

MOSCOW ARTS COMMISSION



Aaron Johnson
Commission Chair
mac@ci.moscow.id.us

Regular Meeting
~Agenda~

Megan Cherry
Staff Liaison
208.883.7036

<https://www.ci.moscow.id.us/452/Moscow-Arts-Commission>

**Tuesday,
August 12th, 2025**

5:00 PM

**Council Chambers
206 E. Third St.**

WELCOME AND ATTENDANCE

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Reading of the Mission Statement

The mission of the Moscow Arts Commission is to enrich the community by celebrating and cultivating the expression of all forms of art and culture. Fulfillment of this purpose shall be based upon the following values:

- Recognition and promotion of artists' value by creating opportunities for work to be experienced.
- Facilitation and promotion of the social, educational, and economic value of all forms of art and culture in the community.
- Performance of leadership, collaboration, and outreach in the conversation between all forms of art and culture with partner agencies, city leaders, and the community.

2. Approval of Minutes from July 8, 2025 (ACTION ITEM)

PROPOSED ACTION: Approve minutes, amend minutes, or take such other action deemed appropriate.

3. Public Comment and Response to Previous Comments (limited to 10 minutes)

Members of the public may speak to the Commission regarding matters NOT on the agenda or currently pending before the Commission. Please state your name and address for the record and limit your remarks to three (3) minutes.

4. Moscow Poet Laureate 2025-2027 Selection (ACTION ITEM)

The RFQ (Request for Qualifications) for the fourth Moscow Poet Laureate term was open from June 2nd to August 1st, 2025. A total of two submissions were received, and are viewable here: <https://moscowarts.submittable.com/gallery/59a7d87a-6505-4112-8275-53bac1ea7a59> Following MAC discussion and vote to recommend a Moscow Poet Laureate, staff will complete initial meetings and a contract with the poet.

PROPOSED ACTION: Recommend selection of a Moscow Poet Laureate, re-open call for Moscow Poet Laureate, or take such other action deemed appropriate.

5. Mural at City Shop (DISCUSSION)

The MAC voted on July 8, 2025 to recommend the project concept for the construction of a wall and installation of a mural at the City Shop site. Commission members asked that Arts staff gather input from the community and from City Shop staff regarding the site. Arts staff published a survey for both City Staff and community members from July 21 to August 1, 2025. A total of 37 responses were received from the public, and City Shop staff submitted two responses. The MAC is invited to consider public input and to discuss potential creative directions for the mural. Following this discussion, Arts staff will prepare an artist RFQ for the MAC's consideration at a future meeting.

REPORTS

1. Volunteer Hour Tally for July 2025 (Cherry)

2. Staff Report (Cherry)

Portable Collection Exhibition & Conservation
Palouse Plein Air
Third Street Gallery Schedule
East City Park Stage

ADJOURN

NOTICE: It is the policy of the City of Moscow that all City-sponsored public meetings and events are accessible to all people. If you need assistance in participating in this meeting or event due to a disability under the ADA, please contact the City's ADA Coordinator by phone at (208) 883-7600, TDD (208) 883-7019, or by email at adacoordinator@ci.moscow.id.us at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled meeting or event to request an accommodation. The City of Moscow is committed to ensuring that all reasonable accommodation requests are fulfilled.

MOSCOW ARTS COMMISSION



Aaron Johnson
Commission Chair
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Regular Meeting
~Minutes~

Megan Cherry
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<https://www.ci.moscow.id.us/452/Moscow-Arts-Commission>

**Tuesday,
July 8, 2025**

5:00 PM

**Council Chambers
206 E. Third Street**

Johnson called the meeting to order at 5:06 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Aaron Johnson, Chair: Michelle Chamberlain, Sue Clark, Kim Crimmins, Sandra Stoops, Donna Woolston, Stefan Yauchzee
MEMBERS ABSENT: Cindy Barnhart, Sonja Foard, Gail Martin, Erica Wagner, Jacob Wilson
OTHERS: Bryce Blankenship
STAFF: Megan Cherry, Britany Luft

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Reading of the Mission Statement

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Crimmins read the mission statement.

