



**ARTS, HISTORIC PRESERVATION & PHILANTHROPY COMMITTEE
MEETING AGENDA
TUESDAY, AUGUST 5, 2025**

The Arts, Historic Preservation & Philanthropy Committee will conduct a Standing Committee Meeting on Tuesday, August 5, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. at City Hall (Mayor's Conference Room), 1737 Main Street, Second Floor, Columbia, SC 29201. Members of the public may view the meeting online at www.columbiasc.gov. Please contact the City Clerk's Office at (803)545-3045 or cityclerk@columbiasc.gov if you have questions regarding this meeting.

The Honorable Tyler D. Bailey, At-Large, Chair
The Honorable Edward H. McDowell, Jr., District II ▪ The Honorable Tina N. Herbert, District I

Prior to entering the meeting, please silence all electronic communication devices. All presenters are asked to speak directly into the microphone for recording purposes.

CALL TO ORDER

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approval of the December 10, 2024 Arts, Historic Preservation & Philanthropy Committee Meeting Minutes

COMMITTEE DISCUSSION

2. Persimmon Peace Pole Project - Ms. Elaine Frick, Columbia Peace Pole Initiative
3. Vista Greenway at Taylor Street Public Art Project - Ms. Abby Anderson, Executive Director / Vista Guild

ADJOURNMENT



MEETING DATE: August 5, 2025

DEPARTMENT: City Clerk

FROM: *Erika Hammond, City Clerk*

SUBJECT: **Approval of the December 10, 2024 Arts, Historic Preservation & Philanthropy Committee Meeting Minutes**

FUNDING SOURCE & ORIGINAL BUDGET:

ATTACHMENTS:

- **#a:** AHPPC_MN_12102024 (DOCX)



**ARTS, HISTORIC PRESERVATION & PHILANTHROPY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2024**

CALL TO ORDER

The Arts, Historic Preservation, & Philanthropy Committee conducted a regular meeting on Tuesday, December 10, 2024 at City Hall (Council Chambers), 1737 Main Street, Columbia, South Carolina 29201. The Honorable Tyler D. Bailey, Chair called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m. and the following members were present:

Attendee Name	Title	Status
Tyler D. Bailey	Chair	Present
Edward H. McDowell	Member	Absent
Tina N. Herbert	Member	Present

INVOCATION

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approval of the November 19, 2024 Arts, Historic Preservation & Philanthropy Committee Meeting Minutes – *Approved*

Upon a motion made by Mr. Bailey and seconded by Ms. Herbert, the Committee voted unanimously to approve the November 19, 2024 Arts, Historic Preservation & Philanthropy Committee Meeting Minutes.

COMMITTEE DISCUSSION

2. Persimmon Peace Pole Project - Ms. Elaine Frick, Columbia Peace Pole Initiative – *Received as information.*

Ms. Elaine Frick, Columbia Peace Pole Initiative explained that Peace Poles, which typically feature four to eight translations of the message "Peace Prevails on Earth." There are now around 250,000 Peace Poles that have been installed across the country, serving as symbols of support for peaceful operations. She highlighted the proposed Persimmon Peace Pole Project, which is tied to a second-generation Piedmont tree grown from seeds collected at ground level in Hiroshima. It is now planted at the Vista Greenway near Taylor Street and Park Street. The committee is preparing for a formal dedication ceremony, after which a full installation event will be held to unveil the accompanying Peace Pole artwork and site features.



**ARTS, HISTORIC PRESERVATION & PHILANTHROPY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2024**

Ms. Olga Yukhno, sculpture artist emphasized the importance of creating inclusive public art in spaces like the Saluda Riverwalk that serve diverse families and daily visitors.

There was discussion about future peace pole locations; maintenance; how the artwork is made; access to public art; and tree dimensions.

There was consensus of the committee to endorse the project and it will be referred to One Columbia for review.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Erika D. Moore Hammond, CMC, CPM
City Clerk



MEETING DATE: August 5, 2025

DEPARTMENT: City Clerk

FROM: *Erika Hammond, City Clerk*

SUBJECT: Persimmon Peace Pole Project - Ms. Elaine Frick, Columbia Peace Pole Initiative

FUNDING SOURCE & ORIGINAL BUDGET:

ATTACHMENTS:

- **#a:** Persimmon Peace Pole Application Packet (PDF)
- **#b:** One Columbia Endorsement for Peace Pole Project (PDF)

HISTORY:

**12/10/24
INFORMATION**

Arts, Historic Preservation & Philanthropy Committee

RECEIVED AS

Ms. Elaine Frick provided an update on the Columbia Peace Pole Initiative, which has identified 30 Peace Poles across 10 to 11 locations. These poles typically feature 4 to 8 languages with the message "Peace Prevails on Earth." The initiative originated from the bombing of Hiroshima and now has around 250,000 Peace Poles installed across the country, serving as symbols of support for peaceful operations. More specifically she highlighted the Persimmon Peace Pole Project, which was created using seeds sourced from the ground level of Hiroshima after the bombing. A tree has already been planted from these seeds, and the committee is now awaiting a dedication ceremony. An installation event will be held once the dedication is finalized.

