

## Guiding Implementation/Public Art

*Submitted by Natalie Draper, Library Director and staff liaison to Arts & Culture Commission*



The tunnels are attracting a lot of positive attention as the murals progress. It has been fun to see his process. The [Interview](#) on KYMN July 7<sup>th</sup> with Mayor Pownell and Adam Turman went well and Northfield News called me for quotes and interviewed Adam for an upcoming article. We probably need to discuss planning the dedication/ribbon cutting event for some time in the fall. I am unsure if before or after school is in session would be better.

The Eagle sculpture by John Sterner, planned for Hwy 3 and 3<sup>rd</sup> streets, hit a bit of a snag with the skyrocketing costs of steel so we will be delayed a bit on installation, looking to April. The contract is signed and a check has been sent so he can begin

work finally. SEMAC has been contacted about the delay and were satisfied with the reasoning.

We're working on partnering with the Marshall public broadcasting station and NPB to film a program about the sculpture, and hoping to have Mac Gimse interview John for the broadcast.

Going forward with the 1%--do we want to try to make part of this into a "budget" of sorts for community-driven projects (some examples [here](#) and [here](#) and [here](#)) such as a Mural Assistance Program ("Northfield is putting art on the MAP") and perhaps a smaller portion for placemaking projects (similar to AOMS). The future of that particular program is hard to know, and making it a reliable annual event could be a real attraction for visitors. Would like to discuss this within Creative Placemaking as well. The terrific AOMS projects for this year are underway and past projects continue to delight people.

The mural assistance program might make it sensible for the mural policy to live as an entirely separate policy under the planning department, would need to add language about “grant” program, if one can exist.

Paula, Cynthia and I attended organizational meetings for Just Foods mural, and I was pleased with the project overall, especially the youth involvement. It’s wonderful to see the next generation of Northfielders with that kind of ownership in creating civic spaces.

PARC updates:

The River walk stair painting project will be completed in July, PARC unanimously voted to approve the steps and the stencil is on order.

Waiting on image of gazing ball from Garden Club for PARC approval.

I read this recently and found it to be worth sharing (download the article on this page): [Cultural Equity in the Public Art Field | Americans for the Arts](#)