



**NOTES OF THE  
MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
CITY OF DULUTH, GA  
FEBRUARY 26, 2018**

**PRESENT:** Mayor Harris, Council members Bomar, Carden, Kelkenberg and Whitlock, City Manager, Department Directors, City Attorney

**ABSENT:** Councilmember Jones

**Mayor Harris called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm**

**I. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No public comments.

**II. PRESENTATIONS/UPDATES**

**1. ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING STATIONS**

Planning Director Bill Aiken came forward to present. He explained that staff has received inquiries about the possibility of installing some electric vehicle charging stations within the downtown area. He presented research on this topic including funding mechanisms, and showed some potential locations for the stations.

Mr. Aiken noted that only one company offers the lease/rental option with split costs and revenues. Council agreed that they were interested in the idea but not as a high priority. The consensus was a preference to locate them in the public parking deck that is being constructed downtown, and desire to follow the lease/rental model vs. outright purchase of the equipment. Mr. Aiken will further investigate cost benefit analysis between the lease/rental options as the deck is closer to completion. Council also mentioned Parsons Alley and the new Duluth library as potential future locations.

**2. PARKING LOT UPDATE**

City Engineer Margie Pozin came forward to summarize the project status. Council approved rehabilitating the parking lot behind the Main Street buildings and design started in February 2017. Wolverton provided construction plans outlining areas for overlay and full depth reconstruction based on site visits and information available at the time. Procurement for a contractor started in September 2017 with bid opening in late October 2017. Work was to start in January 2018 and take 21-30 days.

Just prior to ground breaking, stormwater investigations indicated a failing pipe under the lot which needed to be replaced. A quick response stormwater project was initiated. During the stormwater project, the contractor found several areas of poor soil and was directed to remove the soil and backfill with appropriate foundation materials. As soon as the stormwater contractor completed his work, the low bid parking lot contractor started his work.

As work progressed, this contractor also encountered areas of poor soil and was directed to remove them and replace them with appropriate foundation material. Several additional areas were found to contain organic material and/or old construction debris and/or RR ties. None of the discovered areas are suitable materials on which to construct a parking lot and all of them had to be removed and replaced with proper backfill. The areas that had unsuitable material too deep to remove were dug up 14" and a geotextile material was placed with stone and aggregate base on top of it. Ultimately, the asphalt will be placed on top of the aggregate base.

These findings caused the contractor to add a second crew to expedite work. However, the costs have exceeded the original budget. Staff will connect with the Finance Manager to determine the budget amendment that will be required.

### III. DISCUSSION ITEMS

#### 1. MURAL PROPOSALS - DULUTH PUBLIC ART COMMISSION {A}

Duluth Public Art Commission (DPAC) representative Kristin McGregor and Chairman Ashley Lynch came forward to present the request. As presented to Council previously on August 28, 2017, the Duluth Public Art Commission (DPAC) has sought proposals for murals in several locations. There were 12 locations identified for potential projects, and Council authorized Phase I to include up to four priority locations. At this time, DPAC selected three projects for Phase I: Bunten Park Tunnel, Hill Street, and southbound Peachtree Industrial Blvd (PIB) between Howell Ferry and North Berkeley Lake Rd (in lieu of split wall locations abutting the apartment entrance). The 4th location was the Parsons Alley rear parking lot/retaining wall area, and was not part of this request.

DPAC had previously earmarked \$10,000 for murals, \$5,000 for Folks Art, and \$10,000 for the tree restoration/sculpture project. As the Folks Art project was postponed and the Tree project delayed, there are adequate funds in the Public Art Acquisition Fund (PAAF) this fiscal year to contract for all three murals.

Council wanted to ensure the artist were consulted for best color selection to minimize fading on the PIB wall.

*The City Attorney was authorized to draft artist contracts for all three of the projects; Staff was authorized to submit to Gwinnett DOT for approval of the Peachtree Industrial project.*

#### 2. DULUTH NOW INITIATIVES {B}

Planning Director Bill Aiken came forward to outline two Duluth Neighborhood Outreach Work (NOW) initiatives, a proposed city-wide Neighborhood Traffic Calming policy, and an update on the draft multi-family housing inspection ordinance.

Mr. Aiken explained that the current traffic calming policy consists of an outdated "speed hump" manual that was created in 1995. Staff has been reworking the ordinance and planned to obtain Council feedback in order to present a recommendation to Council in March.

