

# Memo

**To:** City Council  
**From:** Bryan Myrkle, Community Development Director  
**Date:** February 19, 2015  
**Re:** Public Art for Communities 2015

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I am requesting the City Council authorize me to apply for the Public Art for Communities 2015 grant from the Lansing Economic Area Partnership. I have attached the RFP here for your reference.

This grant would provide the community \$10,000 to commission a new piece of public art for display in a prominent location in the community.

If awarded this grant, the community would need to form an ad-hoc committee to undertake the project. This would include developing a Request for Proposals from Michigan artists to create a piece of public art based on a theme chosen by the committee, and which is representative of the community.

I have received tentative approval from the owner of the Peter's Circle area to proceed with the grant application based on that being the project location. However, should he change his mind, there are two other prominent downtown locations that could be considered for this. These include the former Clark gas station site, as well as a location near Eaton Federal Savings.

While no local matching funds are required, I would ask the City to commit to at least performing the site preparation and assist with the installation of the art piece upon its completion. I will be developing a basic project budget as part of the grant application; however it is difficult to predict the entire expense of the installation prior to the artwork itself being commissioned. However, this installation expense would be known prior to the city's annual budget adoption.

I believe this grant could help the city's ongoing downtown revitalization effort, especially as it regards downtown appearance and place making, which is a statewide economic development priority.

The application is due March 9.