

Fiscal Year: 2025

Application ID

2025-35953

Application Type

Public Art Conservation Grant

Guidelines

Public Art Conservation Grant Guidelines

The Public Art - Conservation Grant Guidelines and other resources can be found on MSAC's website [HERE](#).

Please ensure you have read the guidelines prior to completing an application.

General Eligibility

Did you receive a Public Art Across Maryland PROJECT grant in FY24? This includes both New Artworks and Conservation Project Grants

☐ Yes

☒ No

Which of the following best describes your organization?

Unit of government (e.g., town, city, county, state, etc.)

Artwork Eligibility: Please confirm that the artwork you are planning or proposing meets the following eligibility requirements

The proposed artwork:

- Must be new, original and specifically designed and fabricated for the Public Art Across Maryland program
- Type may include, but not be limited to: sculpture, mural/painting, tile mosaic, mixed media, photography, and digital works. The artwork may also be functional amenities such as: benches, bike racks, creative way-finding, fences, screens, gateways, lightworks, awnings, and trellises.
- May be temporary or permanent but must be intended for the public realm, and may be sited in or on any interior or exterior space accessible to the public, such as: parks and trails, plazas, sidewalks, community centers, libraries, schools and local government buildings.
- Must be in compliance with local jurisdiction's regulations, permissions, and permitting requirements for siting and installing artwork(s) on public or private property. Applicants are required to do their own research in this regard.
- Artworks installed on private property must describe how the site is significant to the community and is accessible to and benefits the greater public.
- For Project grants: the artwork must have been developed through a community informed process

☒ Yes

☐ No

Organization Information

Organization Name: Cit of Rockville

Address:

111 Maryland Ave
Rockville, MD
20850

Phone: 240-314-8101

County: Montgomery

DUNS Number:

Unique Entity Identifier (UEI): GYNAB75YTTR1

Website: <https://www.rockvillemd.gov/>

Contact Information

Grant Contact Name: Anne O'Dell

Phone: 240-314-8101

Email: aodell@rockvillemd.gov

Address: 111 Maryland Ave

City: Rockville

State: MD

Zip Code: 20850

Partner Name (if the artist is already selected and not the applicant, please list their name and contact information)

Partner Street Address

Partner City

Partner State

Partner Zip Code

Partner Phone

Partner Email

Project Questions

Which type of Public Art Conservation Grant are you applying for?

Conservation Project

Grant Requested Amount

Planning grant requests may be up to \$10,000
Project grant requests may be up to \$30,000

\$30,000

Project Location

Briefly Describe where the focus of the grant funded work will take place. If the work will focus on a single artwork provide an address; for a collection, describe where the artworks are located.

Five works of art are located throughout the City of Rockville at gateway entrances, in an historic neighborhood, two community centers, and two public parks.

Provide a one sentence summary encompassing the purpose of request of funding.

See below for sample summary sentences:

For Planning Grant requests:

"Funds will support [Applicant Name]'s planning process for conservation of the public artwork [Name/description of Artwork] by [Name of Artist, if known] located at [Project Location] in [Location City and County]."

For Project Grant requests:

"Funds will support [Applicant Name]'s conservation of the public artwork [Name/description of Artwork] by [Name of Artist, if known] located at [Project Location] in [Location City and County]."

This sentence may be used for reporting and communication purposes.

Funds will support Rockville's conservation of five public artworks: "Untitled," J. Ferguson in Rockville, Montgomery County, "Taking Flight," M. Billing in Rockville, Montgomery County, "Rockville," M. Brennan in Rockville, Montgomery County, "Blossom," W. Healy in Rockville, Montgomery County, "Untitled," by M. Albertini in Rockville, Montgomery County.

