



Staff Report  
City of Richmond, Virginia  
City Planning Commission

Write legislation/ordinance number here.	Meeting Date: 11/4/2024
Applicant/Petitioner	Public Art Commission
Description	<p>Bon Secours Richmond Community Hospital is in the second full year of their <i>Community Today, Community Tomorrow: Pathway to Wellness in the East End</i> strategy. A part of this project includes significant investments in their campus grounds to create a safe, inviting space where their associates want to work and their patients seek care. Over the past year, they partnered with Richmond artist Hamilton Glass to complete paintings in their renovated Legacy Garden honoring their 21 founding physicians. The Legacy Garden is an open space for the community, patients, and staff to enjoy green space and reflect on the strong history of the East End community.</p> <p>The hospital's plan is to extend the partnership with Hamilton Glass for two additional community-based street art projects: one at the intersection of 27th Street and Nine Mile Road and the other at 28th and U Streets. The street art will complement the art in the Legacy Garden and provide cohesion to their growing campus.</p>
Project Location 27 <sup>th</sup> Street and Nine Mile Road and 28 <sup>th</sup> and U Streets	
Council District(s): <input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3 <input type="checkbox"/> 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 5 <input type="checkbox"/> 6 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 7 <input type="checkbox"/> 8 <input type="checkbox"/> 9 <input type="checkbox"/> City-Wide	
PAC Recommendation	Approval
Staff Contact	Monica Kinsey, Planner/Secretary, Public Art Commission, monica.kinsey@rva.gov
Conditions	Bon Secours agrees to maintain the works for five years.

### RATIONALE FOR PLACING ON PUBLIC PROPERTY

The rationale for the installation is to enhance a community beautification project in the Nine Mile Road area of the East End as part of the first phase of Bon Secours Richmond Community Hospital's *Community Today, Community Tomorrow: Pathway to Wellness in the East End Plan*. The street mural, which features words like unity, love, and community, reflects Richmond's core values and serves as a powerful reminder of the city's commitment to inclusivity and community support.

## ABOUT THE ARTIST

Hamilton Glass started his art career as an architect, and after working in the field for seven years discovered his true passion was painting. His paintings, however, are reminiscent of his past as an architect through technique and style. He often utilizes geometric shapes, line, and color to create bold, graphic murals that work with the existing architecture or landscape to create site-specific works of art. Glass is honored to be a frequent collaborator with organizations who are focused on community growth and outreach. This part of his practice offers him the opportunity to give back to the community through his art and is a huge inspiration in itself.

Glass is a founder of *Mending Walls*, whose mission is to advance social justice by connecting community members from different backgrounds in conversation to foster empathy, understanding, and healing using art as a major vehicle. *Mending Walls* was featured in an Emmy award-winning documentary on PBS.

## CORRELATION TO RICHMOND 300 AND THE PUBLIC ART MASTER PLAN

### Richmond 300 Master Plan

#### Goal 4: Urban Design (p. 99)

Public art is critical to showcase a place's uniqueness, culture, and history . . . Future public art projects and improved streetscapes in all parts of the city set the tone for high-quality development and create pride for residents as they look forward to the future prosperity of their neighborhood and their personal household.

#### Objective 4.2 (p. 102)

Integrate public art into the built environment to acknowledge Richmond's unique history and neighborhood identity, and engage the creative community, focusing public art efforts in areas that do not have public art today.

### Public Art Master Plan

#### Distribute Public Art Equitably (p. 55)

. . . To engender interest and enthusiasm about public art in the city, the program must be active in neighborhoods outside of the downtown core to engage more citizens. Smaller-scale projects created by artists that interact with neighborhood residents can contribute to the texture and identity of an area and help provide a sense of community by adding landmarks, touchstones, and a unique character.

#### Priority Sites & Projects (pp. 63-69)

Community Gathering Sites

Health-Focused Sites

### Preliminary Designs

The Public Art Commission is in contact with DPW to ensure that the final designs align with traffic control guidelines.

