




## MEMORANDUM

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Date: February 8, 2024

To: Honorable Mayor and Commissioners

Via: Albert P. Childress  
City Manager 

From: Katie P. Halloran  
Planning Director

Subject: **23-5274- A request for approval of new tile mosaic artwork by Jane Carper over 12 columns along Fort Street and 16 columns along Allen Avenue at housing project at 918 Fort Street as a requirement of Art in Public Places.**

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### Introduction

The developers of the housing project under construction located at 918 Fort Street are requesting approval for the installation of 26 murals, 12 to be installed over the building's columns along Fort Street and 16 to be installed over the building's columns along Allen Avenue. The proposed murals are part of the Art in Public Places program, as required under the Land Development Regulations.

### Background

On January 25, 2023, the City Commission approved Resolution 23-025 granting Major Development Plan approval for 126 affordable housing residential units located at 918 Fort Street. Conditions for the development plan included the approval of a Public Art Plan. On October 18, 2023, the Art in Public Places Board approved the submitted plan that included, among others, 26 murals to be installed across two facades of the new buildings.

Pursuant to the Historic Architectural Guidelines, which are adopted by ordinance, murals proposed within the historic district shall obtain a Certificate of Appropriateness and if approved, must also be approved by the City Commission.

On December 19, 2023, the Historic Architectural Review Commission granted Certificate of Appropriateness H2023-0051 for the location of the murals. Murals will be crafted with mosaic technique by artist Jane Carper. Each mosaic piece will be approximately two feet wide by ten feet tall. The mosaics, titled *Junkanoo's – "The Band Played On"*, will be a celebration of Bahama Village's

rich tradition on music. The mosaics will have vibrant colors and will display instruments and costumes worn by the Junkanoo's. Musical notes will be part of the mosaics and if played together it will play one of Junkanoo's songs.



*Rendering of some proposed panels.*



*Detail of colors and textures of proposed mosaic murals.*



*Partial View of Proposed Mosaics on Fort Street.*



*Partial View of Proposed Mosaics on Allen Street.*

#### About the Artist

Ms. Jane Carper is a renowned artist, author, and citizen of Key West. Key West has been her home since 1996 and one of her passions is creating one-of-a-kind mosaics for homes and businesses. Among her artwork through Key West is “A New Day” mosaic for the Aids Help Poinciana Royale building in 2011, “Our Island Neighborhood” on Wall Street and most recently the three -story poinciana mural at Marty’s Place. Ms. Carper has an MA in Art History and holds an MFA from Illinois State University.

#### **Procurement**

The murals will be installed on private property and associated costs will be paid by the owners. There will be no cost to the city.

#### **Recommendation**

The proposed design has been presented to and approved by two Advisory Boards and the HARC Commission.

Bahama Village Redevelopment Advisory Board – October 2, 2023 – Approved

Art in Public Places – October 18, 2023 – Approved

Historic Architectural Review Commission – December 19, 2023 - Approved

The City Manager’s Office respectfully recommends the Mayor and Commission approve the proposed murals.

Exhibits:

Exhibit A - Certificate of Appropriateness Signed by Presiding Chairman

Exhibit B - Historic Architectural Guidelines for Murals

Exhibit C - Bahama Village Redevelopment Advisory Committee Action Minutes from October 2, 2023

Exhibit D - Art in Public Places Advisory Board Action Minutes from October 18, 2023