1. Describe the artwork(s) to be conserved and intended goals, including:

- Why the artwork is important to the collection it is a part of and the community where it is located
- Description of the community that will be impacted by the proposed public artwork conservation, including the primary stakeholders who will be involved in and affected by this project
- Any additional information about the historical and/or cultural relevance of the artwork

Project 1: Untitled, mural by Margery Albertini, 1993

Dating from 1993, the mural was designed and fabricated under the guidance of Margery Albertini who was an Artist in Residence for the city. It is located on an exterior wall of the Lincoln Park Community Center at 357 Frederick Avenue in Rockville, Maryland 20850. The mural is painted with latex or acrylic paint on a cinder block wall, which is located on the east side of the building. About 40 communities in Montgomery County were settled by freed slaves in the 19th century including the Rockville community of Lincoln Park. The Lincoln Park neighborhood is significant because of its extensive history as one of the oldest African American communities in Montgomery County, dating to the 1850s. The city is working to rebuild relationships with the community after a contractor removed and destroyed a public art piece that was important to the community without a contract in place and notice to proceed. Conservation of the mural is an important step forward in devoting resources to the neighborhood as additional work is simultaneously done to replace the removed artwork and rebuild trust.

Project 2: Conservation of Rockville by Nizette Brennan in Monument Park, 1988

Nizette Brennan's "Rockville" is a sculptural environment created by twenty-six pieces of stone at the top of the hill in Monument Park and is at a key entry point of the city. Stones are arranged in a circle to form the word, "Rockville." The "I" and first "L" stand vertically, while the remaining letters lay flat, stepped into the grade of the hill. While some of the stones display the natural rock face, others show a cut face, creating a contrast between smooth and rough surfaces and lines. The stone used for the artwork, Potomac Bluestone (commercially classified as a granite), is indigenous to Maryland. The associated bronze relief plaque is mounted to a low pedestal made from this same stone, located northeast of the stone letters.

Project 3: Conservation of Untitled by John Ferguson in James Monroe Park

John Ferguson's "Untitled" artwork is an abstract sculpture with elevated wing-like forms that hang high in the air in the form of a "V" shape. Made of weathering steel, which is commonly referred to as "Corten," the sculpture is anchored to a square Corten base that is installed on a low red-brick pedestal with lag bolts. The artwork is located in a densely populated area downtown with businesses and apartment buildings and provides a sense of respite to residents and visitors. Ferguson created sculptural works throughout the region for decades prior to his death in 2021.

Project 4: Conservation of Taking Flight by Marcia Billing in Twinbrook

Marcia Billing's "Taking Flight" sculpture depicts a man in movement, with his arms outstretched and palms facing up. A child sits on his left shoulder with arms uplifted towards a flock of birds flying overhead. It is made of bronze and installed on a rectangular light grey granite base. The artwork is located on the grounds of the bustling Twinbrook Community Center and welcomes visitors to the center and its Annex.

Project 5: Conservation of Blossom by Wayne Healy, 2012

Los Angeles-based artist Wayne Healy's "Blossom" consists of a six-sided concrete column that is veneered with printed tiles. A six-sided funnel-shaped component made of sheet steel with an orange paint finish is mounted to the top of the column. Each side of the component has cutouts of figures representing a different activity or sport. The open top is covered with an iron mesh screen that is painted orange. The sculpture is at a major intersection in Rockville across from the Town Center's metro stop. It serves as a gateway piece in the public art collection.

2. Describe the proposed conservation work to be performed and outcomes of the work

This can include narrative from the Conservator's proposed Scope of Work.

"Untitled," Margery Albertini

Conditions: peeling, flaking, and losses in paint layers, color fading, overall soiling of surfaces, extensive peeling of existing paint layer. Losses of paint layer have exposed concrete cinder block in localized areas.

Treatment: brush away loose dust, dirt, debris; consolidate peeling paint using conservation-grade adhesive rated for outdoor use, wash mural with mild, conservation-grade detergent diluted in water, seal mural with non-yellowing clear coat that acts as isolating layer between original paint and in-painting, use acrylic/latex paint to in-paint losses, tone solid areas of color exhibiting irregular fading, provide final clear coat to protect in-painted areas.

