



Public Arts Advisory Committee Agenda

November 21, 2024

Regular Meeting

3:30pm–6:00pm, Siskiyou Conference Room

51 Winburn Way

Special Meeting – Study Session Agenda

**This is a Study Session with a focus on Annual Workplan and Strategic Planning –
note start and end times.**

I. (3:30) CALL TO ORDER:

- a) Welcome
- b) Quorum count

II. (3:40) LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

"We acknowledge and honor the aboriginal people on whose ancestral homelands we work – the Ikirakutsum Band of the Shasta Nation, as well as the diverse and vibrant Native communities who make their home here today. We denounce the egregious acts of the colonizers and government and recognize the horrific impacts that still exist today. We honor the first stewards in the Rogue Valley and the lands we live and depend on: Tribes with ancestral lands in and surrounding the geography of the Ashland Watershed include the original past, present and future indigenous inhabitants of the Shasta, Takelma, and Athabaskan people. We also recognize and acknowledge the Shasta village of K'wakhakha – "Where the Crow Lights" – that is now the Ashland City Plaza."

III. (3:45) APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a) October 17, 2024, regular meeting

IV. (3:50–4:00) PUBLIC FORUM (for items not on the agenda; up to 3 minutes per speaker)

V. (4:00–4:15) LIAISON REPORTS

Liaisons:

- a) City Council Liaison, Gina DuQuenne
- b) APCR Liaison, Jim Bachman
- c) Community Development Liaison, Jennifer Chenoweth

VI. (4:15–5:50) STUDY SESSION TOPICS (take breaks as needed)

- a) PAAC Strategic Plan – Susan Jain to lead Strategy Update – build on Strategy

Note: Anyone wishing to speak at any Public Arts Advisory Committee meeting is encouraged to do so. After you have been recognized by the Chair, give your name and City of residence. You will then be allowed to speak. Please note the public testimony may be limited by the Chair.





Public Arts Advisory Committee Agenda

overview and timeline from October meeting.

- b) Annual Workplan Update – Cassie Preskenis to lead discussion on workplan for upcoming City Council meeting presentation

NOTE: Due to Study Session focus on Work Plan and Strategic/Master Plan update, **Sections VII and VIII** updates will be deferred until December 19th meeting.

- VII. (5:15–5:30) OTHER BUSINESS UPDATES and ACTION ITEMS** (up to 5 minutes per item)
- VIII. ROUND TABLE** – Member open discussion of project ideas or opportunities (2 minutes each)
- IX. (6:00) ADJOURNMENT** – Next Meeting Date: Thursday, December 19 @ 4:00 pm

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Draft Meeting Minutes



Public Arts Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

DRAFT

October 17, 2024

Regular Meeting

4:00pm–5:30pm, Siskiyou Conference Room

51 Winburn Way

Minutes

I. (4:00) CALL TO ORDER:

- a) Welcome – **Susan Jain is acting Chair this evening. The PAAC has two newly appointed members, Tish Way and Christi McLain (not in attendance). Special guest introductions: New PAAC member, Tish Way; Director of the City of Ashland Parks and Recreation, Rocky Houston; City of Ashland Public Works Deputy Director, Mike Morrison; Community member, Peter Finkle; PAAC members introductions. Heather Warden won a major award: The Chamber Champions Award at the Ashland Chamber Dinner. The citizens of the year award went to Barry and Kathryn Thalden.**
- b) Quorum count – **achieved**

Committee Members Present:	Liaisons & Staff Present:
Susan Jain, Vice Chair	Jennifer Chenoweth, Associate Planner
Beca Blake (via Zoom)	Councilor Gina DuQuenne
Russell Copley	
Ken Engelund	Liaisons & Staff Absent:
Heather Warden	Jim Bachman, Parks and Rec Commissioner
Tish Way	
	Special Guests:
Committee Members Absent:	Director of Ashland Parks & Recreation, Rocky Houston
Paige Gerhard	Ashland Public Works Deputy Director, Mike Morrison
Cassie Preskenis, Chair	WalkAshland, Peter Finkle

II. (4:10) LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

"We acknowledge and honor the aboriginal people on whose ancestral homelands we work – the Ikirakutsum Band of the Shasta Nation, as well as the diverse and vibrant Native communities who make their home here today. We denounce the egregious acts of the colonizers and government and recognize the horrific impacts that still exist today. We honor the first stewards in the Rogue Valley and the lands we live and depend on: Tribes with ancestral lands in and surrounding the geography of the Ashland Watershed include the original past, present, and future indigenous inhabitants of the Shasta, Takelma, Athabaskan people. We also recognize and acknowledge the Shasta village of K'wakhakha – "Where the Crow Lights" – that is now the Ashland City Plaza."

