

Council Communication

September 16, 2014, Business Meeting

Approval of Recommendation From the Public Art Commission for Painting Electric Utility Boxes on the Corner of A Street and Oak Street and on Pioneer Street Near A Street

FROM:

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SUMMARY

The Public Art Commission recommends Council approve the designs submitted by artist Anne DiSalvo to be painted on two boxes on Pioneer Street near A Street and by Yelena Joy to be painted on one box at the corner of A Street and Oak Street. Implementation of public art requires Council approval. If approved, the artist will begin painting in the next few weeks.

BACKGROUND AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

The Public Art Commission (PAC) oversees the painting of electric utility boxes in Ashland. Business owners may request utility boxes adjacent to their property to be painted and pay \$500 per box. The funds are used to prep and prime each box, pay the artist, pay for paint and seal the box with a clear protective coating. Brent Thompson, owner of a large piece of property between Oak and Pioneer Streets and 'A' and 'B' Streets requested that three utility boxes adjacent to his property be painted.

The PAC issued an RFP/Call for Artists in July and received three designs from three different artists. As required by AMC 2.29 a selection panel independent of the PAC and comprised of neighbors of the proposed utility boxes and citizens with a background in art was formed. The selection panel approved the attached designs.

The suggestion to paint utility boxes was raised by citizens during the Public Art Master Plan public involvement period in 2007. In 2009 with a grant from the Jackson County Cultural Trust seven boxes were painted. Since that time eight additional boxes have been painted.

This project meets the objectives in the Public Art Master Plan by elevating citizen and visitor awareness of public art in Ashland and incorporating artistic elements into basic functional pieces.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:

All associated costs are borne by the property owner.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION AND REQUESTED ACTION:

Staff recommends Council approve the proposed designs.



SUGGESTED MOTIONS:

I move approval of the Public Art Commission's recommendation of the proposed designs for the utility boxes.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Images of the proposed design for Pioneer Street boxes
- Image of the proposed design for the A Street and Oak Street box

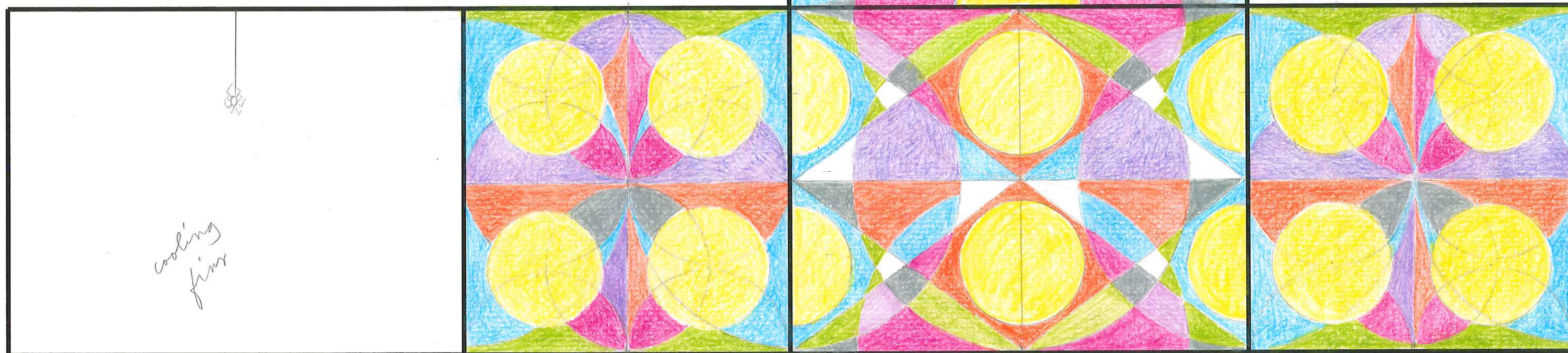
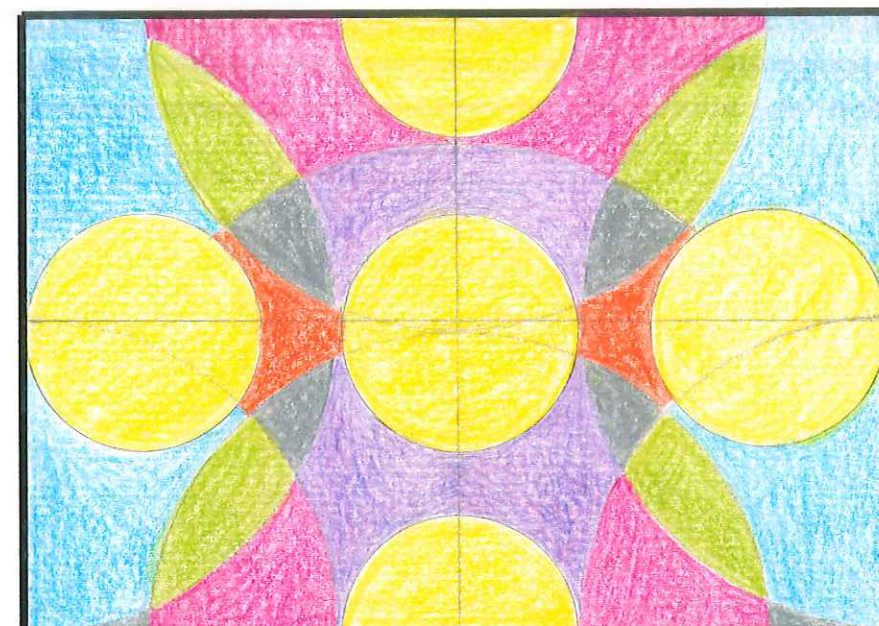


