CITY OF OREGON CITY
ARTS COMMISSION AGENDA

City Hall Chambers, 625 Center St., Oregon City, OR 97045
Thursday, June 5, 2025 at 6:00 PM

Ways to participate in this public meeting:

- *Attend in person, location listed above. Please see the public comment guidelines below.*
- *Attend the livestream of the meeting on the City's YouTube Channel: https://www.youtube.com/user/CityofOregonCity*
- *Register to provide electronic testimony (email agriffin@orcity.org or call 503-974-5517 (1588) by 3:00 PM on the day of the meeting to register)*
- *Email agriffin@orcity.org (deadline to submit written testimony via email is 3:00 PM on the day of the meeting)*
- *Mail to City of Oregon City, Attn: City Recorder, P.O. Box 3040, Oregon City, OR 97045*

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. Approve Minutes from May 15, 2025

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

Citizens are allowed up to 3 minutes to present information relevant to the City but not listed as an item on the agenda. Prior to speaking, citizens shall complete a comment form and deliver it to the City Recorder. The Arts Commission does not generally engage in dialog with those making comments but may refer the issue to the City Manager. Complaints shall first be addressed at the department level prior to addressing the Arts Commission.

5. DISCUSSION ITEMS

a. Proposed Public Art Murals (6:15-6:55)

1) Cathy Rowe, Artist. DC Latourette Park
i. Presentation
ii. Discussion

2) David Blindheim, Property Owner. 109 10th Street
i. Presentation
ii. Discussion

b. Salmon Bench Revised Proposal (6:55-7:10)

c. Art for Every Heart Contest Update (7:10-7:15)

6. COMMUNICATIONS

7. ADJOURNMENT

PUBLIC COMMENT GUIDELINES

Complete a Comment Card prior to the meeting and submit it to the clerk. When the Chair calls your name, proceed to the speaker table, and state your name and city of residence. Each speaker is given 3 minutes to speak. As a general practice, the committee does not engage in discussion with those making comments. Complaints shall be addressed at the department level prior to addressing the committee.

ADA NOTICE

The location is ADA accessible. Hearing devices may be requested from the City Recorder prior to the meeting. Individuals requiring other assistance must make their request known 48 hours preceding the meeting by contacting the City Recorder's Office at 503-657-0891.

Agenda Posted at City Hall, Pioneer Community Center, Library, City Website.

Video Streaming & Broadcasts: The meeting is streamed live on the Oregon City's website and available on demand following the meeting. The meeting can be viewed on Willamette Falls Television channel 28 for Oregon City area residents as a rebroadcast. Please contact WFMC at 503-650-0275 for a programming schedule.

Oregon City Arts Commission
May 15, 2025
Meeting Minutes

The Arts Commission met at the Community Room in the Community Development Dept., 695 Warner Parrott Road.

I. Call to Order – Roll Call

Chair Planton called the meeting to order. Ann Griffin conducted a roll call of attendees. Present were Joyce La Master, Daria Loi, Emma Lugo, Josh Planton, Quire, Myriam Ravenwise, Rebecca Sira, and Amy Wilson. Mayor Denyse McGriff, City Commission liaison, was also present.

Emma and Myra participated via Zoom. Amanda Dexter had an excused absence.

II. Adoption of the Agenda

Josh asked if everyone had had a chance to review the agenda. He asked if there were any suggested changes and then asked if someone would like to make a motion to approve the agenda.

Quire made a motion to approve the agenda. Mayor McGriff stated that it wasn't necessary to adopt the agenda if no changes had been made. Josh then stated that we would then consider the agenda adopted.

III. Approval of Minutes

Josh asked if anyone had any questions or corrections for the Minutes from the April 17 meeting. Hearing none, he asked for a motion to approve the minutes.

Daria made a motion to approve the minutes. Amy seconded.

The motion passed unanimously.

IV. Public Comment

Ann reported that no public comments were received in advance of the meeting.

V. Discussion Items

A. Qualified Vendor Application – Project Proposal, Salmon Bench.

Qualified Vendor Application and Project Proposal: Salmon Bench Restoration

Ann provided background on the Salmon Bench restoration project, noting it was identified as a priority in the 2024 public art inventory. She introduced Becky Dawson, who submitted a proposal under the qualified vendor application process. Becky introduced her husband Shane Dawson, who would work with her on the proposed project.

Becky presented her proposal for restoring the Salmon Bench on Seventh Street. She described her background as an artist and illustrator living in the community, with a focus on ceramic sculpture, painting, and illustration. She explained that her husband Shane has over 22 years of experience in construction and would assist with parts of the construction and installation.

