



HARRISONBURG | VA FRIENDLY BY NATURE



For Immediate Release – Sept. 1, 2022

Contact: Michael Parks, Harrisonburg Director of Communications
540.432.7701
Michael.Parks@harrisonburgva.gov

Public forum to seek additional feedback on future Downtown art project

HARRISONBURG, Va. – The City of Harrisonburg, with partners The Arts Council of the Valley and Harrisonburg Downtown Renaissance, continues to seek community input for a new public art project that will serve as a gateway to the City's Downtown.

A public forum open to all in the community will take place Monday, Sept. 12, from 6 to 7 p.m., at the Lucy F Simms Continuing Education Center, 620 Simms Ave. The event will provide opportunity for interested individuals to have conversations with City staff and others on the project team about the theme, style and focus they would like to see represented in the new art project. An online survey was already conducted, allowing people across Harrisonburg an opportunity to shape the future display.

The art will sit at Downtown's northern entrance, where North Main Street and Noll Drive split in the area of Merge Coffee. It will be located in the yellow hatched area between the roadways.

Another sculpture, located on the southern end of Downtown, is located where Main Street and Liberty Street come together.

The sculpture, which will be funded by federal Community Development Block Grant funds, should be a project that will stand the test of time, bring the Harrisonburg community together, and showcase the values and vision of The Friendly City.

"The City looks forward to hearing more input from the community as we move forward with this exciting project," Harrisonburg Community Development Block Grant Coordinator Kristin McCombe said. "We welcome all individuals to attend with their thoughts and ideas."

Following this input session, a committee including a City Council representative, City staff and local representatives will begin the process of using community input to outline what the project will include and locate an artist to complete the work.

More information regarding the project will be posted to the City's social media pages once available.

The City of Harrisonburg is centrally located in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. It is home to 51,000 people. More information about the City of Harrisonburg is online at www.HarrisonburgVA.gov.



(Above) The future location for the Downtown art project. Another gateway art display is located on the south end of Downtown.