UTILITY BOX BEAUTIFICATION PROJECT

A Street/ Oak Street/ Pioneer Street

Design Template for Box 3

TOP



SIDE 1: FACING TOWARD
WALL

SIDE 2

SIDE 3: FACING TOWARD
PIONEER STREET

SIDE 4

Elements of this design refer to the nearby clock face, the bank of electric meters and the bright colors of the glass-blowing studio

DIMENSIONS: 51.5" H X 49" W X 69" L

"Electric Prismatic Clock" by Ann DiSalvo 2014

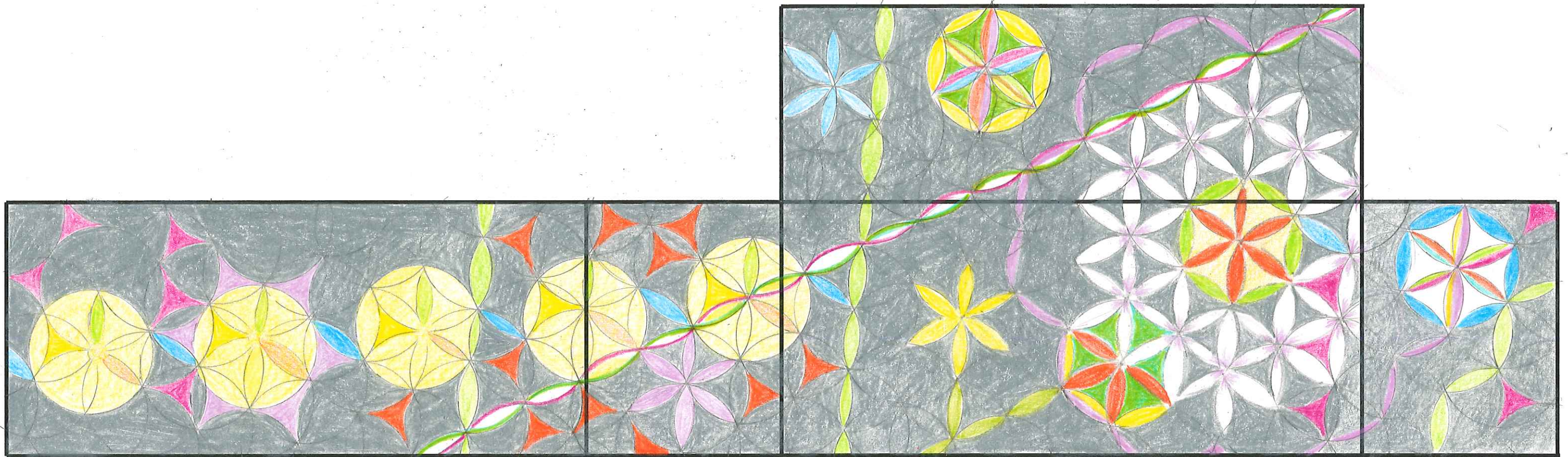
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UTILITY BOX BEAUTIFICATION PROJECT