There was discussion about future peace poles locations; maintenance; description of how the artwork is made; access to public art; and tree dimensions.

The committee reached a consensus to endorse the project, and it will now move forward to the next step in the process toward One Columbia.



PUBLIC ART PLACEMENT APPLICATION

Please see submission checklist for materials necessary for application.
SUBMISSION MATERIALS MUST ACCOMPANY APPLICATION.
 Application form and materials are **DUE AT 4:00 p.m.** thirty (30) days prior to installation.

- Is the designation:
- Public Art
 - Statue
 - Monument / Memorial
 - Individual Commemoration
 - Organization Commemoration
 - Event Commemoration

- Checklist:
- Application
 - Council Members (District and one At-Large Sponsor)
 - 3 Letter(s) of Support
 - One letter expressing Community support
 - One letter expressing Neighborhood/Neighborhood Association or Merchant Association support
 - One letter expressing Councilmembers' support

Elaine S. Frick scelainefrick@gmail.com
 Applicant Signature* Email Address

Elaine Frick 2921 Oceda St. Columbia, SC 29205
 Print Name Mailing Address
(Columbia Peace Pole Initiative)
803-931-2675 11-19-2024
 Phone Number Date

Check and initial acknowledging application requirements.

- EF Artist Information, Description and photos of artwork.
- _____ Any changes to initial request must be made in writing no more than 30 days prior to art placement.
- _____ Artwork and resolution must be finalized at least 30 days prior to placement.
- EF Applicant must provide letter(s) of support as outlined in the above checklist.



PUBLIC ART PLACEMENT APPLICATION

1. Name of ~~individual~~, organization, or event to be commemorated:

Columbia Peace Pole Initiative

2. Title of Artwork:

Persimmon Peace Pole

3. Attach a sheet describing the significant contribution (s) this individual, organization, or event has made in the community (no more than one-page)

4. Location, date, and time of unveiling ceremony (if approved):

The placement of public art within the City's right-of-way shall adhere to the City of Columbia encroachment ordinance process.

Saluda Riverwalk

5. District Council Member Sponsor: Edward McDowell, District II

At-Large Council Member Sponsor: Tyler Bailey

FOR STAFF USE:

Arts, Historic Preservation & Philanthropy Committee: Endorsed Rejected

One Columbia Review: Approved Rejected

Arts, Historic Preservation & Philanthropy Committee: Endorsed Rejected

Public Works: Approved Rejected

Parks and Recreation: Approved Rejected

Support Services: Approved Rejected

Public Safety: Approved Rejected

Contributions of the Columbia Peace Pole Initiative Committee to the Columbia Community

INTRODUCTION The Columbia Peace Pole Initiative is an interfaith, multicultural committee that has identified 34 peace poles at 12 Columbia-area locations and has inspired the planting of four of them. The committee has shared the concept of peace poles, and information on planting more, through presentations to numerous civic groups, schools, and churches.

PLANS FOR PERSIMMON PEACE POLE In February of 2022, the committee chose the design of local ceramic artist Olga Yukhno for a new “Persimmon Peace Pole.” The Peace Pole will be the centerpiece of an installation that will feature a second-generation, survivor persimmon tree that the committee has grown from seeds provided by Green Legacy Hiroshima. In addition to the Persimmon Peace Pole and persimmon tree, the installation will include a bench, steppingstones, and an interpretive sign decorated in the same style as the peace pole.

The committee has identified a suitable and prominent city park location for the second public-art peace pole to be installed for public reflection and education. The park’s riverside location provides a tranquil setting that complements the Peace Pole’s message. The well-used location was chosen for its ample parking and opportunity for youth/family-oriented events. This thoughtful placement enhances the city’s cultural landscape and reinforces Columbia’s commitment to fostering a peaceful, inclusive community. The commitment to global ideals of peace and understanding enhances the city’s image as a forward-thinking city.

FIRST PUBLIC ART PEACE POLE On January 11, 2021, the committee collaborated with One Columbia to dedicate Columbia’s first public-art Peace Pole, the “Vista Peace Pole,” in the 900-block median of Senate Street. The Vista Peace Pole proclaims in eight languages: “May Peace Prevail on Earth.” For this peace pole the committee chose languages that represent both global and local relations and histories: English, Japanese, Arabic, Hebrew, Hindi, Spanish, Gullah and Catawba.

