

## **Bobbie Walthall**

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**From:** Dave Loewenstein <dloewenstein@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 08, 2017 12:22 PM  
**To:** Leslie Soden; Stuart Boley; Lisa Larsen; Matthew Herbert; Mike Amyx  
**Cc:** Porter Arneill; Tom Markus; Bobbie Walthall  
**Subject:** New plan for public art experiment along E. 9th

Mayor and Commissioners,

Tucked into your Consent Agenda item 7. regarding the rebuilding of East 9th street is an attachment outlining the City and or Arts Center's new plan for spending remaining Artplace funding along E. 9th St.

This plan was not shared with anyone I know (including the East Lawrence Neighborhood Association) prior to being added to the agenda on August 4th, and it is unclear exactly who has had a role in developing the new plan as it is a marked departure from what had been proposed in the previous incarnation of this project.

It calls for up to 15 artists and 15 public art projects to be created along E. 9th over a three year period, coordinated by a yet unknown new \$37,000/year public art program administrator. This is the largest most ambitious public art project the City or Arts Center has ever proposed and it is called, in the plan itself, a "placemaking experiment." The subject of this **experiment** being the residents, school children and small businesses along E. 9th, who it appears have no substantive role in any part of the plan.

It may be a worthy goal to look for a way to use unspent Artplace funds, but this plan/experiment is not it. Asking the subjects of this experiment themselves what they think/want, and then giving them real agency in deciding would be a good start.

sincerely,  
Dave Loewenstein