A Street/ Oak Street/ Pioneer Street

Design Template for Box 2

TOP



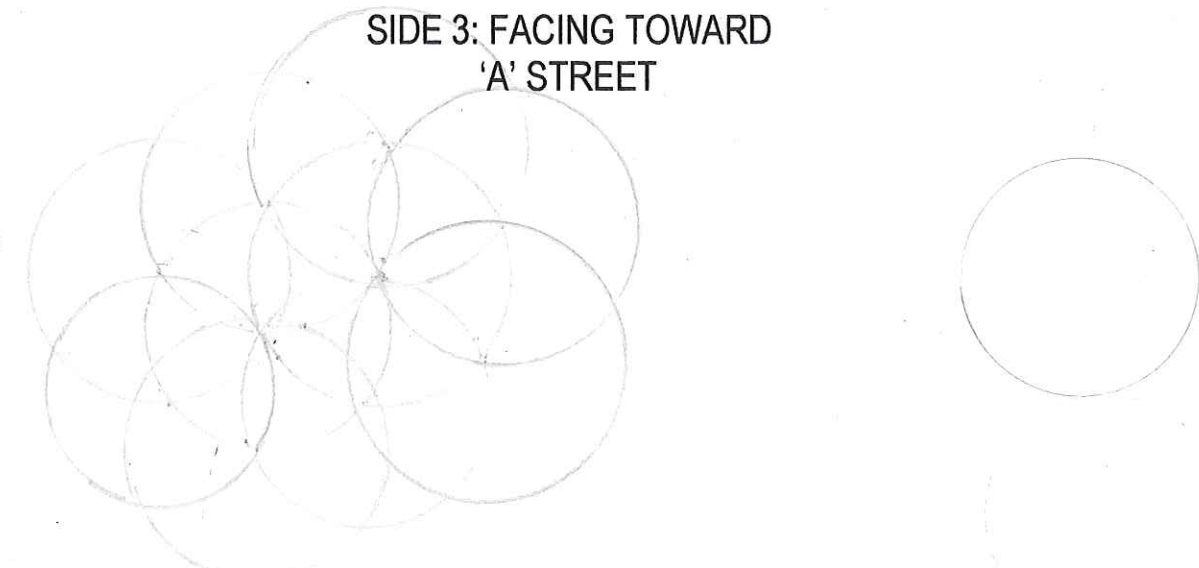
SIDE 1: FACING TOWARD
OTHER BOX

SIDE 2

SIDE 3: FACING TOWARD
'A' STREET

SIDE 4

The designs for Box 2 and
Box 3 are based on the
boxes having a base color of
gray, its present color as of
Sept 4



DIMENSIONS: 30" H X 23" W X 69" L

"Geometric Meadow"

by Ann DiSalvo 2014

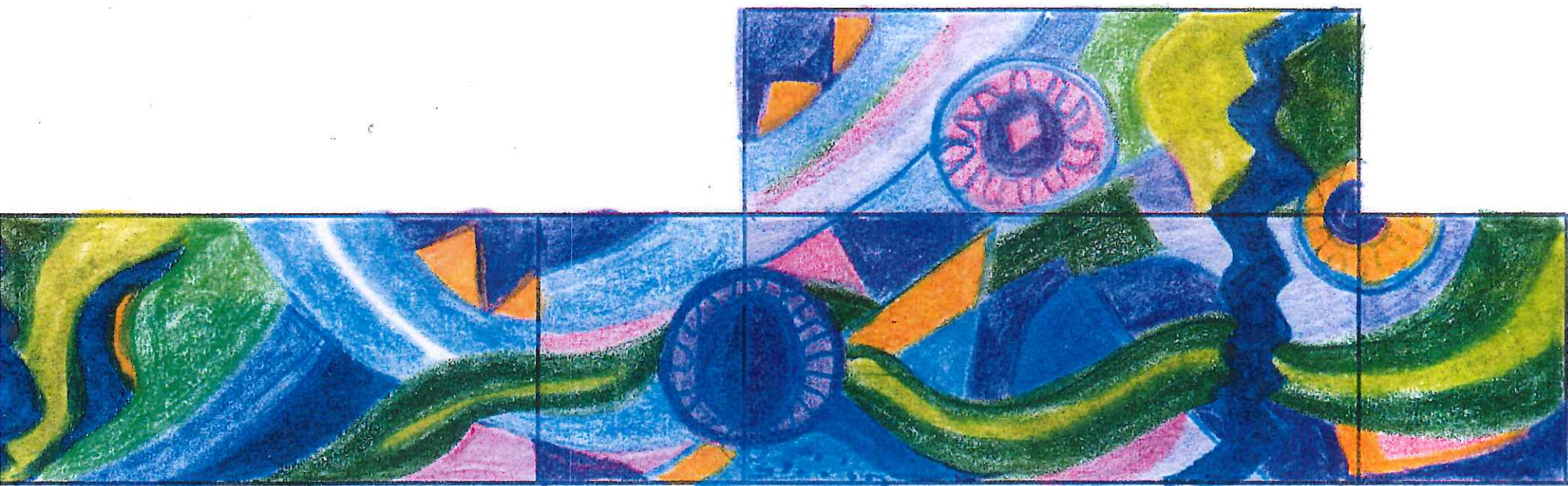
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COMMUNITY BOX BEAUTIFICATION PROJECT

Street/ Oak Street/ Pioneer Street

Installation Template for Box 2

TOP



SIDE 1: FACING TOWARD
OTHER BOX

SIDE 2

SIDE 3: FACING TOWARD
'A' STREET

SIDE 4

DIMENSIONS: 30" H X 23" W X 69" L