The artist’s addition of a bell offers a unique way to speak out for peace. The Vista Peace Pole offers a place for people to gather, ring the bell, and pray for peace, such as a Prayer Vigil event held there on Sunday, September 29, 2024. The Vista Peace Pole is registered with the international Peace Pole Project (worldpeace.org) which has registered more than 250,000 peace poles worldwide.

INTERNATIONAL BEGINNINGS The peace pole’s plea and prayer have been lifted up by people around the world, in many languages, for more than half a century. Ten years following the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Masahisa Goi, in Ishikawa, Japan, shared a message that can be translated as “May peace prevail on Earth.” Within only a few years the “peace pole” tradition arrived in cities across the world. Peace Poles emphasize the importance of peace in our everyday lives and serves as reminders of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the resilience of life, and the message that nuclear weapons must never be used again.

FIRST PLANTING From the first planting by the Columbia Peace Pole Initiative of a peace pole at the annual Hiroshima Remembrance Vigil at the Columbia Friends Meeting in 2016, the committee has been encouraging the planting of Peace Poles around the city and region. Now, more and more peace poles will make unique, permanent artistic statements that Columbia, a Mayors for Peace city, is dedicated to promoting peace and harmony in its communities.

COMMUNITY COLLABORATION The committee has reached its fundraising goal, including a Maintenance Fund, and the monies are being managed by its fiduciary agent, Central Carolina Community Foundation.

Persimmon Peace Pole – Description by artist Olga Yuhno

The Persimmon Peace Pole design is a seven-foot-tall sculptural piece that will use symbolism relating to trees to convey its message of peace in the face of danger coming from the nuclear threat.

Most prevalent will be its connection to the persimmon tree that survived the nuclear bombing in Japan, which inspired the whole project. From the bottom you will be able to see tree roots containing and suppressing the danger of nuclear power, represented by the red color underneath. These roots will be growing into a persimmon tree with ripe fruit clinging to the bare branches. The choice of the tree not only pays homage to the real-life tree grown from the seed of the Mother Persimmon Tree, which will be planted nearby, but in Japanese culture the persimmon is the national fruit and represents perseverance and transformation.

The top will be visually a smaller reflection of the bottom, but the tree controlling the red aggression here is the ginkgo tree, represented by its iconic leaves. In Japanese culture, the ginkgo tree is a symbol of longevity, endurance, and wisdom.

In the center, where the boughs of the two trees come together, the words, "May Peace Prevail on Earth" will be inscribed in eight languages and echo the color scheme of the other elements of the piece. Around these words, wrapping the heart of the pole, there will be branches of the Sakura cherry tree with gentle blossoms blooming. The Sakura cherry represents renewal and hope.

Crowning the pole will be a "Doomsday Clock" using the iconic style that has been used since the late 1940's to highlight the danger of nuclear threat. The message I would like to convey is that it requires wisdom and perseverance to bring hope despite the fact that the threat of nuclear annihilation looms over us all.

The piece will be made with the use of hand-sculpted ceramic, glass, and concrete elements that will create an intricate three-dimensional mosaic.

Accompanying the Peace Pole itself will be several other elements. The persimmon tree, grown from the seed of the tree that survived the bombing of Hiroshima, will be planted close by.

A concrete bench, an interpretive sign, and several concrete stepping stones will also be crafted and placed nearby to allow visitors to sit under the shade of the tree and reflect on the message of the artwork. The seat of the bench as well as the interpretive sign and stepping stones will be decorated in the same style as the peace pole and will visually reflect the same themes and tie the whole installation together.

I would like the Persimmon Peace Pole to have a larger role than just a beautiful art piece. The vision is to have it become a gathering place and have people come and think and talk about the really powerful and important messages that are part of the Peace Pole itself.

The Persimmon Peace Pole will be included in the registry of peacepoleproject.org, adding to the more than 250,00 Peace Poles planted around the world which share, in various languages, the message "May Peace Prevail on Earth."



Olga Yukhno

olgayukhno.com

803.422.4289

@olgayukhnostudio

fivepeaksstudio@gmail.com

Professional Experience

Instructor	City of Columbia Art Center; Columbia, SC	2023-present
Owner and Artist	Olga Yukhno Studio; Columbia, SC,	2014- present
Gallery Director	McMaster Gallery; Columbia, SC	2018- 2022
Art Coordinator	Irmo Chapin Recreation Commission; Chapin, SC	2010-2015
Pottery Studio Manager	Crooked Creek Park; Chapin, SC	2012-2013
Art Instructor	Our Hands Together Gallery; Irmo, SC	2009-2013
Adjunct Instructor	Pyatigorsk State Linguistic University, Russia	2007-2008
Set Designer	Pyatigorsk State Linguistic University, Russia	2003-2008