2. Approval of Minutes from May 13, 2025 (ACTION ITEM)

Yauchzee moved to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Clark. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: (7). Abstentions: (0). Nays: None. Unanimous. Motion carried.

3. Public Comment and Response to Previous Comments (limited to 10 minutes)

Members of the public may speak to the Commission regarding matters NOT on the agenda or currently pending before the Commission. Please state your name and address for the record and limit your remarks to three (3) minutes.

None.

Commission member Sonja Ford arrives at 5:11pm.

4. Peanut Project Request for Proposal (RFP) (ACTION ITEM)

At the May 13th, 2025, meeting, the MAC discussed a small vinyl mural project to be located in the City Hall parking lot. Following the discussion, staff prepared an RFP document for the MAC's consideration.

PROPOSED ACTION: *Recommend approval of the Peanut Project RFP, recommend changes to the RFP, or take such other action deemed appropriate.*

Staff discussed the need to clarify the terminology and measurements outlined in the RFP to accurately specify the placement of the vinyl wrap project in the City Hall parking lot. Cherry will update the language on the entry form prior to distribution.

Foard moved to approve the Peanut Project RFP, with a few recommended changes as described above, seconded by Yauchzee. Roll Call Vote: Ayes (8) Abstentions: (0). Nays: None. Unanimous. Motion carried.

5. Mural at City Shop (ACTION ITEM)

The MAC discussed the possibility of installing public art at the City Shop site at regular meetings on: November 12th, 2024; December 10th, 2024; and January 14th, 2025. Following those discussions, City staff groups met to evaluate what is feasible and compatible with the operation of the site. The MAC is now invited to consider a project scope including the installation of a concrete wall to replace a section of the existing chain link fence on the Polk Street side of the facility. The wall is proposed as a support for a new mural with an anticipated life span of 5-8 years. While the mural is anticipated to be a temporary feature, the wall would remain as a site for future mural installations. If the MAC votes to recommend the project concept, staff will solicit input on the project theme from staff members at the City Shop for the MAC to consider. Once both the MAC and Shop staff members have provided creative input, Arts staff will draft an RFQ document for consideration at a later meeting.

PROPOSED ACTION: *Recommend the City Shop public art project concept, recommend changes to the project concept, or take such other action deemed appropriate.*

[Cherry shares the attached PowerPoint presentation with the Committee.]

The Commission discussed potential locations for public art installation at the intersection of Public and Polk. One option considered was replacing a 75-foot section of the existing fence with a concrete wall designated as a permanent site for the 5-8 year cycle. The estimated budget for constructing the concrete wall is \$50,000. The artist call for the mural is planned for October-December 2025, with installation scheduled for May-July 2026. The Commission also reviewed the maintenance costs associated with the concrete wall, including repainting every 5-8 years, and considered alternative materials such as stone or tile mosaics for increased durability and reduced upkeep.

In terms of artwork content, the Commission discussed collecting ideas that highlight neighborhood features and elements that City Shop staff would like to see during their daily commutes. To facilitate content gathering, staff proposed options such as including information about the project in the monthly utility billing newsletter and adding a QR code linking to an online survey or comment form on the City webpage.

Additionally, staff agreed to the preparation of a draft RFQ for presentation at a later meeting, pending site approval.

Crimmins proposed to move forward with the project concept in general, as described above, with possible public comment to generate in the future, seconded by Stoops.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Unanimous (8). Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Unanimous. Motion carried.

REPORTS

1. Volunteer Hour Tally for May and June 2025 (Cherry)

2. Staff Report (Cherry)

June Artwalk

The June Artwalk went very smoothly. The Chamber of Commerce will be assuming responsibility for the future organization of Artwalk, and they will be forming a dedicated Artwalk Committee.

Portable Collection Exhibition

The next scheduled gallery exhibition will feature the Portable Collection. This presents an excellent opportunity for condition assessments and public display. Installation is planned for either this upcoming weekend (July 11th - 13th) or the following week.

