



City of Helena

Public Arts Committee

AGENDA REGULAR BOARD MEETING JANUARY 21, 2026 5:30 P.M. RM 309

1. **Call meeting to order and establish quorum**
2. **Minutes – Approve from last meeting**
3. **Staff Reports**
4. **Election of Officers**
5. **Community Collaboration Grant Application Review**
6. **2025 Printable Public Art Map Review**
7. **Percent for Art Ordinance Draft**
8. **Committee Member Updates**
9. **Public Art, Event & Promotion Opportunities**
10. **Items for Next Agenda**
11. **Public Comment**
12. **Adjourn**

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Phone: (406) 447- 8490; TTY Relay Service 1-800-253-4091 or 711; Email: citycommunitydevelopment@helenamt.gov
Mailing Address & Physical Location: 316 North Park Avenue, Room 445, Helena, MT 59623

City of Helena – DRAFT Percent for Public Art Ordinance for HPAC discussion

This draft ordinance is modeled after Bozeman and Missoula Percent-for-Art programs, with comments and placeholders for Helena’s context. Comments appear inline in brackets to highlight policy choices, deviations from other city models, and points for review by city staff or legal counsel.

Section 1. Purpose & Intent

The purpose of this ordinance is to integrate public art into Helena’s capital projects, enrich community character, and establish a funding mechanism.

Commented [RA1]: Mirrors Bozeman and Missoula intent language, adapted to Helena’s advisory board structure.

Section 2. Applicability; Exemptions

Applies to city capital improvement projects with construction cost exceeding \$X00,000.

Commented [RA2R1]: \$500,000 / \$250,000 / \$100,000

Commented [RA3]: What sort of capital improvement projects make the most sense for Helena?

Section 3. Percent Allocation, Use, and Budgeting

Allocates [1% placeholder, option up to 1.5%] of eligible project construction costs to public art. At least 80% on-site, up to 20% into Public Art Trust Fund for maintenance.

Commented [RA4R3]: What sort of exceptions would make the most sense for Helena? sewer, utility, sidewalks...

Commented [RA5]: Comment: Bozeman uses 80/20 split at 1%; Missoula recently raised to 1.5% to cover maintenance.]

Section 4. Definitions

Defines construction cost, capital improvement project, artist, artwork, and Public Art Trust Fund.

Commented [RA6]: Comment: Based closely on Bozeman’s ordinance, adapted for Helena’s terminology.

Section 5. Process & Roles

The Helena Public Art Committee (HPAC) is advisory. – A representative from HPAC presents the annual public art report to the Commission. - The Community Facilities Manager (staff liaison) presents selected art/artists (as chosen by a selection committee) to the Commission for approval. - The City Manager (or designee) retains administrative responsibility.

Commented [RA7]: This differs from Bozeman, where the City Manager directly administers; here, Helena’s liaison role is explicit.]

Section 6. Ownership, Maintenance, Deaccession

All artworks are City property. Maintenance plans required. Deaccessioning or relocation requires HPAC review and Commission approval.

Commented [RA8]: Comment: Consistent with Missoula’s process; review needed by Facilities/Parks for ongoing maintenance responsibilities.

Section 7. Reporting, Oversight, Accountability

Annual report delivered by HPAC representative to the commission. Staff liaison ensures Commission receives project-specific artist recommendations.

Additional Comments for Review:

- Finance Department: confirm handling of trust fund and accounting.
- Legal Department: review deaccessioning, contracting authority, and conflicts of interest.
- Facilities/Parks: confirm maintenance responsibilities and long-term funding needs.
- Planning/CIP: align threshold and project categories with capital improvement definitions.

Commented [RA9]: Clarifies split duties. Commission should determine reporting cadence (annual vs project-specific) .



City of
Helena
Public Art Committee

PUBLIC ART MAP

2025 EDITION



A DIGITAL VERSION OF THIS PUBLIC ART MAP WITH IMAGES AND MORE INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE AT bit.ly/publicarthelena

The mission of the Helena Public Art Committee is to cultivate, advocate, and preserve public artworks in the City of Helena. We aim to develop and collaborate on projects that are a source of pride to residents, represent the unique and historical identity of our community, and are accessible to all.

WANNA GET INVOLVED?

HPAC meets on the third Wednesday of every month at 5:30 in the City-County building. Meetings are open to the public and recorded. For more information, visit bit.ly/helenapublicartcommittee

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK!

Stay up to date with upcoming projects and events at facebook.com/HelenaPublicArt

TRAFFIC SIGNAL BOXES Since 2018, The City of Helena has wrapped over 19 Traffic Signal Boxes with designs by local artists! Visit bit.ly/hpacsignalbox25 to view the full list and locations.



DUMPSTER ART

10 artists have painted dumpster murals around town since 2021. Visit bit.ly/dumpstermurals24 to view the full list and locations.