Read by Ken Engelund

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Public Arts Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

- a) **(4:15) APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – August 15, 2024, regular meeting
- III. **Ken Engelund motioned to approve the minutes with no corrections; the motion was seconded. All approved.**
- IV. **(4:20–4:30) PUBLIC FORUM** (for items not on the agenda; up to 3 minutes per speaker)
No speakers
- V. **(4:30–4:45) LIAISON REPORTS**
Liaisons:
- a) City Council Liaison, Gina DuQuenne; **Gina and Ken Engelund met with SOU President Rick Bailey and Rob Patridge, the University’s General Counsel, to discuss the crosswalk. The crosswalk is proposed to be a progressive pride flag. The crosswalk will span Siskiyou Boulevard from Case Coffee to Churchill Hall. Gina and Ken received buy-in from the University District and President Bailey. Funding is unknown at this time, but it is likely to be two times the cost of the first crosswalk that was installed at the Plaza this year; this will require fundraising. SOU students may help with the design and fundraising.**
Q&A **One comment was about improving the asphalt in the crosswalk location prior to crosswalk installation (more funding would be required) to make it look better and potentially last longer.**
- b) Ashland Parks and Recreation Commission Liaison, New APRC Liaison Jim Bachman; **Rocky Houston provided liaison update in Jim’s absence.**
Key projects:
- 1). **East Main Park**
 - **6.5 acres off East Main Street between Clay Street and Crocker Street**
 - **Received \$1 million grant from State Parks for Phase One.**
 - **East Main Park Phase One includes road improvements, parking lot, restrooms, dog park, and bicycle pump track**
 - 2). **Refurbish Hunter Park tennis courts**
- c) Community Development Liaison, Jennifer Chenoweth; **A community member asked about mural installation (unknown location, but the name was recognized as one of the artists who submitted art during the call for artist for the ODOT boxes) and they have been sent the details and process for proposing a mural (via email communication). OSF 90th anniversary mural – no update. Columbia Hotel/Enders’ Alley mural – no update. Another community member inquired about an art project for the Siskiyou School graduating class. It was suggested that interested parties attend a Public Arts meeting and speak during the public forum or if they have a concept to present, then they can contact the staff liaison and be added to the agenda when space becomes available. They were most interested in painting a crosswalk.**

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VI. (4:45–5:15) DISCUSSION ITEMS and MOTIONS (up to 10 minutes per topic)

- a) Ashland Parks and Recreation Discussion – meet Rocky Houston, Director of Park and Rec, and discuss: 1). the status for Art in Parks Guidelines and 2). status of MAP II (Downtown District – Lithia Park art piece). **Rocky spoke about the APRC Public Art in Ashland Parks Policy that was approved in July and signed August 14, 2024. Two key issues are, 1). Budget (once art is placed what is the maintenance plan? and 2). Park staff and APRC Commission should be engaged in the process. There should also be a thematic approach to the art/design within specific parks and align with the overarching plan to match the park landscape. Refer to updated Parks Master Plan.**
- b) PAAC Strategic Plan – Susan Jain to provide update and lead discussion – **Susan shared a PowerPoint presentation to invite PAAC discussion for updating the PAAC's Master Plan. Susan introduced the approach of Design Thinking as a guide to updating the Plan and provided a draft Timeline and Next Steps for moving forward with the Master Plan update. This is an opportunity for the Public Arts Master Plan to set the stage for Ashland as an Art Community and potentially an UNESCO Heritage site destination. Ken Engelund moved to adopt the Strategic Plan proposal and timeline. Russell Copley seconded, and all Ayes in favor.**
- c) Special Meeting/Study Session – Chair, Cassie Preskenis, to discuss and set meeting date for upcoming special meeting/study session for the PAAC Workplan Update Report to City Council in December. **In Cassie's absence, Jenn explained that the City Council is requesting an updated workplan during a mid-December Council Meeting. Would the group be interested in holding a special meeting separate from the regular meeting to develop the workplan and hold a Design Thinking workshop? The group agreed that the options are to either start the meeting, November 21st at 3:00 – 5:30 or start at 4:00 – 6:30 or 3:30 – 6:00. It depends on the availability of a conference room. ACTION ITEM: Jenn will check the room schedule and email the group.**
Ken moved to extend this meeting by 15 minutes over to get through the rest of the agenda items. All approved.