"Blossom," Wayne Healy

Conditions: General atmospheric soiling. Concentration of dirt at upper steel section and washing down sides, biological growth on concrete directly below steel, minor unknown accretion on ceramic tile, some cracking at mortar joints, one tile has potential to loosen, sealant at base joint is mostly lost with voids and biological growth, localized efflorescence on joints, tile, base and where tile meets steel top, some cracking and minor loss of tile near efflorescence, impact damage and associated hairline cracking on one tile.

Treatment: Remove accumulations of dirt and debris from sculpture. Remove moss and plants from around base. Wash sculpture with dilute solution of a pH-neutral, conservation-grade detergent in potable water and rinse thoroughly. Apply biocide in localized areas. Reduce efflorescence with mild citric acid cleaner. Use solvent to remove accretions as needed. Reset loose tile with color-matching mortar. Inject conservation-grade micro-injection grout in hairline cracks. Remove existing sealant from base, seal perimeter with appropriate sealant.

"Taking Flight," Marcia Billing

Conditions: General atmospheric soiling, soiling of granite base more pronounced near ground level,

some biological growth on sides, bronze has localized areas of green corrosion, black crust/staining seen on undersides of bodies and birds, bird guano on both bronze, granite. Tree debris in crevices, cobwebs. Plant encroachment at granite base.

Treatment: Wash sculpture with dilute solution of pH-neutral, conservation-grade detergent in potable water. Remove adherent soiling, rinse thoroughly with clean water. Apply biocide to granite base. Reduce bright green corrosion, black crust staining. Use appropriate solvent to remove remnants of failed coating. Apply thin coat of appropriate outdoor sculpture wax using natural bristle brushes. Mildly heat bronze surfaces to aid in application of wax and provide smooth, even coating. After wax has set, buff to soft sheen. Apply second coat of wax at ambient temperatures, allow to set, perform a final buffing to enhance luster of protective coating.

"Untitled," John Ferguson

Conditions: Uneven weathering of protective oxide patina layer, prominent streaking. Significant amount of biological growth on metal, especially outer face of larger "wing." General atmospheric soiling. Heavy accumulation of dirt at masonry base. Gathering of debris at intersection of wings where it forms a "V" which can promote aggressive corrosion. Localized bird guano at top. Negligible loss of mortar in masonry joints. Some biological growth at base. Tarnishing, soiling of name plaque.

Treatment: Remove dirt, debris with soft bristle brushes. Wash sculpture with dilute solution of pH-neutral, conservation-grade detergent in distilled water. Remove bird droppings. Wash plaque and base with same detergent solution, allow to dry, apply a thin coat of appropriate outdoor sculpture wax at ambient temperature. After set, repeat with second coat, buffing to lustrous finish. Prune tree canopy, promoting ready drying of sculpture. Monitor mortar joints. Repointing not needed now.

"Rockville," Nizette Brennan

Conditions: Atmospheric soiling, bird guano, accumulations of organic debris. Linear streaks of iron corrosion on tops and sides of many blocks. Streaks on sides are attributable to lawn mower strikes, streaks on other surfaces may have resulted from tools used during installation/quarrying. Many blocks have settling cracks, several have multiple cracks. Some blocks display cracking between bed plains. Upright "L" has several graffiti tags and continuous diagonal crack has cleaved a large triangular fragment of stone from main block at lower right rear corner. While there is an associated spall at the top of the crack, pieces remain aligned and do not appear to be in current danger of separating. Upright stone has many edge cracks, some traveling into stone along bedding lines, others transversing across bedding lines. Quarrying marks are retained by several blocks. Biological growth is found over many surfaces. Plaque has scratches, bird guano, failing lacquer. Many blocks have numerous spalls, losses along edges, multiple scratches and abrasions on faces.