Becky presented a concept design for the bench restoration, aiming to continue the existing colors and patterns while adding some new elements. She detailed her plans to use hand-sculpted stoneware tiles with durable glazes suitable for outdoor use, mounted on a fiberglass reinforced polymer panel. She described the installation process, including securing the new bench top to the existing structure and adding a custom stainless-steel frame to protect the edges.

Commission members raised concerns about changing the scope from restoration to a new design. Mayor McGriff noted that the project was advertised as a restoration and expressed concerns about deviating from the original design concept. Becky clarified that she could adjust the design to be closer to the original if desired. Denyse stated that she liked the design that Becky proposed but that the restoration must be in keeping with the original bench design.

The Commission thanked Becky and Shane for their presentation.

After the Dawsons departed, the Commission discussed the project and budget. Some members expressed concerns about the accuracy of the budget estimates. They debated the appropriate funding amount and timeline for the project.

After extensive discussion, the Commission decided to request a revised proposal from Becky with the following information:

- A revised design that is truly a restoration design
- A revised budget with additional detail
- 3D renderings of the proposed restoration

Daria also suggested capping the budget at $10,000.

Daria made a motion to ask Becky Dawson to revise her proposal with the three items listed above, with funding capped at $10,000. In addition, Becky could spend some money before June 30th (to secure materials) and spend the remaining funds after July 1. Quire seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Commission also agreed to assign two Commissioners to work with Becky on refining the proposal. Myra volunteered to assist due to her ceramics experience. Amy also volunteered.

Mural Renovation Projects and Proposed Special Meeting - Ann (10 min)

Josh raised concerns about potential legal issues regarding the Arts Commission's ability to fund mural restoration projects while also having approval authority over mural applications. He explained that according to legal counsel, the Commission's quasi-judicial status in approving mural applications may prevent them from funding projects they also approve.

The Commission discussed the implications of this legal interpretation and potential workarounds. They agreed that further clarification from legal counsel was needed before proceeding with any mural funding decisions.

Ann proposed holding a special meeting on June 5th to review the two mural applications. The Commission agreed to this date. They also agreed to meet at 6 pm, rather than the normal 7 pm time.

6 x 6 Art Show Update (5-10 min)

Josh provided an update on the 6x6 Art Show:

- The auction portion of the event has been cancelled due to a shortage of items. Instead, there will be a raffle for the available items.
- 312 art pieces were distributed to 60+ artists, with a due date of June 1st.
- The contract with Arc Light venue is pending signature, awaiting a certificate of insurance.
- Planners had conducted a walk-through of the facility.
- The next planning meeting was scheduled for the following Friday at 5:00 PM.
- Josh stated that volunteers are needed for the event on June 14th, with roles including greeters and general assistance.

"Art for Every Heart" Contest - Joyce (5 min)

Joyce reported that only 10 applications had been received for the "Art for Every Heart" contest. The Commission discussed ways to increase participation, including:

- Reaching out to schools and art teachers directly
- Distributing flyers through various channels
- Extending the deadline to June 4th to allow more time for submissions

Commissioners agreed to help distribute flyers and promote the contest through their networks.

OC Art Commission Website Update - Rebecca (5 min)

Rebecca reported that work on the website was progressing, though payment to the developer had been delayed. She requested access to image files for the website content. Josh mentioned that the developer is offering hosting services for the site, which will require budgeting for annual costs in the future.

Communications

Daria has been working on suggested revisions of city code and updates to the Arts Commission Bylaws. She has met with City staff and will bring an update to the June meeting.

- Work has begun on updating the commission's bylaws, incorporating missing elements such as ethical guidelines and funding procedures.

- Once finalized, both the code revisions and updated bylaws will require approval from the City Commission.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned. No formal motion for adjournment was recorded.

Salmon Bench Restoration Proposal
Artist: Becky Dawson
Total Budget Requested: $12,000

Project Overview (updated version)

This proposal outlines the restoration of a damaged mosaic bench in Oregon City. Rather than removing the existing surface, a new mosaic bench top will be created off-site and securely installed over the existing bench using a custom stainless steel frame and concrete anchor bolts.

The new design will closely replicate the original abstract wave pattern using multiple shades of blue and grey. Each tile will be hand-sculpted from outdoor-grade stoneware clay and glazed with cone 6 glossy glazes to match the existing design as closely as possible, while allowing for organic variations that come with handmade ceramic work.

Glass pebbles will be incorporated throughout the bench — both on the top and sides — to unify the design and cover worn or missing tiles. The result will be a cohesive, durable, and refreshed mosaic that honors the original bench while ensuring its longevity.