Moscow Poet Laureate

There have been zero submissions so far, and the deadline is August 2025. The staff is hopeful that they will start to see submissions as the deadline approaches.

Palouse Plein Air

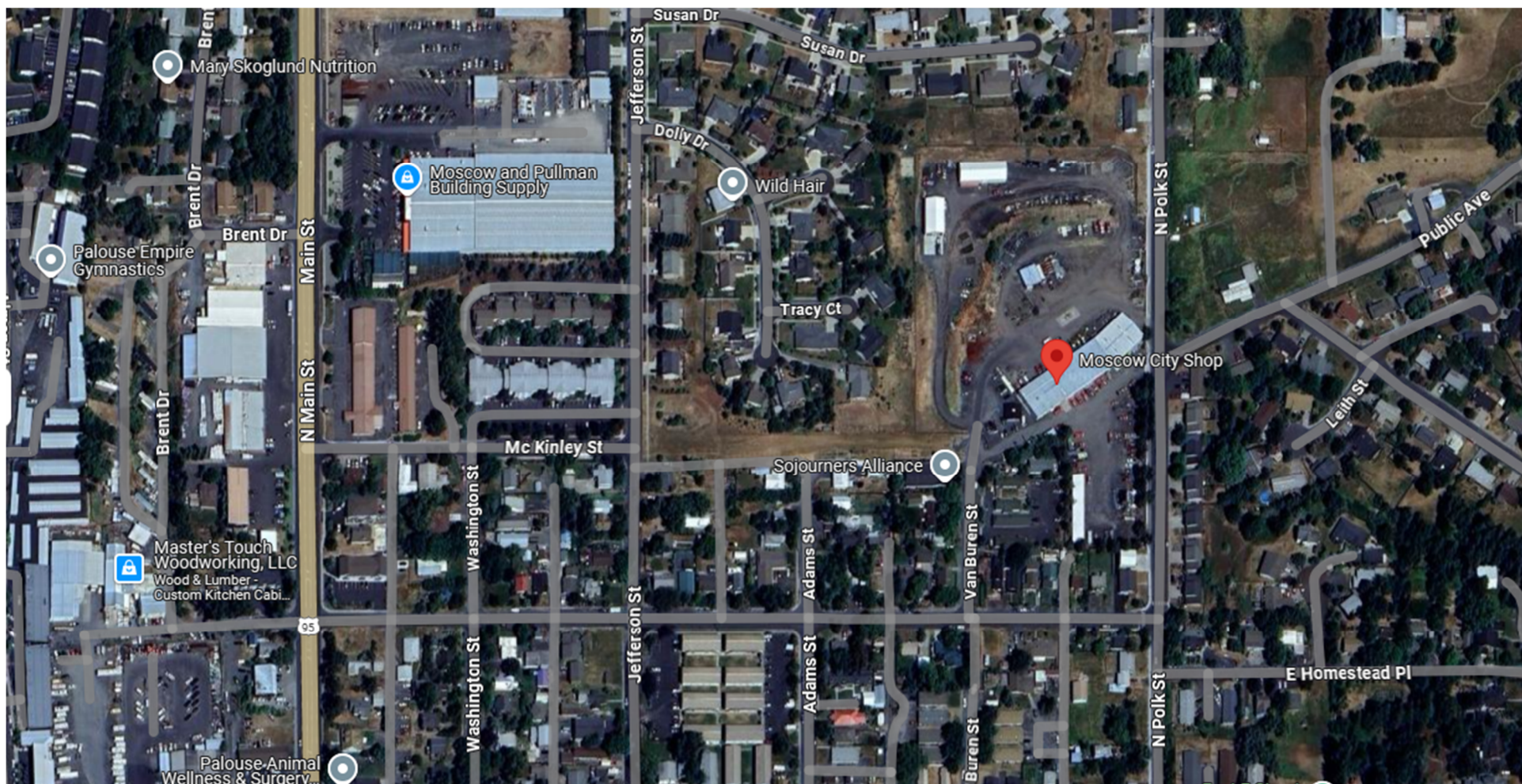
A total of 26 artists have registered for the Palouse Plein Air exhibition. The deadline for submissions is September 4th.