Treatment: Remove accumulations of dirt and debris. Wash sculpture with a dilute solution of pH-neutral, conservation grade detergent in potable water, rinse thoroughly. Apply biocide in localized areas. Reduce iron stains by spot cleaning. Test removal of graffiti with appropriate solvent, paint stripper, or poultice

material. Wash associated plaque, base. Allow plaque to dry, apply thin coat of appropriate outdoor sculpture wax at ambient temperature. After set, buff and repeat with second coat as before, buffing to lustrous finish.

3. Provide a roster listing the conservation team members and a brief narrative of relevant education and experience.

Information must include but is not limited to:

- Artist, or Artist's representative (member of artist's estate or closest living relative, gallery representative). If Artist or representative cannot be identified or included please describe the reason why, and/or the best efforts taken by the applicant.
- Professional Conservator(s)
- Owner of artwork, or owner's rep (i.e. local public art administrator, collection manager, applicant organization's property attorney, etc.)

Past Matters, LLC is a woman- and minority-owned small business dedicated to the preservation and conservation of artifacts, art, and architecture. We are involved in all aspects of preserving historic and cultural resources, from research and planning to assessment and treatment. Our professional conservators are committed to working in accordance with the Code of Ethics of the American Institute for Conservation (AIC) and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties. Clients include local, state, national, and international non-profit and private entities.

Debora Rodrigues, Principal Conservator and Collections Care Specialist, has over 25 years of experience in the field of historic preservation, conservation, and museum collections management. She holds three degrees from the University of Pennsylvania: a Bachelor of Arts in Design of the Environment, a Master of Science in Historic Preservation, and a Post-Graduate Certificate in Architectural Conservation. Ms. Rodrigues is a Professional Associate of the American Institute for Conservation.

4. Conservation Project Schedule

Start Date	End Date	Activity/Task	Notes
2025-04-01	2026-04-08	Conservation Committee Work	Rockville's Cultural Arts Commission's Public Art Subcommittee will serve as the Conservation Committee. The Committee will receive regular monthly updates and ensure proper stewardship of work.
2025-04-01	2025-04-30	Other Activity (please describe in the Notes column)	Complete contract with conservator for projects.
2025-09-01	2025-09-30	Artwork Conservation	Site preparation and conservation of "Untitled" mural at Lincoln Park Community Center.
2025-10-01	2025-10-31	Artwork Conservation	Conservation of one sculpture to be determined by conservator.
2025-04-01	2025-04-30	Artwork Conservation	Conservation of one sculpture to be determined by conservator.
2025-05-01	2025-05-31	Artwork Conservation	Conservation of one sculpture to be determined by conservator.
2025-06-01	2025-06-30	Artwork Conservation	Conservation of one sculpture to be determined by conservator.
2025-06-29	2025-06-30	Conservation Contract Completed	Work completed prior to end of FY26.

5. Conservation Project Budget

Expenses - Artist Fees

Type	Amount	Notes
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Expenses - Contracted Services

Type	Amount	Notes
Professional Conservator	\$7,560.00	Senior conservator \$135/hour, 8-hour days for Lincoln Park Mural Restoration

Other (describe in the Notes column)	\$4,200.00	artist/conservation technician; \$75/hour, 8-hour days Senior conservator \$135/hour, 8-hour days for Lincoln Park Mural Restoration
Professional Conservator	\$1,080.00	Senior conservator \$135/hour, 8-hour days Senior conservator \$135/hour, 8-hour days for Lincoln Park Mural Restoration
Professional Conservator	\$7,560.00	Senior conservator \$135/hour, 8-hour days for sculpture restoration
\$20,400.00		

Expenses - Implementation

Type	Amount	Notes
Equipment rental	\$3,557.00	Equipment rental for Lincoln Park mural
Other (please describe in the Notes column)	\$375.00	Conservator travel for Lincoln Park mural
\$3,932.00		

