 7, 2026

6:00 PM

Fridley City Hall, 7071 University Ave. NE, Fridley, MN 55432

---

## Minutes

### **Call to Order**

Chair Collins called the Public Arts Commission meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

### **Present**

Josh Collins, Chair  
Ryan Fugleberg, Vice Chair  
Gary Osterbauer  
Gary Swanson  
Maija Sedzielarz  
Frank Sedzielarz  
Kara Ruwart

Mike Maher, Parks and Recreation Director  
Jesslyn Quiram, Engineering Technician  
Councilmember Ann Bolkcom

### **1. Approve Public Arts Commission Minutes for December 3, 2025**

A correction was noted where "Parks and Recreation Commission" appeared in the minutes which should have read "Public Arts Commission".

*Motion by Commissioner Swanson to approve the December 3, 2025 meeting minutes. Seconded by Commissioner Ruwart. The motion passed unanimously.*

### **New Business**

#### 2. Election of Vice Chair

*A motion was made by Commissioner Frank Sedzielarz to nominate Commissioner Maija Sedzielarz as Vice Chair. Second by Commissioner Osterbauer. The motion passed unanimously.*

#### 3. Commons Park Sculpture Project Updates and Discussion

Staff provided a brief update on the sculpture by artist Ken McCall for the Commons Park public art project:

- The concept was approved by Council
- Staff connected with Native American Community Development Institute staff to request a proposal for community engagement support through speakers, programs and advisement.
- Initial payment, per terms of contract with the artist, has been made and fabrication is underway

*No action was taken by the Commission on this item.*

#### 4. Vision for Mississippi St. Underpass Mural

Staff reviewed a presentation on various mural types, options and pricing guidelines that could be applicable to the Mississippi Street underpass mural project. The Commission discussed the project scope and timeline and determined that additional time and consideration should be put into the project and perhaps waiting until after the road reconstruction project to better understand the site would be a good approach to the project, leaving it as an identified project but lower priority for the foreseeable future. It was also noted that the concept of a mural that could be completed in panels in partnership with Fridley Public Schools or other community partnerships is a worthwhile concept and should be noted on the Commission workplan for future consideration.

*No formal action was taken by the Commission on this item.*

#### 5. Letter of Support for Issac Kidder Grant Application

The Commission reviewed a summary of past communication with artist Issac Kidder, who had reached out to the City of Fridley to gauge interest in hosing a sculpture if he was able to secure a grant to fabricate the artwork. A letter of support was previously provided yet grants were not awarded to Mr. Kidder for this purpose in past grant cycles.

Commissioner Maija Sedzielarz agreed to reach out to Mr. Kidder to confirm his intent to apply for Minnesota State Arts Board grants opening in 2026.

*A motion was made by Commissioner Gary Swanson to allow staff to provide a letter of support to Mr. Kidder if he wishes to submit a grant to create a sculpture to be hosted by the City of Fridley in 2026. Second by Commissioner Frank Sedzielarz. The motion passed unanimously.*

## 6. Updated 2026 Workplan Review

Staff presented an updated workplan document that captures projects and priorities for the Public Arts Commission. The Commission reviewed the document and requested that staff add creation of a policy document for the display of temporary public art installations to support a sculpture walk concept be added to the workplan.

### **Old Business**

None

### **Other Items**

Commissioner Osterbauer shared a brief overview of an arts organization called Sprayfinger that engages youth in positive artistic development through graffiti style art. It was noted that Creative Flow Art Center opens a new show called Taking Flight which runs through February 14 with an opening reception the evening of January 15.

### **Adjournment**

*Commissioner Maija Sedzielarz made a motion to adjourn the meeting. A second was made by Commissioner Ruwart. The motion was passed unanimously.*

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Maher, Parks and Recreation Director  
Recording Secretary

# AGENDA REPORT



---

**Meeting Date:** February 4, 2026  
**Meeting Type:** Public Arts Commission  
**Submitted By:** Mike Maher, Parks and Recreation Director  
**Title:** Art Trail Concept Refinement

---

## Background

---

One priority established by the Public Arts Commission has been a sculpture walk. Several options have been discussed including a centralized, walkable route extending from the Civic Campus to Locke Park and another less-centralized model putting art pieces into parks throughout the City.

## Recommendation

---

## Attachments and Other Resources

1. Art Trail Concept

### Vision Statement

We believe Fridley will be a safe, vibrant, friendly, and stable home for families and businesses.