Council raised questions regarding determination of study areas and funding options for various types of improvements, as there is not a one-size fits all approach. Whether a neighborhood has an HOA or not should not be a determining factor for cost sharing. Lane narrowing handled by striping and signage are generally the most economical approach.

Staff was asked to come back to Council with projected costs based on city funding, joint funding or special assessments. Mr. Aiken suggested that the initial studies, if warranted, should be conducted at a cost to the applicant. He will review and present studies for cost and schedule, which is especially relevant if SPLOST funds are required.

The second NOW initiative was a multi-family inspection program. He gave examples of results that other jurisdictions have achieved with similar initiatives. Mr. Aiken outlined the goals of the program, which are to preserve the existing stock of multi-family housing in the City, promote health safety and welfare of the residents, and lower crime rates, to avoid deterioration and blight, and improve economic condition and quality of life.

Brookhaven had a good policy in place and staff recommended modeling after then. Mr. Aiken outlined the requirements of a mandatory program and requested Council direction on the preferred definition of multi-housing (more than four units?) as well as how often they should they be inspected. He noted the costs involved with these inspections, which would be the responsibility of the property owner using a third party service that is prequalified by the City. He also reported that Gwinnett County has started a new certification program for "Crime free multi housing" with a three phase approach. Staff would like to mandate that Phase 1 be mandatory.

Council felt that duplexes should likely be included, but wanted to know how many more properties are included if they are included in the multi-family definition in order to understand the magnitude of increased staff workload to track all the information. It was also suggested to incorporate the age of the structures and the magnitude of needed repairs in relation to frequency of inspections and timeframe for correction.

*Staff will bring back some figures that include duplexes and a three year timeline.*

### 3. BOARD AND COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS

Staff presented recommendations for 2018 board appointments for the following: Alcohol Review Board, Urban Redevelopment Agency, Finance Committee, Ethics, Planning Commission, Zoning Board of Appeals, Parks & Recreation Advisory Board, Associate Judges and the Downtown Development Authority.

Sec. 2-49 Term Limits for Boards and Commissions was established in 2012. Service on each board, authority, commission or committee of the City of Duluth shall be limited to three consecutive full four-year terms. Four year terms to begin at the time of term expiration after 2012. In no event shall a member serve over fourteen (14) consecutive years after 2012.

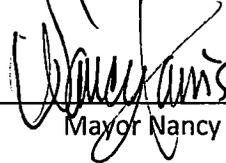
*It was recommended that all applicants be contacted by staff/chairpersons, and if board positions are not available, consider utilization on special projects or committees. Applications and interviews should be reviewed and conducted on a qualifications based system.*

*Staff will write letters of appreciation to all applicants to those not appointed this year and advise them that their applications will be kept on file and considered if vacancies occur and during the next appointment period.*

Staff was authorized to place ordinances to appoint members on the upcoming Council meeting agendas once the Department heads feel their recommendations are final.

**IV. ADJOURNMENT**

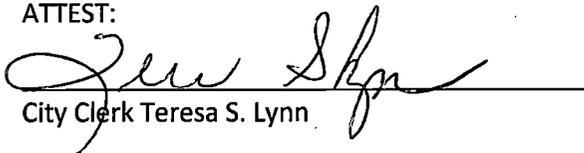
Approved this 12 day of March, 2018.



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Mayor Nancy Harris

ATTEST:



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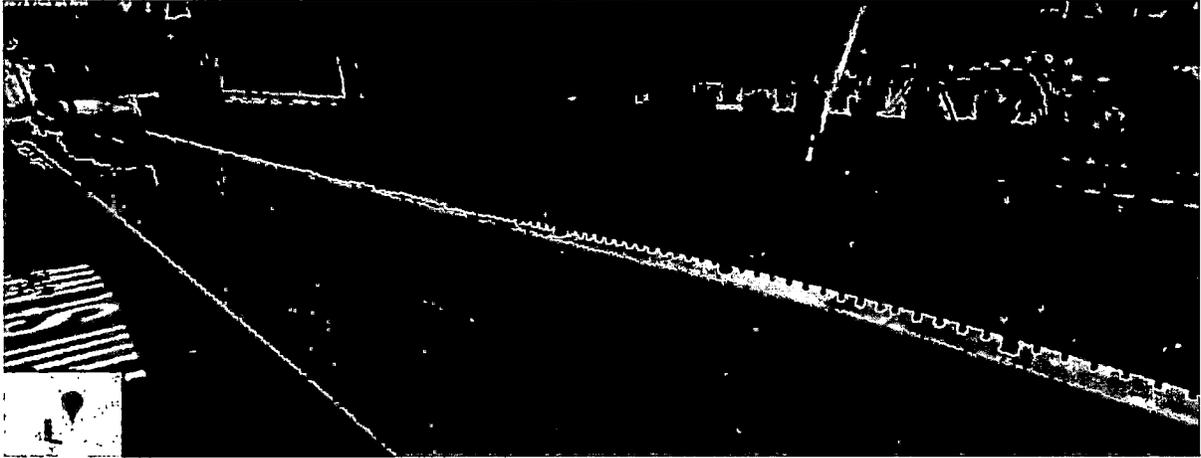
City Clerk Teresa S. Lynn

**#8 Hill Street between W Lawrenceville Street and SR 120**

Hill Street starting on the corner of West Lawrenceville St heading down hill toward SR 120.

Approximately 120' long by 7 ½ ' high, tapering down to 1' or less close to West Lawrenceville.

<https://www.google.com/maps/place/Hill+St+NW,+Duluth,+GA+30096/@34.0038706,-84.1453977,79a,35y,77.46h/data=!3m1!1e3!4m5!3m4!1s0x88f5a27d5ca689e5:0x1c888d9ee6dbb6a2!8m2!3d34.0043978!4d-84.1443803>



**ARTIST: BRENDA EHLY**

**COST: \$2,000**

**TITLE: "DREAM BIG"**



My mural design, *Dream Big*, depicts a cohort of ants embarking upon a routine mission. While the majority immediately get down to the business of meeting their quotas and the expectations of those back home, a lone ant dares to dream on a grander scale in the face of at least one doubter. Each ant has a role to play. Achieving even the mundane and expected requires a sturdy resolve. The day-to-day check-lists of life can sometimes feel like pushing a boulder (or an olive, depending on one's stature) uphill. The color scheme is inspired, in part, by the Duluth City Flag.

**PARSONS ALLEY DESIGN REVIEW COMMITTEE APPROVED JANUARY 30, 2018**

**Timeline:** Can begin immediately. Approximately 500sf = 250 hours

**Involvement:** Welcome community involvement, set up online sign-up calendar

**Maintenance:** Sealed with acrylic isolation coat; replace annually. City will be responsible.

**Notes:** Local artist. Mural artist typical charge \$10-\$35 per sf; quote extremely affordable.

**#13 – Peachtree Industrial Blvd southbound**

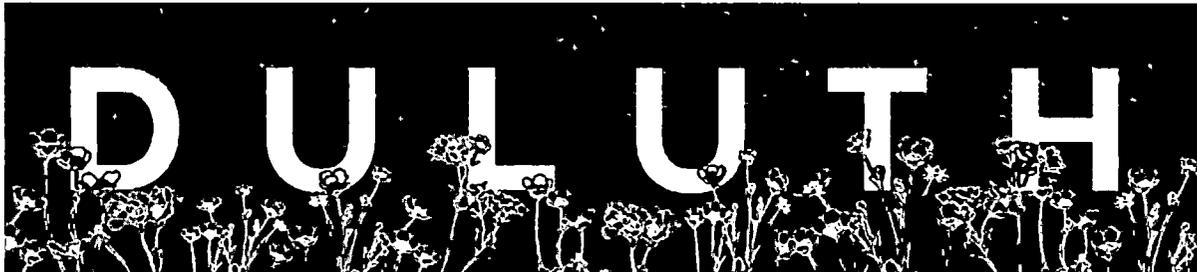
South of Howell Ferry Road, North of North Berkeley Lake Rd .*The total wall is 385 feet long, 9’ at its highest peak, and most of the rest is about 8’.*

<https://www.google.com/maps/@33.9916867,-84.1677384,127a,35y,311.03h,45t/data=!3m1!1e3>



**ARTIST: KATIE BURKE**

**COST- \$7,500-8,500**



**\*NEED TO OBTAIN DOT APPROVAL\***

Timeline: approximately 2 months

Involvement: Individual artist, PIB not conducive to volunteers

Maintenance: Currently considering dark purple rather than black for weathering. Graffiti proof sealer should be durable but may need to be reapplied by City occasionally.