Expenses - Conservation Materials & Supplies

Type	Amount	Notes
Conservation Materials/Supplies (please describe in Notes column)	\$5,668.00	Materials for five conservation projects
\$5,668.00		

Expenses - Miscellaneous

Type	Amount	Notes
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Income - In-Kind Donations

Type	Amount	Notes
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Income - Funding Sources

Type	Amount	Notes
Other (please describe in the Notes column)	\$30,000.00	City appropriation from Art in Public Places program to fund additional costs including conservator's hourly fees, travel, materials, and equipment rentals.
\$30,000.00		

Totals

	Total Expenses	Total Income
Amount	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00

Attachments

A. Artwork Location Map

Please upload one (1) PDF file with a map of the location of the artwork to be conserved, or relocated (can be a Google Map, photos and/or drawings)

[Rockville_Artwork_Location_Map_Ex__A.pdf](#)
180 KB - 2024-12-18 12:12

Total Files: 1

B. Artwork Photos

Please upload one (1) PDF file of photos of the artwork to be conserved, including an overall perspective of the artwork as well as detailed close-ups of critical areas for conservation focus. Optional: plans, drawings, renderings or other specifications that help illustrate proposed public art conservation project.

[MSAC_Conservation_Grant_Photo_Exhibit_B.pdf](#)
1.9 MB - 2024-12-18 12:13

Total Files: 1

C. Letter of Permission

Please upload a Letter of Permission from the site owner and/or artwork overseer/owner citing that the applicant has permission to conserve and/or relocate the artwork. Project press release statements are not permissible.

[C_Letter_of_Permission.pdf](#)

112.5 KB - 2024-12-18 12:12

Total Files: 1

Work Details

Electronic Signatures

The name typed in the "Signature" box below is authorized to sign this Maryland State Arts Council application on behalf of the applicant and certifies that all information contained in this report is true and accurate. Checking this box verifies that the applicant agrees to complete and submit this application by electronic means, including the use of an electronic signature. When installing or conserving public artwork, the applicant agrees to abide by any local regulations, reviews or restrictions set by the local government including local and regional historic preservation requirements. In addition, the applicant certifies that it has read and agrees to the applicable grant guidelines, including eligibility requirements, is not debarred or suspended from doing business with the federal government, and, if an organization, has a Section 504 self-evaluation workbook or comparable document on file.