# Art Trail Concept

---

Exploring options for a connected collection of public art in Fridley





# Opportunity – Art Walk

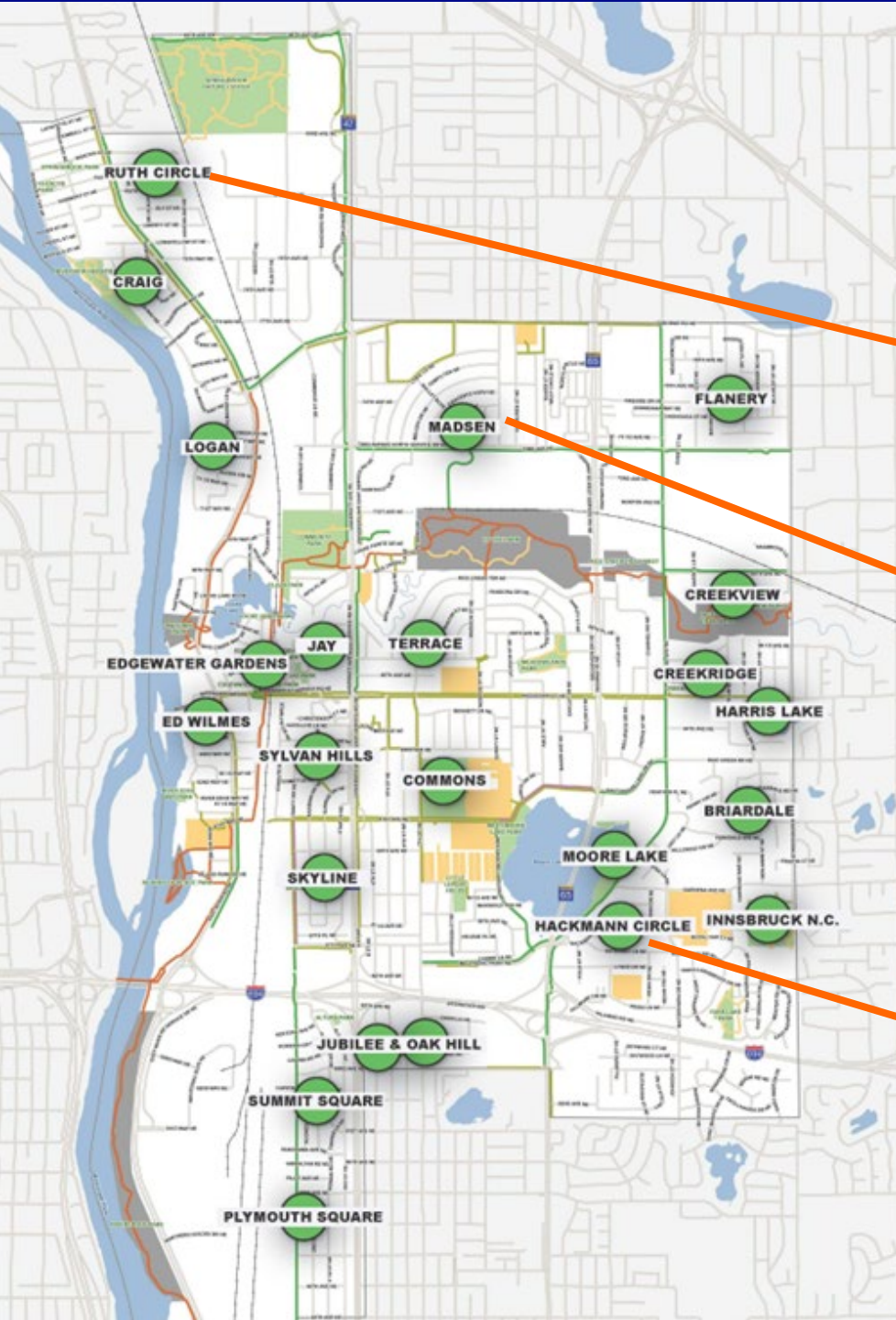
One priority established by the Public Arts Commission has been a sculpture walk. Several options have been discussed including a centralized, walkable route extending from the Civic Campus to Locke Park and another less-centralized model putting art pieces into parks throughout the City.

# Sculpture Walk Concept



A vibrant blend of permanent and changing artwork to create an interactive art experience trail. One excellent option would be the area extending from City Hall to Locke Park.

# Art in the Parks Concept



Bring unique placemaking artwork to city parks spread across the park system as part of upcoming projects.