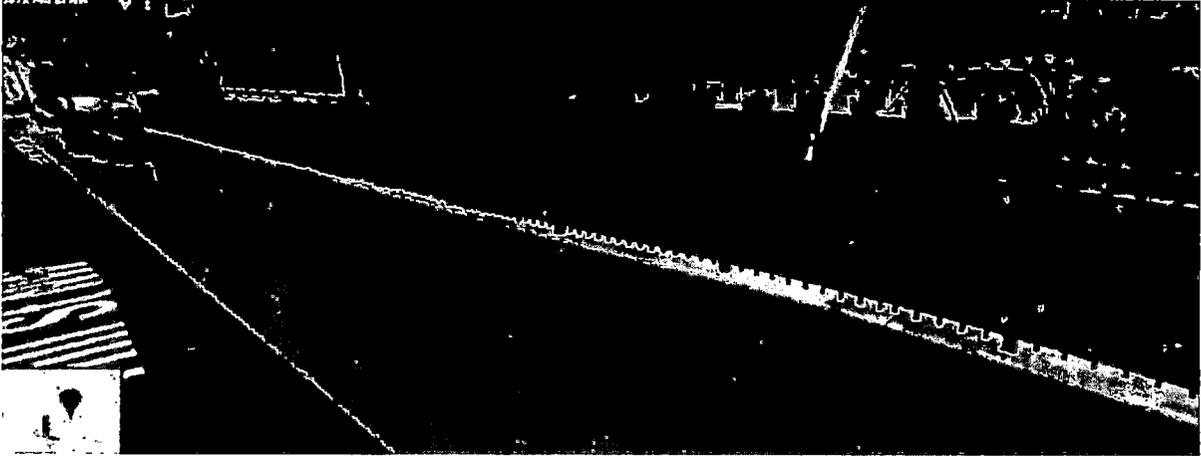
Notes: Use Duluth flora. "Gateway" area, bold simple design appropriate for speed of traffic but detail for pedestrians, etc. as it is along the West Gwinnett bikeway

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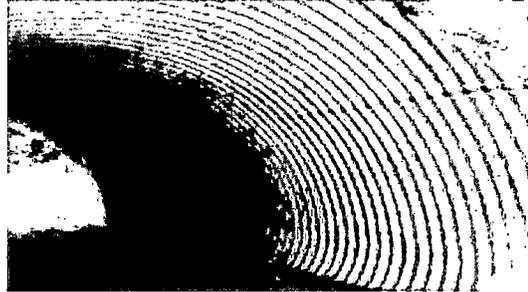
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**DULUTH PUBLIC ART COMMISSION - PHASE 1 MURAL PROPOSALS**

**#10 Bunten Road Park tunnel**

The inside of the tunnel for the walking path at Bunten Park on the entrance road. This area is not smooth and currently unlit. *Measurements are 45' on each side, paintable surface up to about 9 feet. Mid-tunnel height is 10 ½ feet.*

<https://www.google.com/maps/place/Bunten+Road+Park/@34.0009555,-84.1207395,83a,35y,118.9h/data=!3m1!1e3!4m5!3m4!1s0x88f5a2bd5bbf18bb:0x863535a427453267!8m2!3d34.0010271!4d-84.1204267>



**\*ARTIST: DYLAN ROSS**

**COST: \$4,000 (SPLIT WITH PARKS AND REC BOARD)**



**#10. Tunnel-**

I would propose to create a cosmic mural on the inside of the space. Featuring the planets of our Milky Way Galaxy and asteroid belt, it would create a powerful yet whimsical experience to walk under. A key element of this project would be the use of metallic and glow in the dark paints.

Stylistically >>>>>

Would use an impressionistic type of technique to create a highly contrastic space that would emerso the viewer while under the the tunnel. reference my sketches for style/ color reference



**PARKS BOARD APPROVED JANUARY 10, 2018**

Timeline: 2 days to one week for completion.

Involvement: welcome HS students or volunteer artists.

Maintenance: Artist will provide.

Notes: offer to create and sign prints to sell/raise \$ for Art fund

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