



Property Management • Construction Management

March 6, 2014

David Corliss  
City of Lawrence  
6 East 6<sup>th</sup> Street  
Lawrence, KS 66044

Dear Dave,

I've asked Mayor Dever to place the North Project on the City Commission Agenda next Tuesday to discuss the mural currently on the side of the Black Hills Energy building and how it relates to the new development.

As you know, our plan consists of a 7 story multi-use building with an underground parking garage similar to the Marriott Hotel that is currently under construction. It is not possible for any part of the current existing structure at that location to remain as we over dig a 30 ft hole to accommodate a 100 car parking facility. We've also explored the idea of incorporating the mural in the building wall, however engineering parameters do not allow for this. We have offered the following options to interested parties:

- A) To give any interested party the wall that the mural exists on
- B) To participate in the cost, up to \$20,000, to split the wall into sections and have it relocated
- C) The design of the new building has 2 designated art panels approximately 15X15'. We would commission Dave Loewenstein to re-create the mural in one of designated spaces after the building is constructed

Once again KT Walsh has misrepresented the facts in reference to the developer dodging meetings. We have had multiple discussions and meetings beginning early last year to the most recent meeting on February 25<sup>th</sup> with Saralyn Reece Hardy, Susan Earle and Margaret Perkins-McGuinness. I am attaching a letter we received on November 19th as well as a letter I sent in response on November 21<sup>st</sup>.

I hope the Commission agrees that we have made reasonable offers to resolve the issue. I look forward to the City Commission meeting on March 11<sup>th</sup>.

Doug Compton

RECEIVED  
NOV 19 2013

November 15, 2013

Mr. Doug Compton

~~601 N. Iowa Street~~ corrected 11/19/13  
Lawrence, Kansas 66044

Dear Mr. Compton,

We would like to meet with you to discuss the future of the *Pollinators* mural painting on the 900 New Hampshire property you are in the process of redeveloping. We would like to work with you to find a way for the mural to remain part of the cultural landscape of Lawrence. The mural has already come to fill an important role for local and national audiences, especially as Lawrence continues to define itself as a city rich in artistic and historical heritage.

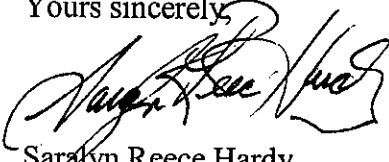
We have met with Treanor Architects who indicated that plans do not currently include leaving the mural intact but they are open to exploring further options. We can offer ideas including examples of murals preserved in settings undergoing similar transformations. Any action taken to preserve this emblem of civic pride would be felt and appreciated by the people of Lawrence and the many businesses who funded the mural. Retaining the mural could help to distinguish your projects at 9<sup>th</sup> and New Hampshire and embed them in the East Lawrence arts district.

The *Pollinators* mural was commissioned in 2007 in conjunction with the Spencer's exhibition on Aaron Douglas, the Topeka native who became the foremost visual artist of the Harlem Renaissance in New York City. The mural celebrates the important but often overlooked contributions to our nation's culture by 20<sup>th</sup>-century African American artists with Kansas roots including Douglas, Gordon Parks, Langston Hughes, and Gwendolyn Brooks.


Sited at the Lawrence Farmer's Market, the mural was created by University students, local youth, and community members under the direction of nationally recognized muralist Dave Loewenstein. Funded by the Kansas Arts Commission and the National Endowment for the Arts, the mural project received additional support from Black Hills Energy; Sunflower Broadband; the City of Lawrence; the University of Kansas Chancellor's Office; the Lawrence Farmer's Market; and the Lawrence Cultural Arts Commission.

The finished mural has garnered national attention, including from the National Endowment for the Arts for its ability to create a sense of place. Locally, the mural has become a symbol of the city's rich cultural heritage. We look forward to working with you to preserve it.

Yours sincerely,



Saralyn Reece Hardy  
Director



Susan Earle  
Curator

cc: / Dave Corliss, Lawrence City Manager  
/ Bob Schumm, City Commissioner  
/ Dr. Bernadette Grey-Little, Chancellor, The University of Kansas  
Wendy Clark, Director of Museums and Visual Arts, National Endowment for the Arts  
Michael Killoren, Director of Local Arts Agencies, National Endowment for the Arts

/ B. Y. Fleming  
/ M. J. T. Moore



November 21, 2013

Dear Saralyn Reece Hardy and Susan Earle,

As per our conversation we had several months ago, I want to reiterate how sorry I am that the mural cannot remain at its current location. We are open to any ideas or plans you might have to relocate the mural to another location and we would assist in the cost to relocate the mural.

Feel free to pass along any ideas or suggestions you may have.

Best Regards,

Doug Compton

CC: Dave Corliss, Lawrence City Manager  
Bob Schumm, City Commissioner  
Bill Fleming, Treanor Architects General Counsel  
Mike Treanor, Treanor Architects