# Discussion and Questions

- The Commission has discussed using permanent art installations and art on loan. Does one model work better with this in mind?
- How does fundraising by the Fridley Creative Arts Foundation factor into planning. Is one model better suited to attract gifts or donations?
- Are there considerations for maintenance or vandalism?
- Which model might be enjoyed by more residents or add to the character of Fridley?
- Other questions to consider?

# AGENDA REPORT



---

**Meeting Date:** February 4, 2026  
**Meeting Type:** Public Arts Commission  
**Submitted By:** Mike Maher, Parks and Recreation Director  
**Title:** Draft Call for Art – Utility Box Wrap Program

---

## Background

---

A pilot program to wrap six utility boxes recently installed along University Avenue in Fridley was recommended by the Public Arts Commission, approved by Council and will be funded by the Fridley Creative Arts Foundation. A draft call for art is attached for review prior to being distributed.

## Recommendation

---

## Attachments and Other Resources

---

1. Call for Art Utility Box Wrap Pilot Program

### Vision Statement

We believe Fridley will be a safe, vibrant, friendly, and stable home for families and businesses.



# Call for Art

Utility Box Art Wrap Pilot Program

**DRAFT FOR REVIEW 2-4-26**





## Call for Art

Utility  
Box Wrap Pilot Program

---

### Call to Artists

The City of Fridley is seeking original artwork from area artists to replicate on vinyl wraps that will be installed on utility boxes along University Avenue in Fridley. This is a limited-scope pilot program in partnership with the Minnesota Department of Transportation and the Fridley Creative Arts Foundation. The Utility Box Art Wrap program is part of the City of Fridley's public art program, launched in 2024 to add character, vibrancy and sense of place to our community.

**Eligibility:** This opportunity is open to artists residing in or having a strong relationship with the City of Fridley. Examples may include working or attending school in Fridley or being affiliated with a Fridley-based non-profit organization. Preference will be given to current residents of the City of Fridley.

A variety of mediums will be considered if the artwork can be successfully converted to a digital file format. All non-youth submissions must be in the specified digital format detailed below.

Artists will receive \$500 for each artwork submission selected by the Fridley Public Arts Commission for use in the program. Final selection and disbursement of the \$500 award is contingent on the individual signing an artwork use agreement with the Minnesota Department of Transportation.

**Call Open:** February 16 – April 22, 2026

#### Submission Materials:

- Artists may submit multiple images for consideration in digital format (.jpg, .pdf, .ai, .eps)
- Youth artists age 17 or younger may submit artwork in alternative formats for consideration but selection may be contingent on discretion by the selection committee on the feasibility of conversion of artwork to digital format. For example, flat artwork on paper may be scanned and converted to digital format where three-dimensional artwork cannot be converted.
- Include artist name, address, phone and email.
- Include a narrative of 100 words or less describing the artist's connection to the City of Fridley (resident, non-profit affiliation, work, etc.)
- Description of the artwork including title. If artwork contains elements specific to a specific ethnic or cultural group, include narrative of artist's background or collaboration demonstrating cultural representation.
- Email your submission to both: [Mike.Maher@FridleyMN.gov](mailto:Mike.Maher@FridleyMN.gov) and [Jesslyn.Quiram@FridleyMN.gov](mailto:Jesslyn.Quiram@FridleyMN.gov). Non-digital submissions must be delivered in



## Call for Art

### Utility Box Wrap Pilot Program

---

person or by mail along with all requested information to: City of Fridley, 7071 University Avenue NE, Fridley, MN 55432.

**Selection Process:** Selections will be made by the Fridley Public Arts Commission and recommended to the Fridley City Council for final approval. Up to six submissions will be selected in total. Evaluation of submissions will be based on:

- Quality of artwork
- Originality and creativity of artwork
- Artwork contributing to sense of place in Fridley
- Applicability to the process of vinyl printing and application to the utility boxes selected for the pilot program
- Strength of narrative describing the artist's connection to the City of Fridley
- Youth submissions may receive preference if all criteria are met
- Artists will be notified of their selection prior to May 29, 2026

**Additional Information:** See full program criteria, template, and policy at [insert link to Public Arts Page/PDF of Policy Document]

**Questions:** Please contact:

Mike Maher, Parks and Recreation Director  
City of Fridley  
[Mike.Maher@FridleyMN.gov](mailto:Mike.Maher@FridleyMN.gov)  
(763)572-3575

Jesslyn Quiram, Engineering Technician  
City of Fridley  
[Jesslyn.Quiram@FridleyMN.gov](mailto:Jesslyn.Quiram@FridleyMN.gov)  
(763)572-3546