VII. (5:15–5:30) OTHER BUSINESS UPDATES and ACTION ITEMS (up to 5 minutes per item)

- a) Public Art Maintenance – Heather Warden to lead group in scheduling a future date to discuss a maintenance plan for existing public art – **Mike Morrison was in attendance and provided an update regarding public art maintenance and asked if the PAAC could form a task group to develop a maintenance plan using Peter Finkle's public art database. Rocky Houston suggested the task group look into developing a framework or Rubric for scoring the conditions of the art. The public art maintenance plan (Public Art Maintenance Priority Group) task group will be made up of PAAC members Russell Copley and Heather Warden;**



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community member, Peter Finkle; and staff support, Mike Morrison and Jenn Chenoweth. The group will plan to meet in the next 2 –3 weeks.

Mike also provided an update on Velocity and brought in one of the brackets that were made. The hardware is expected to be ordered next week and installation to follow.

- b) ODOT Controller Boxes – Task group to provide update on AHS box completed art and other box scheduling – **Peter Finkle sent the group and update on the ODOT boxes via email on October 17. The three projects are underway with the first one completed and the second one started this week. The third box will be prepped soon.**
- c) Playwrights Walk – Update by Citizen Group members – **The first plaque was installed in front of the Chamber building. OSF and SOU continue to work on developing quotes and design for future plaques.**
- d) Crosswalks – Ken Engelund to lead update –
- e) John Pugh “Where the Crow Lights,” Elks Building – **Update during next meeting (November presentation update expected)**
- f) Micah Blacklight “Ancestors Future – Crystalizing Our Call” – Chair, Cassie Preskenis, to provide update – **Cassie was absent will update next meeting**

VIII. ROUND TABLE – Member open discussion of project ideas or opportunities (2 minutes each)
The group ran out of time for round table.

IX. (5:30) ADJOURNMENT – Next Meeting Date: Thursday, November 21 @ 3:30 – 6:00 pm – Note the start and end times at this is a special meeting, Study Session.

Strategic Planning to Update 2007 Public Art Master Plan

[Link to 2007 Master Plan](#)

2004 Achievements and 2025/2026 Work Plan

Strategic Plan Timeline

PROPOSED NEXT STEPS / TIMELINE

What	Why	How	When
'As is / To be' Mini-workshop	Set the stage	Define objectives, set hypothesis, identify key stakeholders	November Study Session
Perform Discovery / Initial Assessments	Data collection in tandem with workshop	PAAC work team	November - January
Full Design Thinking workshop	Formulate key strategic elements Begin public involvement	Engage key stakeholders to participate	½ day session in January
Full Plan Development, Socialization	Prep for initial City Council presentation	PAAC work team ++	Feb. - June
Full Plan Finalization	Prep for final City Council presentation & adoption	PAAC work team ++	July – Sept.

Public Arts Advisory Committee

2024 Achievements

End of the Year Achievements – December 16, 2024

Note, 2024 achievements in BLUE, ITALICIZED font.

The PAAC set priorities during a Study Session on January 19, 2024 and conducted a formal goal setting for 2025/2026 during the Study Session on November 21, 2024. The following are project accomplishments during 2024.

- Support community-driven effort to fund and create a permanent, public art installation entitled “Ancestor’s Future: Crystallizing Our Call” by Micah Blacklight inspired by the Say Their Names Memorial
 - *Ongoing support and endorsement from PAAC*
- Support community-driven effort to fund and create a public mural installation at the Elks Building in Downtown Ashland entitled “Where the Crow Lights” by John Pugh
 - *Ongoing support and endorsement from PAAC.*
 - *The updated design will be presented by John Pugh to the PAAC on December 19, 2024 and recommendations will be made from the PAAC to City Council regarding the updated design.*
- Implement the Council/Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) MOU to promote local artist or community designed artwork on Traffic Controller Boxes with funding assistance from the City of Ashland (similar to the utility box art project)
 - *Call for Artists, creation of selection committee, and three artists were selected*
 - *Final Permit from ODOT received on June 24, 2024; Notifications of work schedules sent to ODOT*
 - *General contractor painter for prep and prime of boxes hired*
 - *Artist installation/painting of three boxes completed*
 - *Task group in progress of planning for next set of boxes*
- Designation of the Downtown Historic District as the next Marking Ashland Places (MAP II) district, in concert with the Historic Preservation Advisory Committee and Ashland Parks and Recreation Commission
 - *PAAC task group selected Lithia Park entrance for MAP II sculpture hub location, with cost estimate of around \$10,000*
 - *PAAC and HPAC are working with APRC on identifying locations.*
 - *Parks and Rec Art in Parks policy was created and approved*
 - *Discussion to create subcommittee with PAAC member, HPAC member, and APRC member and appointed staff*