Volunteer Work

Visual Art Coordinator	USC School of Music; Columbia, SC	2023-present
Workshop Coordinator	Midlands Clay Arts Society; Columbia, SC	2018- present
Vice-President	Crooked Creek Art League; Chapin, SC	2019- 2020
Public Galleries Curator	Crooked Creek Art League; Chapin, SC	2018-2019
Organizer	Re-Current Show; Columbia, SC	2018
Organizer	EcoFab Trash Couture Fashion Show; Columbia, SC	2018
President	Midlands Clay Arts Society; Columbia, SC	2016
Founder and Organizer	Meet the Locals Art Show & Festival; Columbia, SC	2016

Solo and Two Person Exhibitions

Bridges to Personhood (with Harry Hansen)	Jones-Carter Gallery; Lake City, SC	2024
Home, Sweet Home	Trustus Theater; Columbia, SC	2024
Interwoven	Harbison Theater; Columbia, SC	2023
24 Hours	Tapp's Arts Center; Columbia, SC	2019
The Bell Tolls....	Southern Exposure, USC; Columbia, SC	2019
Beneath the Surface	Francis Marion University; Florence, SC	2019
What Moves Us	Anastasia and Friends; Columbia, SC	2018
Meditations	Southern Pottery Gallery; Columbia, SC	2018
Interwoven	The Bascom Art Center; Highlands, NC	2018
MasqueParade	Southern Pottery Gallery; Columbia, SC	2015

Invitational Exhibitions

Bullets and Band-aids	Columbia Museum of Art; Columbia, SC	2023
Bits & Pieces	Stormwater Studios; Columbia, SC	2023
Women's Voices in Clay	McMaster Gallery; Columbia, SC	2022
It's Been A While	Tapp's Outpost, Columbia, SC	2021
Around the World	Senate's End, SC	2019
Artfields Extended	Stormwater Studios	2019
The Language of Clay	Upstate Gallery on Main; Greenville, SC	2019
Time for Art	Columbia Museum of Art, SC	2018
The Language of Clay	McMaster Gallery, SC	2018
Southern Rhythms	McKissick Museum; Columbia, SC	2015

Juried Exhibitions

CCAL 29th Annual Juried Show	Chapin, SC	2024
SC State Fair Fine Art Exhibition	Columbia, SC	2023
Artfields	Lake City, SC	2023
CCAL 28th Annual Juried Show	Chapin, SC	2023
Artfields	Lake City, SC	2022
SC State Fair Fine Art Exhibition	Columbia, SC	2022
Artfields	Lake City, SC	2021
Artfields at Home	On-line Event	2020
SC State Fair Fine Art Exhibition	Columbia, SC	2019
Artfields	Lake City, SC	2019
Trenholm Artists Guild Juried Show	Columbia, SC	2019
CCAL 24th Annual Juried Show	Chapin, SC	2019
SC State Fair Fine Art Exhibition	Columbia, SC	2018
ArtFields	Lake City, SC	2018
43rd Annual Juried Show	Anderson Arts Center, SC	2018
Dia De Los Muertos, A Celebration of Life	St. Petersburg, FL	2018
CCAL 23rd Annual Juried Show	Chapin, SC	2018
ArtFields	Lake City, SC	2017
Christmas Gala	Anderson Arts Center, SC	2016
ArtFlow	Allendale, SC	2015
CCAL 19th Annual Juried Show	Chapin, SC	2014
CCAL 15th Annual Juried Show	Chapin, SC	2010
Ferodiz Design Festival	Zheleznovodsk, Russia	2010
Ferodiz Design Festival	Zheleznovodsk, Russia	2006
International Design Competition	Moscow, Russia	2006

Select Group Exhibitions

The Art of Being: At Peace	Columbia, SC	2023
Savannah Clay: 2019	Savannah Cultural Arts Center, GA	2019
TAG Art Showcase	Columbia College, SC	2019
Last First	Anastasia and Friends, SC	2019
Open Studios Exhibition	701 Center for Contemporary Art, SC	2019
Alternative Storytellers (Three Person Show)	Anastasia and Friends, SC	2019

Palmetto Fine Arts Exhibition	Chapin, SC	2019
Generations	Koger Center for the Arts, SC	2019
Strengthening Practice	Tapp's Arts Center, SC	2019
Tiny Gallery Series	Columbia, SC	2018
EcoFab 2.0	Anderson Arts Center, SC	2018
Figure Out	Tapp's Arts Center, SC	2018
Clay is the Way	Arts & Heritage Center, SC	2018
Re-Current	Tapp's Arts Center, SC	2018
EcoFab Trash Couture Fashion Show	Tapp's Arts Center, SC	2018
Art Heroes	310 Art, Asheville, NC	2018
Storytelling	310 Art, Asheville, NC	2017