Authorizing Official Signature

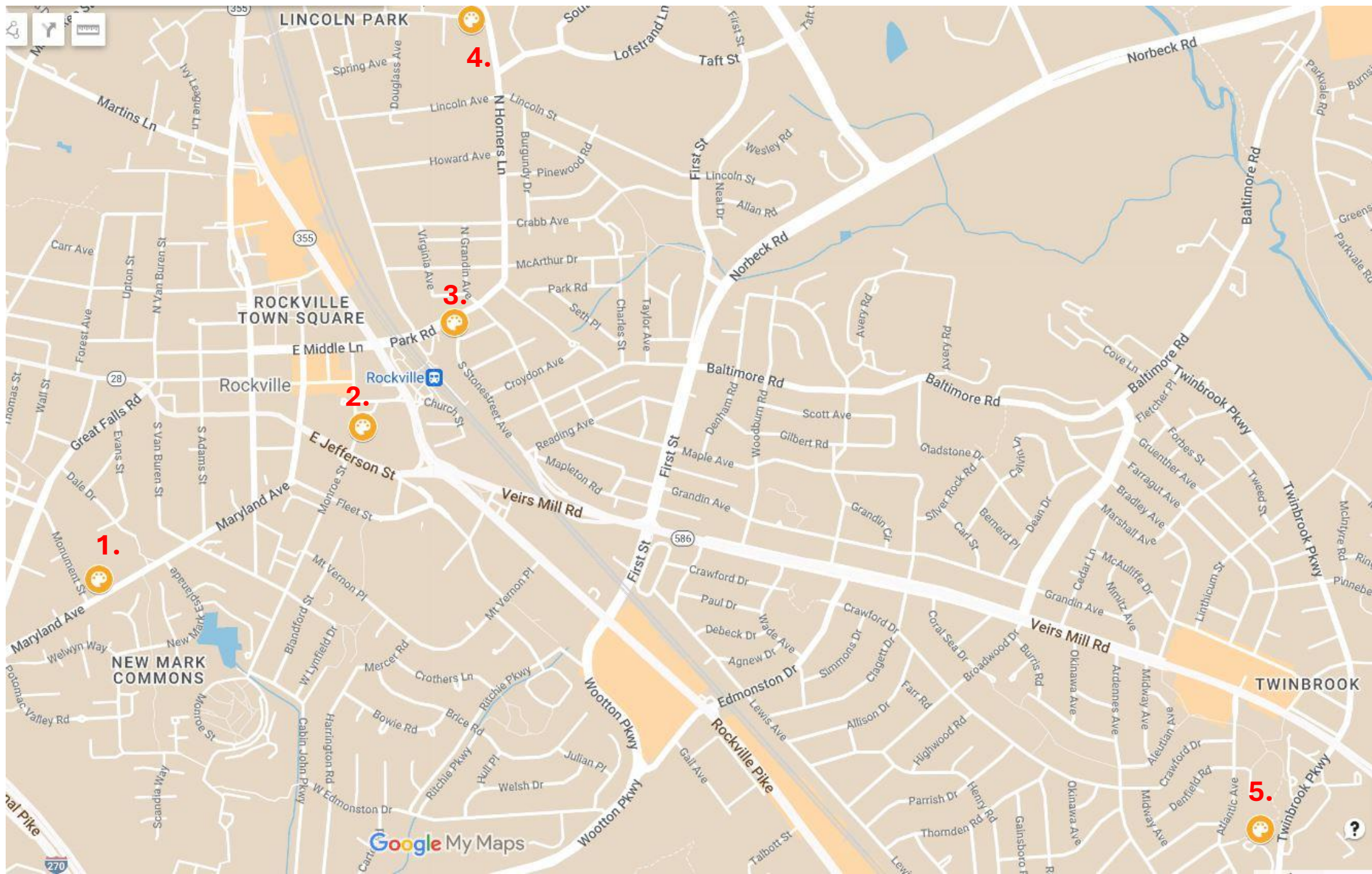
Jeff Mihelich

Authorizing Official Phone

240-314-8102

Authorizing Official Email

jmihelich@rockvillemd.gov



Art Location Map

1. "Rockville"
2. "Untitled," J. Ferguson
3. "Blossom"
4. "Untitled," M. Albertini
5. "Taking Flight"

City of Rockville Public Art Conservation Grant Application
Untitled, J. Ferguson, James Monroe Park



City of Rockville Public Art Conservation Grant Application



City of Rockville Public Art Conservation Grant Application
Taking Flight, M. Billing, Twinbrook