Materials & Supplies Estimate – Approx. $3,804

- Timberline Stoneware Clay (100 lbs from Georgie's Ceramics) – $97.00
- Cone 6 Glossy Glaze (Coyote brand, 7 colors × 2 pints each) – $448.00
- Kiln Firing Electricity Use – $100.00
- Epoxy Grout (3 gallons @ $85 each) – $255.00
- Fiberglass Reinforced Board (1 sheet) – $800.00
- Stainless Steel Custom Frame (fabricated by local metal shop) – $1,054.00
- Tile Adhesive / Thinset – $150.00
- Marine grade caulking for outdoor use and bolts to attach top to existing bench – $100.00
- Tile Tools & Supplies (spacers, gloves, spreaders, buckets, etc.) – $100.00
- Protective Covering for On-Site Work – $100.00
- Transportation (materials pickup, delivery) – $100.00
- Contingency / Miscellaneous Supplies – $200.00

Artist & Assistant Labor Estimate – Approx. $8,196

Becky Dawson – Lead Artist

- Design & Concept Development – 15 hrs @ $75/hr = $1,125.00
- Sculpting & Hand-Building Tiles – 60 hrs @ $75/hr = $4,500.00
- Glazing Tiles – 20 hrs @ $75/hr = $1,500.00
- Kiln Loading & Unloading – 2 hrs @ $75/hr = $150.00
- Adhering, Spacing, Grouting Top, & Cleanup at Studio – 6 hrs @ $75/hr = $450.00
- On-Site Glass Pebble Attachment & Touch-Ups – 3 hrs @ $75/hr = $225.00

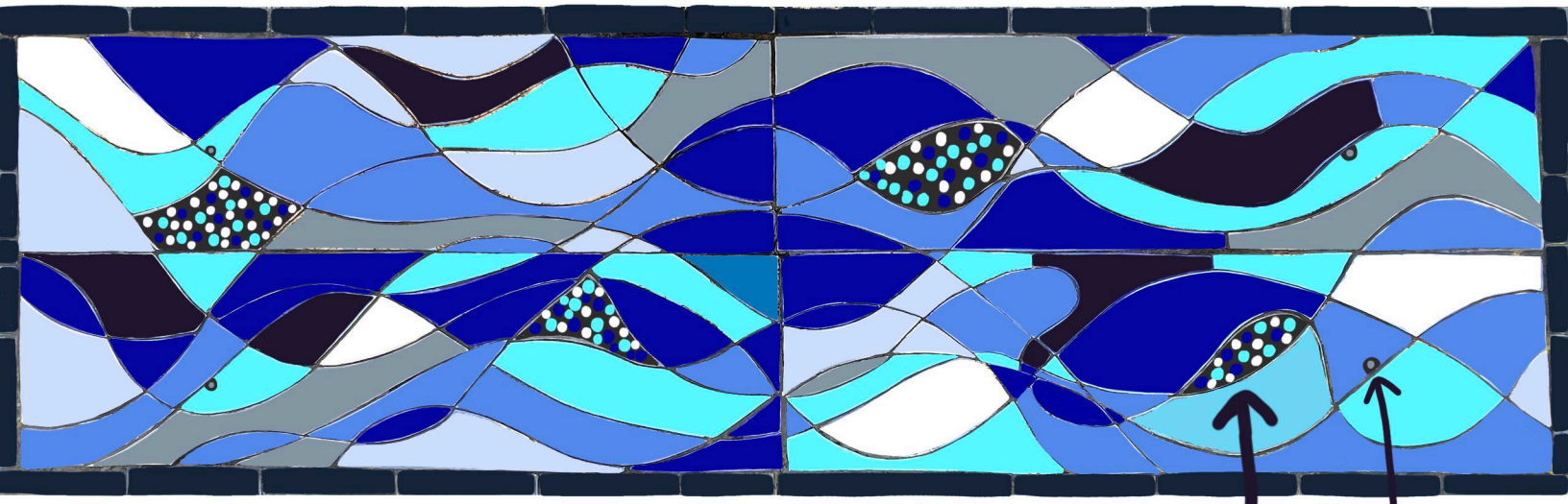
Shane Dawson – Installation Assistant

- Installation Day (prep, pressure washing, regrouting sides, final assembly, cleanup) – 5 hrs @ $75/hr = $375.00