Awards

Emerging Artist Award	SC Art Commission	Columbia, SC	2024
1st Place/ Professional	SC State Fair/ Fine Art Exhibition	Columbia, SC	2023
3rd Place/ Professional	SC State Fair/ Fine Art Exhibition	Columbia, SC	2023
2nd Place	37 th Annual Sculpture Celebration	Lenoir, NC	2023
Certificate of Appreciation	The Town of Chapin	Chapin, SC	2023
1st Place 3D Artwork	CCAL 28 th Annual Juried Show	Chapin, SC	2023
3rd Place 3D Artwork	CCAL 28 th Annual Juried Show	Chapin, SC	2023
Best in Show/ Professional	SC State Fair/ Fine Art Exhibition	Columbia, SC	2022
1st Place/ Professional	SC State Fair/ Fine Art Exhibition	Columbia, SC	2022
1st Place/ Professional	SC State Fair/ Fine Art Exhibition	Columbia, SC	2019
People's Choice Award	Sail into Chapin	Chapin, SC	2019
3rd Place	CCAL 24 th Annual Juried Show	Chapin, SC	2019
3rd Place/ Professional	SC State Fair/ Fine Art Exhibition	Columbia, SC	2018
1st Place 3D Artwork	CCAL 23 rd Annual Juried Show	Chapin, SC	2018
3rd Place 3D Artwork	CCAL 23 rd Annual Juried Show	Chapin, SC	2018
People's Choice	CCAL 23 rd Annual Juried Show	Chapin, SC	2018
Patron's Choice	Chiaha Art Festival	Rome, GA	2016
Juror's Choice	ArtFlow	Allendale, SC	2015
Postcard Award	CCAL 15 th Annual Juried Show	Chapin, SC	2010
3rd Place	International Design Competition	Moscow, Russia	2006
Winner	Young Leaders Competition	Pyatigorsk, Russia	2005

Public Art

Persimmon Peace Pole	Commission in Progress; Columbia, SC	2023-2024
Cherished	Chapin Art Trail; Chapin, SC	2023-2024
In Bloom	37 th Annual Sculpture Celebration; Lenoir, NC	2023
Spirit of the Lake	Chapin Art Trail; Chapin, SC	2023
Rainbow Boat	Sail into Chapin; Chapin, SC	2019
A Very Long Goodbye	Vista Power Boxes; Columbia, SC	2019

Special Projects

Bullets and Band-aids, Volume IV	Bullets and Band-aids	Columbia, SC	2023
Ballentine Bear (mural)	Ballentine Elementary School	Ballentine, SC	2022

The Supper Table	The Jasper Project	Columbia, SC	2019
Public Space Art Grant	Saluda Shoals Foundation	Columbia, SC	2014
Public Space Art Grant	Saluda Shoals Foundation	Columbia, SC	2013
Public Space Art Grant	Saluda Shoals Foundation	Columbia, SC	2012

Residencies

Howe Hall Art Infused Magnet School	Goose Creek, SC	2024
Ballentine Elementary School	Ballentine, SC	2022
Wildacres	Little Switzerland, NC	2021
Stormwater Studios	Columbia, SC	2019
Tapp's Arts Center	Columbia, SC	2019

Workshop Instruction

John C Campbell Folk School	Brasstown, NC	2024
Penland School of Craft (assistant to Arthur Gonzalez)	Bakersville, NC	2019
John C Campbell Folk School (assistant instructor)	Brasstown, NC	2018
Southern Pottery Gallery and Work Center	Columbia, SC	2018
Columbia Art Center	Columbia, SC	2014, 2015, 2016, 2022
Our Hands Together Gallery	Irmo, SC	2009-2013

Presentations and Panels

The Atlantic Institute	virtual	2024
Columbia Art Museum	Columbia, SC	2022
Stormwater Studios/USC	Columbia, SC	2019
Penland School of Craft	Bakersville, NC	2019
SC State Library	Columbia, SC	2019
Artfields	Lake City, SC	2019
Midlands Clay Arts Society	Columbia, SC	2019
University of South Carolina	Columbia, SC	2019
Midlands Clay Arts Society	Columbia, SC	2015
Midlands Clay Arts Society	Columbia, SC	2013

Curation

Bits & Pieces	Group Exhibition	Stormwater Studios	2023
My Life in the Figure	Robert Kennedy	Stormwater Studios	2022
A Rendering of Soliloquies	Janet Kozachek	Stormwater Studios	2022
Generations	UofSC	Koger Center for the Arts	2019