City of Rockville Public Art Conservation Grant Application



Rockville, N. Brennan, Monument Park



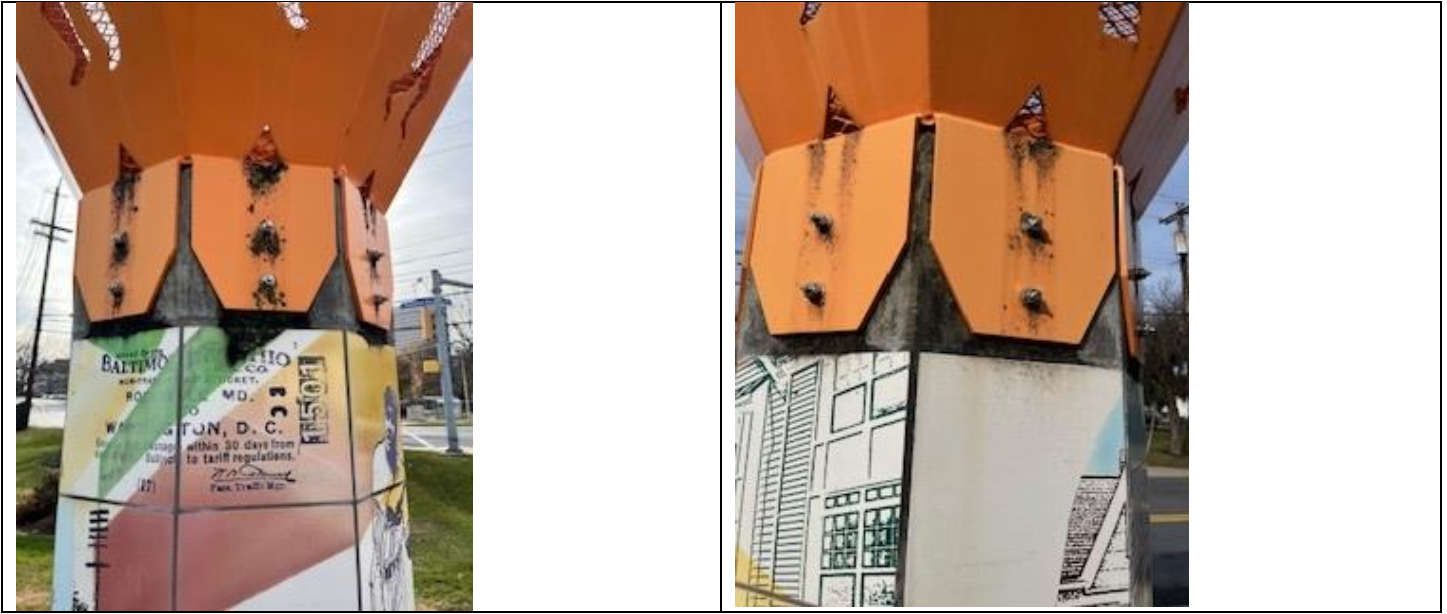
City of Rockville Public Art Conservation Grant Application



City of Rockville Public Art Conservation Grant Application
Blossom, W. Healy, South Stonestreet Ave



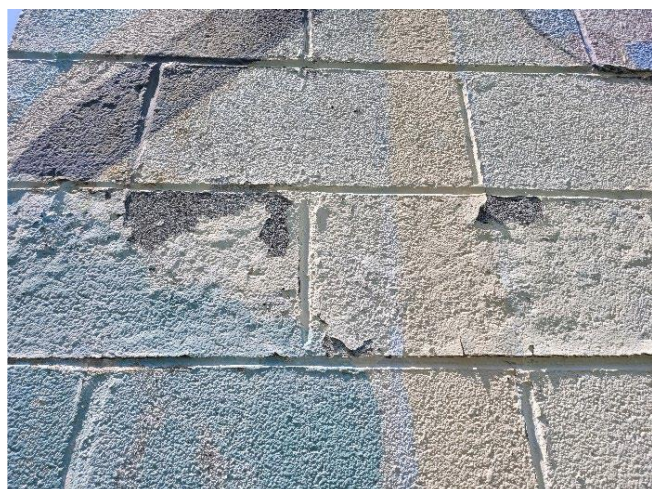
City of Rockville Public Art Conservation Grant Application



Untitled, Community art project, Lincoln Park Community Center



City of Rockville Public Art Conservation Grant Application
Lincoln Park Community Center Mural continued.





111 Maryland Avenue | Rockville, Maryland 20850-2364 | 240-314-5000
www.rockvillemd.gov

All five artworks proposed for conservation are located on city facilities, city parks, and/or city spaces. All artworks are on sites that are owned and maintained by the City of Rockville. Additional site permissions are not required to conserve these works.