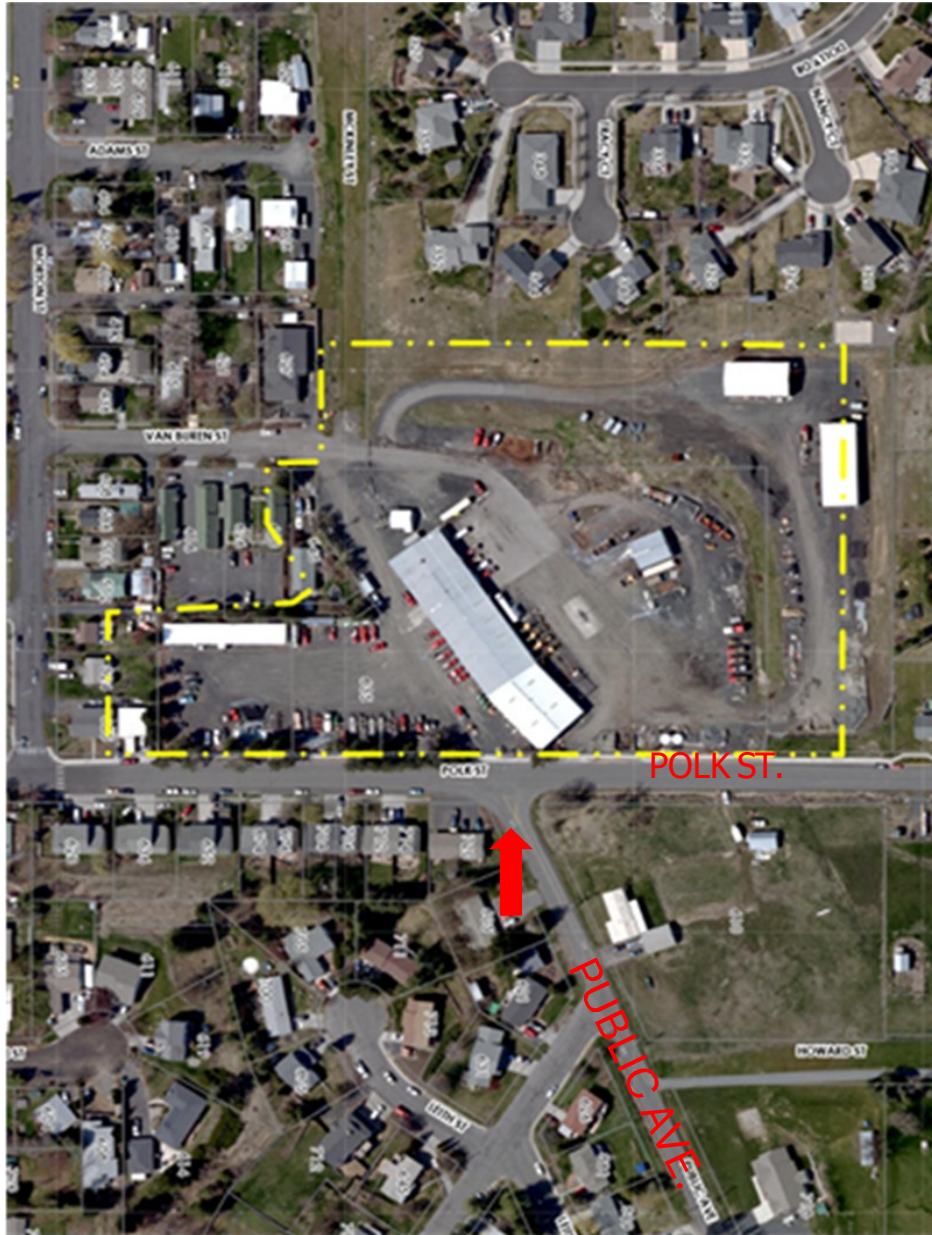
The meeting adjourned at 5:58 PM.