Press and Publications

The Jasper Magazine	<i>A Russian Transplant with a Passion for Her Work; V11, I 12</i>	2023, Spring
Bullets and Band-aids	<i>Volume IV</i>	2023
The Free Times	<i>"I don't Want People to Forget."</i>	2022, Nov.
Influence + Digest	<i>Top 15 Artists in Columbia, SC</i>	2022, Aug.
The Artists You Should Know	<i>Being the Advocate She Needed</i>	2022, March
The Chapin Magazine	<i>Spotlight Artist: Olga Yukhno</i>	2019, Dec.
SC Business Review/ NPR	<i>Local Artist Emigrates from Russia to Start Career</i>	2019, Sept.
The Free Times	<i>True Warrior</i>	2019, May
The Patriot	<i>Artists Display Cultural History Through Visual Arts</i>	2019 March
Artists Federation, Russia	<i>Anniversary Catalogue, Featured Artist</i>	2019, Jan.
The State Newspaper (Go Columbia)	<i>Meet Olga Yukhno, Tapp's next artist in residence</i>	2018, Dec. 27
The Jasper Project	<i>Olga Yukhno Featured in December's Tiny Gallery Series</i>	2018, Dec.
The Jasper Project	<i>Artist Profile: Olga Yukhno by Hallie Hayes</i>	2018, Sept.
Rapid River Magazine	<i>An Artist's Journey, Spotlight on Olga Yukhno</i>	2018, May

2.a



Packet Pg. 16





CITY OF COLUMBIA
SOUTH CAROLINA
OFFICE OF CITY COUNCIL

Dear Members of the Public Art Committee,

I am pleased to write in strong support of the Columbia Peace Pole Initiative's application for the public art placement in the community. As a Councilmember deeply committed to enhancing our city's cultural fabric, I believe this initiative presents an exciting opportunity for our residents to come together in a shared celebration of peace, unity, and diversity.

I am confident that the Peace Pole will be an asset to our city, not only as a work of art but also as a focal point for dialogue, reflection, and a deeper commitment to building a more inclusive and peaceful society. Public art has the power to transform spaces and strengthen communities, and I believe that the Peace Pole will do just that.

Additionally, this initiative reflects our city's ongoing efforts to promote diversity, inclusivity, and civic engagement. The placement of this Peace Pole will contribute to our city's mission of being a welcoming and tolerant place for all who live here.

Again, I greatly support this application.

Sincerely,

Ed McDowell, Jr.
District II



CITY OF COLUMBIA
SOUTH CAROLINA
OFFICE OF AT-LARGE COUNCILMAN

December 5, 2024

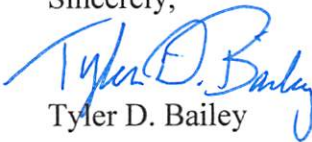
Dear Members of the Public Art Committee,

I am writing to express my full support for the proposed Peace Pole Project. As a city council member, I am committed to fostering initiatives that improve our city's infrastructure, enhance public spaces, and create opportunities for growth and engagement for all residents.

The Peace Pole Project promises to be a transformative addition to our city. Represents a unique opportunity to celebrate our community's heritage and encourage public involvement. I believe this project will contribute significantly to both the aesthetic and economic vitality of the area, attracting visitors, supporting local businesses, and creating a sense of pride among our residents.

I am confident that the project aligns with our city's vision for sustainable development and community well-being, and I look forward to working together to make it a reality.

Sincerely,



Tyler D. Bailey



CITY OF COLUMBIA
SOUTH CAROLINA
OFFICE OF CITY COUNCIL

December 10, 2024

I am pleased to offer my full support for the Public Art Placement Policy application submitted by the Columbia Peace Pole Initiative Committee for the installation of "Persimmon Peace Pole" by artist Olga Yukhno.

As a Columbia Councilmember, I have had the privilege of witnessing the positive impact that public art can have on our community. Olga Yukhno's work promises to add a meaningful and visually captivating piece to our public spaces, promoting peace and unity for all who encounter it.

The Columbia Peace Pole Initiative has demonstrated a strong commitment to fostering cultural enrichment and community engagement through this project, and I am confident that "Persimmon Peace Pole" will be a welcomed and cherished addition to our city's landscape.

Again, I am proud to support this application.

Sincerely,


Will Brennan

**Tube, Kayak & Tour Outfitter**

PO Box 2921 West Columbia, SC 29171
(803) 404-8254 | www.palmettooutdoor.com

October 21, 2024

Bethany-

I am following up regarding the installation of the public art peace pole project off of Candi Lane. This project will benefit both locals and the many visitors who come to experience the Saluda Riverwalk every day.

We support public art and really enjoyed working with Palmetto Pride to brighten up Candi Lane through the “Love not Litter” mural. This mural is now a landmark that welcomes river users to the park and visitors enjoy stopping to take pictures before they leave. Another public art addition, like the Carolina Peace Pole Project, will foster community and invest in our greenspaces.

Public art will always improve and increase community value.

Thank you for your consideration and I look forward to future projects.

Best,
Michael Mayo
Executive Director, *Palmetto Outdoor*
803-463-5807 (cell)

From: Jarmal Phelps <jphelps@itsurmove.net>
To: bethany storlazzi <johnlazzi@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, November 15, 2024 at 10:28:46 AM EST
Subject: Re: Request from the Columbia Peace Pole Project

As a local business, we believe that the installation of public art that promotes peace would be a meaningful addition to our community and our neighborhood.