- Implement Street Crossing Art
 - *Call for Artist, selection committee created, and artist selected*
 - *Thermoplastic art crosswalk implemented under the Beautification Initiative and "Walking Upstream" installed on July 2, 2024*
 - *A selection panel comprised of members of the community, business owners near the project site, professional artists, and representatives from the City's Historic Preservation Advisory Committee and Ashland Parks and Recreation Commission reviews and selects the finalist artwork during the week of June 10, 2024*
 - *PAAC and City manager reviewed and approved the selected artwork*
- Evaluate ongoing maintenance and repair needs and cost estimates to develop a line-item funding budget for artworks that are in the Public Art Collection. Develop a plan and review the City Insurance coverage for artwork, all in cooperation with Public Works Department.
 - *List of artwork has been created and sent to Public Works*
 - *Discussions to create a task group to develop a maintenance plan*
- Discuss and consider public art projects for south Ashland
 - *Discussion occurred during PAAC study sessions January 19, 2024 and November 21, 2024*
- Coordinate and implement the Playwright Walk
 - *PAAC members supported project sponsors and philanthropists Barry and Kathryn Thalden and representatives of OSF, SOU (theater department and art department including art students' engagement), Chamber of Commerce, Sculptor Jack Langford, and Community Development staff*
 - *PAAC assisted in moving the project from conception to Council approval.*
 - *Citizen task group created for implementation phase*
 - *First plaque was installed on October 7, 2024 in front of Chamber building*

Other

- *Committee went from seven seats to all nine positions filled and recruited the first SOU student representative*
- *MAP I Golden Connections -PAAC members assisted with and attended the Historic Preservation Advisory Committee (HPAC) Golden Connections (5 medallions installed) ribbon cutting and HPAC awards ceremony*

Public Arts Advisory Committee

2025/2026 Priorities

PAAC Upcoming Efforts for 2025–2026

The PAAC set priorities during a Study Session on January 19, 2024, and started a formal goal setting for 2025/2026 during a special meeting, Study Session on November 21, 2024. The following are PAAC priority projects and initiatives – some originate from the community and others are initiatives of committee members.

- Update the 2007 Public Arts Master Plan through a strategic planning process and adopt Master Plan in 2025.
- Support community-driven effort to fund and create a permanent, public art installation entitled *"Ancestor's Future: Crystallizing Our Call"* by Micah Blacklight inspired by the Say Their Names Memorial.
- Support community-driven effort to fund and create a public mural installation at the Elks Building in Downtown Ashland entitled *"Where the Crow Lights"* by John Pugh.
- Support community-driven efforts in the ongoing implementation of the Playwrights Walk. Springboard from the initial donation of 12 downtown plaques by Barry and Kathryn Thalden to an ultimate collection of 100 plaques city-wide for OSF's 100th year anniversary in 2035.
- Continue to implement the Council/Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) MOU to promote local artist or community designed artwork on ODOT Traffic Controller Boxes, with funding assistance from the City of Ashland.
- Designation of the Downtown Historic District as the next Marking Ashland Places (MAP II) district, in concert with the Historic Preservation Advisory Committee and under the direction of the APRC *Art in Parks* policy.
- Select, coordinate, and implement additional street crossing art projects.
- Evaluate ongoing maintenance and repairs needs and cost estimates to develop a line-item funding budget for artworks that are in the Public Art Collection. Develop a plan and review the City Insurance coverage for artwork, all in cooperation with the Public Works Department.
- Evaluate public reception of revised StoryMap for the self-guided Public Art Walking Tour.
- Discuss and consider public art projects for southeast Ashland.