ART INSTALLATIONS

Public art installations come to the City of Helena as gifts from individual donors and as paid responses to specific request by the Helena Public Art Committee.

PUBLIC PARKS

KYLE BOUNDY MEMORIAL SCULPTURE

Civic Center Park, Paul Logan, 2022



ALL OF THE ABOVE, NONE OF THE ABOVE

Pioneer Park, Chip Clawson, 2006



USS HELENA MEMORIAL

Anchor Park



EQUITY FOUNTAIN

Hill Park, James Dinh and Michael Stutz, 2020



SCULPTURAL SEATING

Pocha Park, James Walter, 2023



STANDING STONES

Lazy Green Park, Richard Meyer, 1976



MOMENTUM MURAL

Centennial Trail Tunnel, Memorial Park
Elise Perpignano, 2023



BANDSHELL MURAL

Memorial Park, Carol Poppenga, 2010



MANN GULCH FIRE 75TH ANNIVERSARY

Lyndale Tunnel, Memorial Park
Elise Perpignano, 2024



6TH WARD

6TH WARD MURAL

1319 Helena Avenue,
Madison Ruff, 2022



WINGS MURAL

1238 Bozeman Street, Debra Towler, 2019



THE RAILYARD MURAL

1314 Bozeman St, David Goodson, 2023



David Goodson's latest mural captures the spirit and history of Helena's Railroad District in his distinctive style. It displays elements such as a rendition of a historical photograph of seven neighborhood railyard workers, as well as the Italian Renaissance Revival-style clock tower and 1382 engine that was built for Northern Pacific Railroad in 1904.

AROUND TOWN

ARCHIE BRAY FOUNDATION

2915 Country Club Ave
Rotating Artists, Classes & Events,
archiebray.org



SLADICH FOUNTAIN

Carroll College, Rev. Daniel Peter Hillen



SOAR Helena College, 115 N Roberts
Richard Swanson, 2008



COMMISSION CHAMBER MURALS

316 N Park Avenue, 2005



GEORGE WASHINGTON STATUE

County Building, 1888



NATIVE FASHION MURAL 501 Euclid Ave
Louis Still Smoking, 2023



TAKE IT EASY

Butte Ave and N Sanders St
Kristen Kainz 2010



UNITED WAY MURAL 75 E Lyndale Ave
ATAC Holter 2024



CAPITAL COMPLEX

MONTANA "LADY LIBERTY"

Capital Building
Edward J. Van Landeghem, 1901



THOMAS MEAGHER STATUE

1301 E 6th ave, Charles Mulligan, 1905



JEANNETTE RANKIN STATUE

1301 E 6th ave, Terry Mimnaugh, 1980



HERD BULL 225 N Roberts Street
Benji Daniels & James Hadcock, Sculpture, 1990



SYMBOL OF THE PROS 9th & Roberts
Bob Sriver, Bronze, 1982



EAGLE

1420 E 6th Ave, Alan Richter, Sculpture



LEWIS AND CLARK AT THREE FORKS
Capital Buiding, Edgar S. Paxson, Painting, 1912



MIKE & MAUREEN MANSFIELD STATUE
Capital Mezzanine, Gareth Curtiss, 2002



LEWIS AND CLARK MEETING INDIANS AT ROSS' HOLE
House Chamber, Capital Building,
Charles M. Russell, Painting, 1912



CEMETARIES

BENTON AVENUE CEMETARY
1975 N Benton Avenue



RESSURECTION CEMETARY
3685 N Montana Avenue



HOME OF PEACE 1867
Custer Avenue & Henderson Street



DOWNTOWN HELENA
PUBLIC ART WALKING TOUR



City of
Helena
Public Art Committee



RODNEY ARTS DISTRICT

Over 25 public artworks and 50 historical markers around the neighborhood!

Explore the digital art & history map at bit.ly/rodneymap



- ★ **THE MYRNA LOY** 15 N Ewing
Rotating Artists, Shows & Events
themyrnaloy.com
- A THE LADY BECKONS** 2023
- B FLAMENCO** 2009
Richard Swanson, Sculpture
- C NATIVE LAND** 15 S Ewing, North Face
Louis Still Smoking, 2023
- D FLORA FOR THE LADY** 15 S Ewing, East Face
Chip Clawson, 2024
- E BLOOM ON BLACK** Rodney & Breckenridge
Chip Clawson, 2020
- F COMMISSIONER'S GARAGE**
312 Breckenridge, Facade, Amanda Reese, 2021
- G NEIGHBORHOOD HISTORY** 312 Breckenridge
South face windows, David Goodson, 2021
- H PORTRAITS OF HELENA** 312 Breckenridge
West face windows, Kelly Rebo, 2022
- I SPIRIT OF RODNEY ST** 312 Breckenridge
North face windows, Various Artists, 2021
- J IRON & STONE** 110 N Rodney
Scott Nelson, Sculptural Seating, 2021
- K ART STOP BENCH** 122 N Rodney, 2021
Jeanie Warden, Delaney Cummins ATAC Holter
- L PETAL PURSUIT MURAL**
111 N Rodney, Griffin Foster, 2022
- M RODNEY PEACOCKS MURAL**
200 N Rodney, Sophie Mathis, 2022