We at "It's Your Move LLC", are proud to support this initiative and would be honored to have such a powerful symbol of peace placed near our business.

Sincerely,
Jarmal & Deeneka Beach-Phelps

It's Your Move LLC
Elite Wellness Program
208-B Candi Lane
Columbia, SC 29210
(877) 471-9865



Arts, Historic Preservation, and Philanthropy Committee
City of Columbia
1737 Main St.
Columbia, SC 29201

Re: Columbia Peace Pole Initiative Project

Dear Councilman Bailey,

On behalf of One Columbia, I am writing to offer our enthusiastic endorsement of the application submitted by the Columbia Peace Pole Initiative by artist Olga Yukhno. We support this proposal and encourage the committee to approve it for consideration and inclusion. We believe this project reflects both vision and value.

Please accept this letter as a formal expression of our support. We commend the committee for considering such impactful initiatives, and we look forward to seeing this work brought to life.

Sincerely,

Pamela Zeljak
Public Art Administrator
One Columbia for Arts and Culture

One Columbia for Arts and Culture
1013 Duke Ave., Columbia, SC 29203
803-254-5008
www.onecolumbiasc.com



MEETING DATE: August 5, 2025

DEPARTMENT: City Clerk

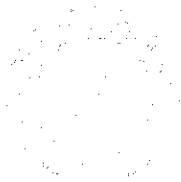
FROM: *Erika Hammond, City Clerk*

SUBJECT: **Vista Greenway at Taylor Street Public Art Project - Ms. Abby Anderson, Executive Director / Vista Guild**

FUNDING SOURCE & ORIGINAL BUDGET:

ATTACHMENTS:

- **#a:** 2026 Public Art Mural Walls Vista (PDF)
- **#b:** Vista Greenway at Taylor Steet Public Art Project (PDF)
- **#c:** City Council Letter of Endorsement for Vista Greenway Public Art(PDF)



PUBLIC ART PLACEMENT APPLICATION

1. Name of individual, organization, or event to be commemorated:

Congaree Vista Guild commissioned art piece

2. Title of Artwork:

Wall murals on north side of Lincoln Street Tunnel entrance

3. Attach a sheet describing the significant contribution (s) this individual, organization, or event has made in the community (no more than one-page)

4. Location, date, and time of unveiling ceremony (if approved):

The placement of public art within the City's right-of-way shall adhere to the City of Columbia encroachment ordinance process.

to be dedicated during Artista Vista in April 2026

5. District Council Member Sponsor:

Ed McDowell

At-Large Council Member Sponsor:

Tyler Bailey

FOR STAFF USE:

Arts, Historic Preservation & Philanthropy Committee: Endorsed Rejected

One Columbia Review: Approved Rejected

Arts, Historic Preservation & Philanthropy Committee: Endorsed Rejected

Public Works: Approved Rejected

Parks and Recreation: Approved Rejected

Support Services: Approved Rejected

Public Safety: Approved Rejected

The Vista Guild would like to work with One Columbia for Arts and Culture on a new public art piece. This piece will be located on the walls of the north entrance of the Lincoln Street Tunnel. The Vista Guild would like to commission an artist to create murals along the pathway from Taylor Street unto the tunnel. With the Vista Guild working on adding a lighting element to the tunnel in 2026, we believe this would help beautify the entrance and welcome people coming from the newly renovated Finlay Park.

Lincoln Street is a historic part of the Vista and we take pride in the history and features that it brings to the City and visitors. We would love to draw more attention to the incredible Lincoln Street Tunnel to help create a thoroughfare to Finlay Park and the Vista Greenway. We believe this will assist in making the Lincoln Street Tunnel a safer place for the community. The Vista takes pride in being an Official South Carolina Cultural District. We hope that by continuing to add public art like this, we will continue to lead the city in the arts for years to come.

Subject: Lincoln Street Tunnel Murals

Date: Monday, July 14, 2025 at 9:23:08 PM Eastern Daylight Time

From: BARTON WALRATH

To: Abby Anderson

CC: Carolyn LeeDecker

Hello Abby,

The Vista Neighborhood Association supports and sponsors public art.

Vista Guild's Lincoln Tunnel Lighting Project will be the public art attraction in the Vista. The Vista Neighborhood Association is planning an art installation on the South entrance to the tunnel as a portal not only to the tunnel but also to Finlay Park and the Vista Greenway. I support and look forward to Vista Guild's proposed murals on the north end of the tunnel as a great addition and continuation of the linkage of the tunnel to Finlay Park and the Vista Greenway.

Please feel free to use this email to demonstrate support for Vista Guild's proposed murals on the north end of the Lincoln Tunnel.