Total Project Cost: $12,000

Salmon Bench Top

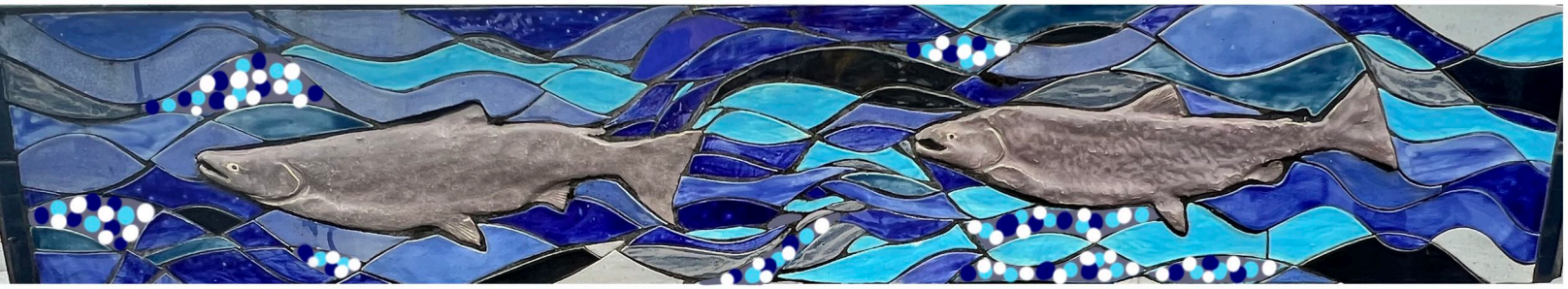
Tile colors
(will vary slightly in real life from digital mockup)



Addition of glass pebbles to make cohesive with side repairs

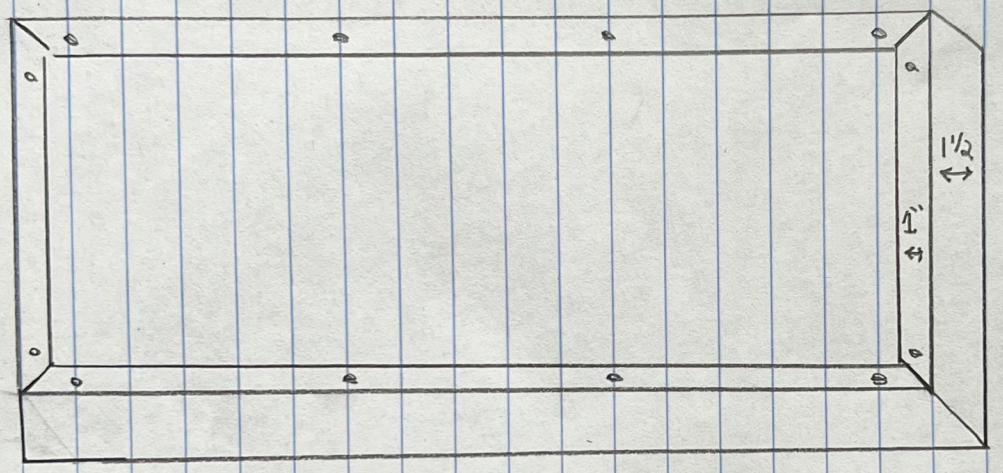
Bolts that will be covered with grout after installation

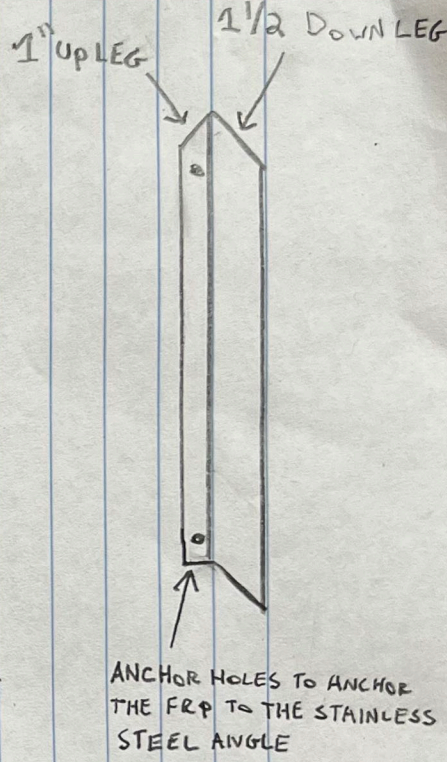
Salmon bench sides with glass bead repairs



Dark grey grout will be used all over to refresh after a good power washing

STAINLESS STEEL ANGLE WITH WELDED CORNERS





New mosaic top will cover the stainless steel frame completely with the fiberglass board, the stainless frame will only show 1.5” on the sides.