DRAFT

City Shop Mural at Polk St. & Public Ave.









Gray rectangles represent approximate concrete wall location.

Wall will be one continuous concrete structure running between existing shop building and existing power pole and sidewalk.

Concrete mural wall anticipated to be approx. 75'w x 5'h, with open space at the bottom to allow for water flow. 5' chain link sections will flank the concrete wall to provide visibility for drivers entering and exiting the facility.



Proposed Budget

(to be expended from % for Art fund)

\$30,000 Wall Construction

\$7,000 Site Prep and Clear Coat

\$3,000 Finalist Honoraria

\$10,000 Selected Artist Honoraria

\$50,000 TOTAL

Project Timeline

(subject to change depending on City Council & construction schedule)

Oct-Dec 2025 Call to Artists

Jan-Mar 2026 Selection by MAC & Council

April 2026 Design Confirmation & Contract

May-July 2026 Installation



City Shop Mural - Community Input Results

ID	Submission Date	What is special about this location?	What would you be happy to see at this site every day?
13049	7/21/2025 10:49	As a 60+ year resident, I'm reminded when that intersection was nearly the northern border of Moscow. Cliftons had a medium size ranch across the street (now PCEI), and further east on Public was Bills White Barn antique store and Virginia McDonald's home-based garden center (no MBS, Walmart or Home Depot then!). Moscow has changed and grown up all around the City Shop, but the dedicated employees continue keeping things beautiful, functional, and up to date.	Something that incorporates nod to the neighborhood history as mentioned above.
13050	7/21/2025 11:06	It has pretty high traffic that drives, bikes and walks by it every day.	Because it is close to PCEI Nature Preserve, it would be great to see natural elements related to the Palouse.
13051	7/21/2025 11:43	My child and I walk and bike past the city shop often, either on our way to a park or to visit grandparents. He enjoys seeing the machines, equipment, and the workers busy with their various tasks. He and I both recognize the importance of the people and equipment that help maintain our beautiful town year round. This site, while not beautiful now, is like many other sites - composed of the somewhat hidden and usually underappreciated things that help keep our town maintained and its people moving.	Something dedicated to or showing appreciation for the people, their equipment and tools, and the work they do around Moscow.
13056	7/21/2025 13:22	I live by it and drive by it everyday	Something with animals, patriotic, patriotic animals or maybe some rolling hills or Moscow mountain. Avoid any woke BS
13057	7/21/2025 13:30	I live on public ave. and will be for the foreseeable future	American flag. Rainbow trout. Mountains.
13059	7/21/2025 13:57	This location is special because it feels like the edge of town: the open floodplain, park, and nature center give a clear view out of city limits. Because of this, the mural should celebrate our local and historical biodiversity.	I would love to see a mural of some of our native large herbivores and carnivores (deer, moose, elk, bison, and bear). I love the mural on Jackson Street and I would like one at this location to have a similar feeling of bringing our native animals back into town.
13061	7/21/2025 15:16	Nothing. It is industrial	Not a thing. A colossal waste of money!
13062	7/21/2025 15:31	The building is at an angle to give people that go by a very good view to look at it	Something that every person in Moscow could agree on. So probably something about nature, wildlife, local plants.
13063	7/21/2025 15:36	Look what was there in the 20s on a map at the county. Railroad went through it, judging by the # of spikes I've dug up!	Simple mural. Not a \$60,000 concrete wheat like on south main. Use the rest of the money to repave Van Buren St. with all the city traffic on it it could use it.
13065	7/21/2025 15:39	Nothing come to mind	Please don't waste taxpayer \$ on this. The original mural on the water dept was horrible. Just paint the building and save the \$.
13069	7/21/2025 17:17	It's a place that doesn't get much attention, so a mural would bring attention to that end of town.	Something with bright colors that sends a positive message.
13070	7/21/2025 17:25	1) the creek that runs alongside the road, 2) proximity to PCEI, 3) lots of people walk/ride their bikes on the street to access Moscow Mountain.	Something nature related.
13071	7/21/2025 17:46	Nothing	Leave it be.
13072	7/21/2025 18:01	Lots of visual space	Dragons
13075	7/21/2025 19:24	Getting work done	Nature
13076	7/21/2025 19:53	This location is near Lola Clyde Park and the Palouse Nature Center. People and their families walk past this location daily to go play at the park or hike at the nature center.	I would be happy to see a mural with flowers native to the Palouse and children playing.
13077	7/21/2025 20:37	I can see it from my home. Polk & Public get a fair bit of auto & foot traffic.	Something depicting the neighborhood wildlife: foxes, raccoons, skunks, moose, rabbits, mice, voles, hawks, ravens, owls, etc.
13078	7/21/2025 20:37	I can see it from my home. Polk & Public get a fair bit of auto & foot traffic.	Something depicting the neighborhood wildlife: foxes, raccoons, skunks, moose, rabbits, mice, voles, hawks, ravens, owls, etc.

