

**Meeting Agenda**  
**November 17, 2021 at 5:30 pm**  
**Columbus Art Commission**  
**Coleman Building, 111 N. Front Street, room 204**

**I. Call to order**

- **Next Commission Hearing:** Wednesday, December 15, 2021 4:30pm at the Coleman Administration Building, 111 N. Front Street, Community Hearing Room 204
- **Swear in Staff and Applicants**

**II. Approval of minutes from last meeting October 20, 2021**

**III. New Applications - None**

**IV. Preliminary Project Discussion**

- a) Columbus Downtown Connector Trail  
Kelly Messer and Brad Westall, Staff, Columbus Recreation and Parks Department (CRPD)

The Columbus Downtown Connector Trail is part of the Eastern Portion of the Ohio to Erie Trail System. It will likely be undergoing trail improvements in 2022. The Recreation and Parks Department issued an RFP for design /art improvements to this section of the trail system. A proposal by the firm Epic Smalls was selected, which contains mapped locations for public art, artist proposals and artwork fees.

CRPD Staff are requesting CAC input and advice on the proposal and how best to move forward with securing public art for Columbus Downtown Connector Trail.

- b) *Current*  
Proposed Sculpture over the intersection of High and Gay Streets  
Edwards Companies, LLC, Applicant  
Don DeVere, Agent for applicant  
Janet Echelman, Artist

*Current:*

The applicant has requested an opportunity to present the public art project *Current*, for review and input prior to submitting a formal application. The project is in the process of undergoing permit review within the Department of Development. Applicants plan to present the project to the Downtown Commission for comment in December.

In January of 2020, the Edwards Companies engaged world-renowned artist, Janet Echelman, to design a signature sculpture to be suspended above the intersection of Gay and High Streets in downtown Columbus. In cooperation with DeVere LLC and the

Day Companies, owners of the buildings east of High Street, Studio Echelman, SOM and SMBH have spent the past 18 months developing the site-specific sculpture titled *Current*.

Inspired by local history and conditions, *Current* promises to be a dramatic addition to Columbus' public art scene and a regional draw combining vibrant colors and dramatic night-time illumination. The piece, like all Echelman sculptures will consist of a structural net supporting free-flowing sculptural fiber providing a kinetic experience for the viewer.

## V. New Business

- a) None

## VI. Old Business

- a) Christopher Columbus Statue Committee

At the November 10 CCSC meeting the committee approved Two documents:

- A Motion Proposed for Consideration for the CCSC to conditionally recommendation the return of the Christopher Columbus Statue to a public location with accompanying contextual information... followed by a list of actions the City of Columbus agrees to carryout. The full motion text can be found [HERE](#).
- The Committee also voted to support the RFP drafted by staff to request proposals from consultant firms or team to draft a contextual narrative and draft three design proposals for installation of the narrative and develop additional learning opportunities. The RFP document can be found [HERE](#)

Action Requested by the CAC:

1. The Columbus Art Commission is requested to review and consider voting to conditionally support the motion presented to the CCSC, as amended by the CCSC.
2. The Columbus Art Commission is requested to approve the draft Request for Proposal to retain request proposals from consultant firms or teams to draft a contextual narrative and draft three design proposals for installation of the narrative and develop additional learning opportunities, as amended by the CCSC.

The in person meetings will now also be livestreamed on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/cityofcolumbus>.

*Applicants or their representatives must attend this hearing, for new and continued applications for Certificates of Appropriateness.* If applicants are absent it is likely that the application will be continued until the Commission's next hearing. Meeting Accommodations: It is the policy of the City of Columbus that all City-sponsored public meetings and events are accessible to people with disabilities. If you need assistance in participating in this meeting or event due to a disability as defined under the ADA, please call the City's ADA Coordinator at (614) 645-8871, or email [zdjones@columbus.gov](mailto:zdjones@columbus.gov), at least three (3) business days prior to the scheduled meeting or event to request an accommodation.