

Cottin's Mural Project

Description + photos of building and area

Our mural will be painted on the east and adjacent south facing walls at the back of Cottin's Hardware. These walls will provide a backdrop to our regular farmers market and will greet shoppers who park in our parking lot. The mural is designed by Dave Loewenstein and will be painted with his assistants Missy McCoy and Ardys Ramberg.



Technical feasibility – materials, permanence

The wall will be prepared for painting using exterior latex primer. The mural itself will be painted with Nova Color acrylic paint, and varnished/sealed with Nova Color acrylic varnish. Based on experience, the mural should remain in excellent condition for at least 10-15 years, at which time the owners of Cottin's and the artist will determine if it needs restoration.

Design

The design for the mural is attached below.

Historical, neighborhood and cultural context

Cottin's has been at 1832 Massachusetts since 1992 and plans on being there for the foreseeable future. Their building lies on the western edge of the Barker Neighborhood and is framed by a vacant garage on the north, Kwik Shop on the south, Massachusetts St. and Dairy Queen on the west, and residential housing across New Hampshire St. on the east. Our mural is situated to welcome shoppers to Cottin's (most park in back where the mural will be) and visitors to their regular Thursday farmers market, while providing an attractive and

culturally relevant artwork for Barker neighbors to enjoy. Architecturally, the building offers an excellent wall with great site lines for our mural. Signage for handicapped parking will remain on the wall along with seasonal displays by Cottin's at the mural's base. Culturally, our mural aligns with Cottin's commitment to environmental conservation, education about climate change, and is a compliment to the beloved existing mural on the south side of the building by Ardys Ramberg and Missy McCoy.

Resume and past work

Lead artist, Dave Loewenstein's resume and images of his past work are attached.

Letters of support

The Barker Neighborhood Association is currently inactive. We have attached letters of support from Barker neighbors.

Context historical and cultural

The new mural will fit in well with the immediate areas historical and cultural context, especially as it complements the existing mural on the south wall created by Ardys Ramberg and Missy McCoy.

Installation plan and timeline

Upon approval, the artist with community volunteers will begin painting, with a projected completion date of October 31, 2021.

Budget

The overall budget is approximately \$5,000 for artist fee and other supplies.

Notarized agreement

Please see the attached agreement between the Cottin's and the artist.

Copyright

The artist, Dave Loewenstein, will retain copyright.

Life expectancy

The initial life expectancy of the mural is 10-15 years at which time the owners of Cottin's and the artist will determine if the it needs restoration. As stated in our agreement, the owners can remove the mural after giving the artist at least 90 days notice.

Maintenance materials

The artist will maintain a supply of materials needed for potential maintenance.

Text included in the mural

The only text will be the title (TBD), artists and date.

Mural Design

On the large east facing wall, an image of the earth dips down from above with North America at the center. Under the earth, and bearing its magnitude, are native and ancient plants that transform into constellations as they move outward from the center. This image refers to the scale and fragility of our planet amidst growing challenges.

On the adjoining south facing wall, a large hourglass marks the diminishing time for threatened species on our planet. At the top, we see animals that still have a presence but are endangered, while at the bottom are ones that have already become extinct, including some that were lost due to human interference.



Letters of support from Barker Neighborhood

August 9, 2021
1540 New Hampshire Street
Lawrence, KS 66044

Dear Lawrence Cultural Arts Commissioners:

I am the Acting President of the Barker Neighborhood Association and I am writing in support of the mural Cottin's Hardware proposed to paint on their east wall. They have shared their design with neighbors on Barker Nextdoor, which is the current communication platform for the neighborhood.

I viewed the plans in the store, available to all interested in seeing them. Linda Cottin told me that they were in the process of specifically reaching out to their neighbors to the East for their information and comment -- very thoughtful and neighborly.

The Barker Neighborhood is a creative and vibrant neighborhood with little public art. Cottin's east wall borders the Thursday summer farmer's market hosted at the store, which will further attract viewers. I personally am grateful to the Cottin family for commissioning art for all to enjoy on their building. They have my enthusiastic endorsement. I think the proposed mural is well aligned with your Commission's mission to encourage the artistic and cultural activities of the community, and the mural's message about the health of the planet supports the city's goals for environmental protection and waste reduction.

Thank you for your service in promoting arts and culture in our city.

Sincerely,

Lisa Harris-Frydman

We are very much in agreement with plans for a mural to be completed on the east wall of Cottin's Hardware. It is a great space that will be very visible to not only customers who come into the store from that parking lot, but will also be seen by the many folk who are involved in the Thursday Farmers Market held on the lot during the summer.

Thad Holcombe/Linda Watts
(Barker Neighborhood Association Members)
1817 Learnard Avenue
Lawrence, KS. 66044
Telephone: 785-843-2564
Email: tjholcombe@gmail.com

As residents of the Barker Neighborhood, we are very excited to be able to enjoy an east-facing mural on Cottin's Hardware & Rental building. The mural will add to the pride we take in our neighborhood and in excellent neighbors like Cottin's. We happily support the project!

Best wishes,
Jane Gibson and Jim Carpenter
1845 Learnard Ave.