

Bobbie Walthall

To: Diane Stoddard
Subject: RE: Lawrence Arts Center--East Ninth Project--Capital Improvement Plan Submission

From: Sarah Bishop [<mailto:sarah@lawrenceartscenter.org>]
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2017 11:56 AM
To: Porter Arneill; Lisa Larsen; Matthew Herbert; Mike Amyx; Leslie Soden; Stuart Boley; Tom Markus; Diane Stoddard; Katherine Simmons
Cc: Kimberly Williams; Stacy Galloway Haywood
Subject: Lawrence Arts Center--East Ninth Project--Capital Improvement Plan Submission

Dear Porter, Katherine, City Staff, and City Commissioners:

Attached is a .pdf including a draft of a project proposal requesting that the City include aspects of the artistic streetscape originally designed as part of the East Ninth Project in the City's 2018 budget. We are sending this document to you now in case you wish to consider it at tonight's work study session or provide feedback to us on our proposal before we submit it to the City's Capital Improvement Plan tomorrow. Thank you for your time and consideration, and please let us know if we can answer any questions or be of help in any way as East Ninth Street deliberations continue.

Best,
Sarah

Sarah Bishop, Ph.D.

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March 14th, 2017

Capital Improvement Plan Submission: The Lawrence Arts Center, East Ninth Street

The East Ninth Project began in the summer of 2014 when the Lawrence Arts Center received a \$500,000 grant from the ArtPlace America Foundation in order to support the "complete street" renovation and artistic redesign of six blocks of East Ninth Street. To this end, the City hired a design team led by artists Sans Facon and architecture firm, el dorado, inc., and a community-led design process ensued. The Citizen Advisory Committee was assembled to refine and approve the project, and after a series of meeting in 2015, it approved the design team's final plans for the Street's renovation. Since then, the City's original commitment to the project of \$3.1 million has been revised down to \$1,883,000, and much of the design approved by the Citizen Advisory Committee has been discarded, throwing the Arts Center's ability to use the remaining \$335,000 in ArtPlace funds to support the project into question. The Arts Center cannot use the ArtPlace America Foundation funds to support a non-artistic project, nor it can it use these funds to support a project not embraced by a majority of the community.

The Lawrence Arts Center proposes that the City commit an additional \$500,000 to its current budget for the East Ninth Project renovation to support artistic and sustainable natural landscaping (\$225,000), artistic lighting that will ensure the Street feels safe and welcoming for all (\$300,000), artistically integrated street furniture that will ensure community engagement (\$60,000), artist fees and supplies for the local East Ninth Artists (\$75,000) and Associate Artists (\$10,000) originally selected as part of the public design process, and burying of overhead powerlines underground (\$330,000). These costs come to a total of \$1,000,000. The Arts Center will commit \$335,000 of ArtPlace America Foundation funds to this project, and will work with Westar Energy representatives to get up to 50% of the cost of burying the powerlines donated (\$165,000) as part of the project. This represents 100% matching of the proposed additional City commitment of \$500,000. At this rate, the City will come in significantly under its original commitment to the project (\$3.1 million), with a total renovation budget of \$2,383,000.

The Lawrence Arts Center, the City of Lawrence, the ArtPlace America Foundation, and the Lawrence community have all spent considerable time and effort on bringing this project to fruition. There is consensus among City Commissioners, City staff, and the Lawrence public that East Ninth Street needs to be renovated--as was demonstrated by the City's strategic planning process. But by not including sustainable lighting and landscaping, integrated street furniture and local art, or buried power lines into this renovation, the City will fail to make the most of an opportunity to leverage partnerships with the Lawrence Arts Center, the ArtPlace America Foundation, and Westar Energy that could enhance Lawrencians' quality of life in a fiscally sound and responsible manner.

To reiterate, an additional \$335,000 is available for this project from the Lawrence Arts Center and the ArtPlace America Foundation if the City is willing to make this \$500,000 commitment, and the Lawrence Arts Center is in the process of negotiating an in-kind donation of up to 50%

of the cost of burying the power lines along East Ninth Street from Westar Energy. If this donation does not go through, the power lines could remain above ground, but the Arts Center is committed to doing everything it can to nurture this public-private partnership. We believe this project aligns nicely with the City's new strategic plan and critical success factors and will highlight East Ninth Street as a model for city-wide efforts to create safe, healthy, and welcoming neighborhoods; innovative infrastructure; and collaborative solutions.

PROJECT: EAST NINTH FROM DELAWARE TO NEW HAMPSHIRE

	Proposed City Streetscape Funding	LAC & Westar Proposed Contributions	REVISED TOTAL CITY PROJECT COST
Current City Budget	\$ 1,883,000		
Net Proposed Enhancements*	\$ 500,000		
Grant Funds for City Project		\$ 335,000	
Westar Contributions		\$ 165,000	
TOTAL	\$ 2,383,000	\$ 500,000	\$ 2,883,000

DETAIL

Current City Budget	\$ 1,883,000		
Net Proposed Enhancements*:			
Landscaping	\$ 225,000	\$ (100,000)	
Lighting	\$ 300,000	\$ (150,000)	
Street Furniture	\$ 60,000		
Artist Fees	\$ 75,000	\$ (75,000)	
Assoc Artist	\$ 10,000	\$ (10,000)	
Westar Bury Powerline	\$ 330,000	\$ (165,000)	
TOTAL Enhancements Before Contributions			
from Grant and Westar	\$ 1,000,000		
TOTAL Contributions		\$ (500,000)	\$ (500,000)
NET City Project Cost			\$ 2,383,000

TOTAL CITY PROJECT COST	\$ 2,883,000	\$ (500,000)	\$ 2,383,000
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