Bart Walrath
Vice President Vista Neighborhood Association
Chair VNA Beautification Committee

ARSENAL HILL

ARSENAL HILL NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

1707 WAYNE STREET COLUMBIA, SC 29201

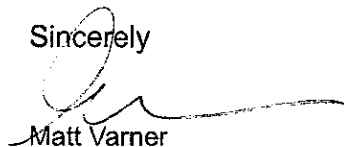
July 11, 2025

To Whom it may concern,

The Arsenal Hill Neighborhood Association wholeheartedly supports the public art project proposed for the north side of the Lincoln Tunnel. This will greatly enhance the appearance of the tunnel and also encourage public engagement along the greenway towards the Vista as many new visitors come from the soon to be completed Finlay Park.

Please call if there is anything else needed to support the Vista Guild in this endeavor

Sincerely



Matt Varner

Vice President Arsenal Hill Neighborhood
Association

1707 Wayne
Street

Columbia SC
29201

803 787-8865

Vista Greenway at Taylor Street

Description

This section of the Vista Greenway leading from Taylor Street to the northern entry into the Lincoln Street tunnel can feel claustrophobic due to the height of the concrete retaining walls that flank each side of the mixed-use path. The addition of artwork to the walls can brighten the space and provide visual interest to the corridor.

Parameters

The distance between the two retaining walls is approximately 24'. The height of the left retaining wall changes from at-grade at Taylor Street to approximately 20' at the tunnel entrance. The right retaining wall changes from at-grade at Taylor Street to approximately 16' tall at the tunnel entrance.

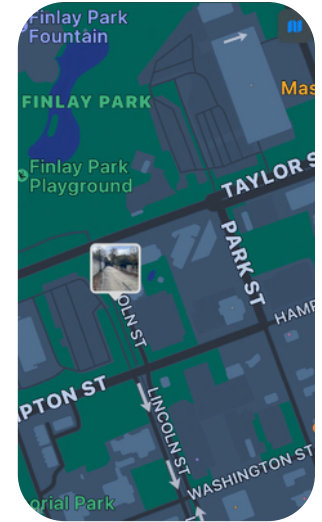
Installations

Artwork could be painted/stained directly onto the bare concrete, or it could be a peel and stick application like alumigraphics, or the artwork could be applied to sectional panels that are attached in a removable fashion to the concrete retaining wall. Additionally, tile or mosaic artwork could also be utilized over the concrete substrate.

- » Painted artwork
- » Adhesive artwork
- » Panelized artwork
- » Tile/mosaic artwork
- » Etc.



Site Photo



Map Location



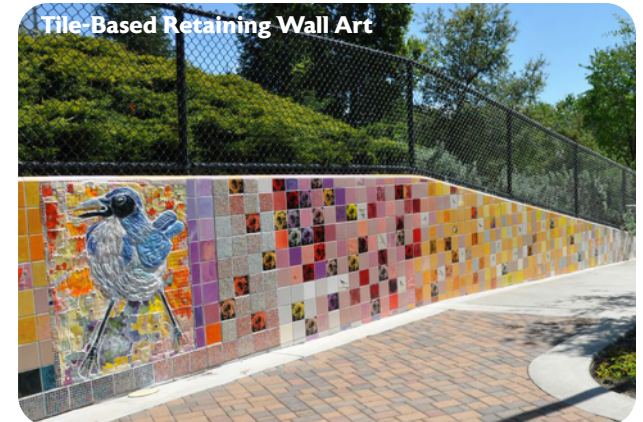
Painted Retaining Wall Mural @ Tunnel Entrance



Painted Retaining Wall Mural



Painted Retaining Wall Mural



Tile-Based Retaining Wall Art

Installation Considerations



CITY OF COLUMBIA
SOUTH CAROLINA
OFFICE OF CITY COUNCIL

July 14, 2025

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of Councilman Bailey and myself, we are pleased to extend our support for the Congaree Vista Guild's proposed public art installation.


The Congaree Vista has long stood as a vibrant hub of culture, creativity, and commerce in our city, and this new art piece is a fitting reflection of the corridor's unique spirit. Public art not only beautifies shared spaces, but also fosters a sense of community, pride, encourages tourism, and supports local artists whose work contributes to our city's dynamic identity.

This initiative aligns with the City of Columbia's ongoing efforts to promote public-private partnerships that elevate our neighborhoods and celebrate the rich history and diversity of our citizens. We recognize the thoughtful vision of the Vista Guild and commend their commitment to cultivating inclusive, engaging spaces that reflect the creative energy of our residents and visitors alike.

We look forward to the installation of this piece and to the continued partnership between the City and the Congaree Vista Guild. Please accept this letter as our full endorsement of this project and our willingness to assist in ensuring its successful completion.

Sincerely,


Edward H. McDowell, Jr.
District I


Tyler D. Bailey
At-Large Councilman