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Metro Transit Public Art Project - Staff Feedback on Proposals

Actual Size Artworks Proposal – Time Traveler

I really like the idea of displaying our historic bus, but seems like we could do more with the money.

Exposes bus to the elements, animals, potential vandalism, etc. As we know, the shelter glass would get dirty and quite hard to clean both inside and out. It would just become another shelter to maintain. I also do not see the significance of the chicken. I also do not like that this proposal does not include any art down E. Washington, what I find to be the biggest canvas of the project. I vote no.

I LOVE the Bus #10 in the shelter with the chicken coop story!!!!!!!!!!!!

+ Quirky, would draw attention and make people stop and wonder
- I think people can't see the bus in the glass box (I think the bus should be more visible.)
- Maybe too quirky, confusing for people not involved
- "Time Traveler" I don't really like the idea. I understand the nostalgic feeling for the mini bus but Metro has grown so much and continues to grow. We should be looking forward to all the new things coming. Also I feel like this would also bring lots of maintenance issues to keep it clean. It could potentially be vandalized.

Narrow appeal. Small size. Scale of bus relative to the enclosure was off. Although it was the only proposal that was a sculpture and used the corner, which I liked. The bus shelter is nice but isn't very inviting for that area. It also looks kind of bleak contrasted with the area around it.

Debra Aschheim Proposal – Time Machine

Deborah Aschheim's proposal brings the community and Metro together across much of the side of our building, I think this would be my favorite of the four.

I like the overall idea of the project, and the illustrations are beautiful. I don't like that the art does not fill the space well, as it looks a bit sporadically placed. I also am not a fan of the random businesses being incorporated into the drawing (I'm guessing that is not allowed per ordinance anyways?). I think there needs to be some revisions made, and space to include current (our new branding and buses) along with future art spaces. I worry this type of historical references will start to age quickly if we don't leave space for the future? I vote maybe with revisions.

The timeline is cool, but prefer a larger scale to use more of the wall.

+ I like that it draws on Madison history and real Madisonians

+/- I like #2 Deborah's drawings, the artist has their own style, but it would be great if it can cover the entire wall/building like the Time is Ours
- The panels almost seem kind of small/out of place on the side of the building
- Time Machine This one is okay but I don't like that its only incorporating the Marquette & Tenney-Lapham neighborhoods. I know that's where the current facility is close to but Metro is more than that neighborhood. If it included OTHER neighborhoods than it would be better.

Will not be able to include business names/signage like Crystal Corner, Grampa's Pizza, and Willy Street Coop, etc that are shown on the drawings per the signage ordinance. It has a clear progression. It fills the space well.

Vito DiBari & Associates Proposal – Wisconsin Wall of Fame

Vito's proposal would not be viewable from the road and wouldn't "fill" the ugly building side. The wall of fame is interesting in that it could create a tourist attraction.

I feel like this is art for someone that has no idea what Madison is or is like. I feel like I can tell the artist is not from around here. I don't think there is much representation. I do like that it uses the E. Wash wall. I really like the overall style of the art, however it just doesn't feel like is belongs here. I vote no.

The famous people proposal isn't appealing at all.

+ And #4, I liked the idea of people from Wisconsin, but the display is not as good as the murals
+ I like the idea to honor Wisconsinites
- Doesn't really have much to do with transit or Madison specifically
- Don't like this one. It just seems like an outdoor art museum. It doesn't relate to Metro in any way. Just sticking portraits to the side of the wall instead of using it like a mural.

This concept could be done elsewhere around the City. I like the concept in a different location that is more pedestrian focused or place based.

Integrating A/V with City process is very hard. Scale and Size didn't fill the wall. Maintenance of the QR Codes, signage and panels could be hard. Pictures of people are more likely to be vandalized in my opinion. Drivers/Bikers would not interact with exhibit. Finding consensus for 40 individuals will be very hard. Someone will be left out. Or someone will be included and offend someone else.

Jenie Gao Proposal – The Time is Ours

Jenie's proposal is a nice testament to the ridership and does a good job of dressing up E Wash.
I like the use of space a lot, however I do not like the giant silver aluminum pieces. I don't think it goes with the aesthetic of the building, community or neighborhood. I like that the artist incorporated our riders, and I like the portions with our riders included, but it's such a small part of the art – as the majority of it is covered in giant bugs or animals. I do like the accessibility idea, with small cut outs that could be placed near or on the abuilding itself. I vote maybe with revisions.

Jenie Gao's make the best use of the space. The theme is very pleasant although wondering how it would look if Metro opens the windows to E Washington

+ "The Time is Ours" (my favorite) I like that it incorporates riders, shelters and the seasons here in Madison. I think it represents Metro and the City really well. I like that it includes diverse riders in the art. It also covers a big chunk of the 1101 building. This art can be seen by everyone when riding on the bus, driving, biking and walking. I think its unique.
+ Bold, covers the entire space, tells unique Madison stories with real people, ties it into the seasons
+ personally I think "The Time is Ours" is by far the best.

Completely fills the space and transforms the wall. Has a progression (seasons). Unsure if the concept of looking out from a bus (ie experience of riding) comes through, but seasons do for sure. It has a nice subtle nod to Metro with the shelters incorporated. Easily seen from vehicle traffic too. Considered visually impaired folks. Liked the incorporation of local labor to assist.

Overall:

I'm a bit disappointed. I feel like the space is not being used adequately in any of the designs. Although Jenie Gao's is a better use of the space, I didn't feel the art expressed Madison, our neighborhood, the community; or complemented the building.