13080	7/21/2025 21:41	It's right by my house and I would love to see a beautiful mural of nature.	Things found in nature. I love the new mural that was done at the utilities building.
13083	7/21/2025 23:03	I drive by every time I go to Rosauers	Since it's a shop, theme it after the everyday equipment that the farmers of the area use in the surrounding fields. It should primarily be gold, not only because of the golden wheat fields, but also Vandal colors.
13084	7/22/2025 7:07	it's where city and country meet. the open spaces grow exponentially as you head north. the reminder that the city provides a place of community and access to necessities is also present.	a perspective piece with a larger than life cow face and a background that is looking at the palouse hills and the city scape in the distance. the view from the southwest would be great: then moscow mountain could be in the background. looking forward to what you all decide!
13091	7/22/2025 11:58	I live right around the corner from this space, it's a constant traffic zone for kids and families and people walking their dogs. It serves as a cultural crossroads in an underrated part of town.	I would love to see a colorful addition to the area, maybe a mural that celebrates the nature of the Palouse, or possibly the diversity of its inhabitants.
13096	7/22/2025 22:42	There is nothing special about this site. Choose a better site.	Nothing, nobody drives by this site. Choose a better site. Megan has nothing else to do, she can spend her time finding a better location for public art.
13100	7/23/2025 10:09	This corner in some ways symbolizes the close-knit community of Moscow. My dad's office was here for many years and it was only a few blocks from home. Tucked neatly in a neighborhood is where many of our city employees serve the community day to day.	I would be happy to see art which represents interconnectivity and closeness in our community. Something bright and welcoming in contrast to the shop rather than metal sculpture would be best in my opinion.
13180	7/24/2025 15:35	A lot of people drive by this location daily.	If there was something bright and colorful on this building that brings happy thoughts to mind.
13183	7/24/2025 15:59	Not much.	I would prefer to see the art on the fencing at that location than on the side of the building. I worry about art that would struggle to withstand harsh elements (southern sun) on the side of a metal building. Metal art on or forming the fencing would be more visible to the public. I'm thinking of the water/fish art on the pedestrian overpasses along the Lewiston levies. But with Palouse flora/fauna.
13191	7/24/2025 18:31	Tools. Equipment. Mechanics.Big Vehicles	Lots of trucks and street equipment. Lots of tools - kids will love it!!
13192	7/24/2025 18:35	nothing	A well constructed fence and a bit of greenery
13201	7/24/2025 21:20	It is the juxtaposition of the city to the rolling hills of farmland that surround moscow.	I would like to see a brightly colored mural of the rolling hills that encompass the experience of being in the surrounding area of Moscow.
13204	7/25/2025 0:42	It's near PCEI and the adjacent park with some trails and wild areas. It is also at the bottom of some of the greenest tree-filled residential hills in Moscow. The lot is dusty and industrial feeling, so bringing some of the wild spaces and greenery into the mural would create balance and vibrancy.	A celebration of Moscow's status as a tree city. Greenery on the building would tone down the edge-of-town industrial feeling of a dirt and concrete lot and all the pavement of Polk and the intersection with Public. I'd love the building to blend seamlessly with our tree-heavy residential hills and nearby PCEI.
13223	7/25/2025 9:04	Nothing. It is a city shop. It would be a waste of time and money to put up any artwork here.	City workers working and earning their paycheck.
13225	7/25/2025 9:17	It is near PCEI - an outdoor community oasis. It is an important hub and location for the city, though most might not see or acknowledge it. As it is currently, it isn't very welcoming looking given the lack of landscaping and the working nature of the facility. Grounding this building in the surrounding nature would soften the building and site, making it look less industrial.	Something cheery and bright, highlighting how welcoming Moscow is. Sometimes big equipment might block the view of the building, so its important to take this into account. I love that Moscow is pursuing this!