DOWNTOWN HELENA PUBLIC ART WALKING TOUR

- 1 BISON** 120 S Last Chance Gulch
Lewis & Clark Library, 1890
- 2 LAST CHANCE HISTORICAL PLAQUES**
All along the Walking Mall
- 3 PALIMPSEST MURALS**
17 S Last Chance Gulch, Lance Foster, 2011
- 4 THE PROSPECTORS** Last Chance Gulch
& Broadway St, Lyndon Pomeroy, 1974
- 5 WOMEN'S MURAL** 2 N Last Chance Gulch
Anne Appleby, Marilyn Sternberg,
Delores Dinsmore, 1979
- 6 ATLAS BLOCK GARGOYLES**
7 N Last Chance Gulch, 1889
- 7 150TH ANNIVERSARY MURAL**
11 N Last Chance Gulch,
Dennis McCahon and Janet Welsh, 2014
- 8 BULLWHACKER STATUE**
25 N Last Chance Gulch, John B. Weaver, 1976

The mural consists of three distinct panels. The first section is defined by an older woman, representing a pioneer. Here you'll also find a school teacher and an artist who commemorate the women who came out west to bring education and stability to the frontier. The main focus of the second panel is the image of a mother with her baby. The model was Helenan Debi Corcoran and her son Eli, who was born as the mural was being designed. This panel also features storefronts and a few other notable characters.

The bronze statue of a man cracking a whip on Helena's Downtown Walking Mall celebrates the 19th century equivalent of the modern-day truck driver. Called by the highly evocative name of "Bullwhacker," the statue celebrates the men (and a few women) who drove often reluctant oxen to transport supplies from Fort Benton down Mullan Road to the gold camps in Helena.

- 9 HEART OF GOLD MURAL** Jackson St
Parking Garage, Ryan "ARCY" Christenson, 2017
- 10 TAILOR AND SEAMSTRESS**
44 N Last Chance Gulch, George Carsley, 1929

- 11 EXTRA EXTRA! STATUE**
Last Chance Gulch & 6th Ave, Becky Eiker, 1999
- 12 QUEEN CITY GATEWAY**
6th Ave & Hibbard Way, Robert Harrison, 1997
- 13 YOUTH MURAL** 6th Ave Parking Garage
Spider Woman Youth Art, 2001
- 14 GRANDSTREET THEATRE** 325 N Park Ave
Seasonal Events & Classes
grandstreettheatre.com
Stained Glass Window, Barry Hood, 2005
- 15 LEGENDARY LAST CHANCE GULCH MURAL**
406 N Last Chance Gulch, Adam Riggs, 2020
- 16 THE HOLTER MUSEUM OF ART** 12 E Lawrence
Rotating Artworks, Classes & Events
holtermuseum.org
- 17 RED SHIFT ROCKER** 12 E Lawrence
Richard Swanson, Sculpture, 2005
- 18 WHO GIVES ALL GIFTS**
512 Logan St, Tim Holmes, 1986
- 19 LIVERYSQUARE MURAL**
27 Neill Ave, Trinity Rivard, 2024

This mural honors Livery Square's transformation at the turn of the 19th century—from horse livery to auto carriage—through abstracted wagon wheels, classic cars, and the people who made it possible. Bob Stanley, one of the Four Georgians, gold prospector and an early Helena investor, is prominently featured against Mt. Helena.

- 20 CATHEDRAL OF ST. HELENA**
530 N Ewing St, Facade Carvings

GREAT NORTHERN TOWN CENTER

- GREAT NORTHERN CAROUSEL**
989 Carousel Way
Ed Roth, Bette Largent, Todd Goings,
Mary Harris, Dale Livezey, Chuck Kaparich,
Bill Borneman, & Kasey Bergum



- LEWIS AND CLARK:
THE MONTANA EXPERIENCE**
Eric Thorsen, Lewis & Clark Trail Commisison



- FISH BENCH**
Pedestrian Plaza, Chip Clawson, 2009



- EXPLORATION ARCHES**
Pedestrian Plaza, Robert Harrison, 2007-2010



- ARCHIE BRAY 65TH ANNIVERSARY MOSAIC**
Laurel True, Community Workshop, 2017



- ENTREPRENEURIAL SPIRIT OF HELENA**
Kristine Veith, 2003



- HELENA BIKE TOWER**
750 Great Northern Blvd, Robert Harrison, 2016



- OMERTA ARTS** 800 Front Street
Rotating Artworks, Classes & Events
omertaarts.org