13242	7/25/2025 12:37	Polk is one of our few neighborhoods that, while still being "in town", still has a connection to the rural land around us with views of rolling hills, fields, etc. Any project here should reflect that surrounding.	General curb appeal improvements should be considered in addition to a mural. Fencing should either be upgraded to something more attractive than chain link (natural materials, like wood), or the current chain link slats painted to complement the future mural. The shop currently interrupts the connection of two neighborhoods (houses, to a large non-residential lot, back to houses again), improvements to help reconnect these areas include: Native shrubbery and low-water plantings added to the existing medians to improve general appearance and make this use appear less industrial. Trees should be added to the north end of the sidewalk to provide shade to an over-exposed sidewalk area to enhance the desirability and walkability of this stretch.
13263	7/25/2025 17:35	Constantly passed by; lots of families pass it due to the subdivisions + low income housing near there	Something truly classic - a tribute to a famous romantic artist, like William Waterhouse, or a montage of art nouveau & art deco styled art. Secondarily, either a) a map of moscow/ surrounding areas/their crops and soil types (educational for kids) OR a piece detailing the history of a local tribe, like the Nez Perce, and paying tribute to them. The piece should be classy and lasting - not just UOI themed/promoting (feels like a lot of the artwork downtown, even if not overtly uoi themed, is done in the similar style to the vandals logo and in similar yellows.)
13264	7/25/2025 17:56	Lots of people walk and drive through this area. It is close to PCEI and to two parks.	Flowers, color, more people walking.
13360	7/28/2025 15:05	Within residential area, in a kind of bowl which can be portrayed message symbolically via art.	Murals: Landscapes or shop functions integrated with landscapes. Off top of my head example: plow on snowy street, rig holding tree to be planted (I don't know what that is so show me), constructing a fire engine. Include something on top of roof as fringe houses look down on it. Also maybe a theme-related sculpture or sign with picture at entries. Definitely include on murals landscapes to help blend these buildings & work areas into a neighborhood setting.
13379	7/29/2025 10:20	I pass by it often	A landscape of the Palouse

City Shop Mural - Staff Input Results

ID	Submission Date	What sparked your interest in and led you to pursue the work you do?	What would you like the public to know about the services you provide to the community?	Is there a tool, vehicle, or process that you particularly like to work with in your daily tasks? If so, why?	What would you be happy to see at this site every day?
13044	7/21/2025 9:11	At the end of the day, I want to make our world a better place. Public serve to our community in parks fulfills that vision.	I would like the public to get outside and enjoy the outdoors in our beautiful parks.		I think something to reflect the great community we all live in. I am not sure what this is but something that brings joy to the public and gives a sense of pride to staff.
13327	7/28/2025 7:51	I enjoy being part of a team that works well together and is good at overcoming challenges.	We take a lot of pride in our upfits across the City. Many people do not know we make those vehicles, most assume they show up to the shop ready to go for the next 20yrs. No one has ever left Fleet. It has been 100% continuity from employees since the 60's. Everyone that has started in Fleet, retires from Fleet.	Upfitting	Showcasing our level of fabrication talent in our employees.