

News Release

For Immediate Release: February 24, 2021

Durham Announces Artist Selected for New Crosswalk Art to Enhance West Club Boulevard Pedestrian Safety

DURHAM, N.C. – The votes are in and the Durham community has selected local artist [Candy Carver](#) as the winning finalist to soon make West Club Boulevard safer with her new crosswalk art designs.

Based on responses from more than 1,800 residents through an online community vote held last month, Carver received the most votes for her proposed concept. From now until mid-March 2021, Carver will work with community members and stakeholders to refine her initial designs for her crosswalk asphalt art to transform the intersection of West Club Boulevard and Glendale Avenue. The project budget includes \$5,000 for these ongoing community engagement activities with an additional budget of \$10,500 for the installation process and materials.

The new [Club Crossing Project](#) location was selected because the site has a well-documented vehicle speeding problem, and it attracts many pedestrians and cyclists including students at Club Boulevard Elementary, visitors to Northgate Park, and users of the Ellerbe Creek Trail. Once the project is finished later this spring, the new crosswalk should improve street and pedestrian safety by activating the intersection and travel lanes through artwork in the crosswalk in front of Club Boulevard Elementary, reducing speeding on West Club Boulevard, and increasing yielding to pedestrians crossing West Club Boulevard and Glendale Avenue near the school. It will also help to tie distinct elements of this corridor together: Club Boulevard Elementary, Northgate Park, Ellerbe Creek Trail, and the East Coast Greenway.

Carver is a Durham native who spent her formative years in Indiana, where she developed her abstract creativity. As a self-taught artist, she has been painting for over 20 years. Her artwork is inspired by her personal journey to experience and share positive and encouraging emotions. Her goal is for the viewer to be engulfed by the tangibility of strength, power, boldness, and resilience of her art.

The Club Crossing Project is funded in part by Bloomberg Philanthropies' Asphalt Art Initiative grant program, which assists small and medium-sized cities looking to use art and design to improve street safety, revitalize public spaces, and engage their communities. In July 2020, the City of Durham was [one of 16 U.S. cities selected](#) to receive \$25,000 from the program to help fund this crosswalk public art project. Additional City funds contributing to this project are from the Cultural and Public Art Program as well as matching in-kind costs for staff time and physical resources.

For more information about this project, visit the [Club Crossing Project webpage](#) or contact Cultural and Public Art Program Manager Rebecca Brown with the City's General Services Department at (912) 398-8075 or by [email](#).

About the City of Durham Public Art Committee

The [Public Art Committee](#) serves as an advisory body to the Durham City Council and the City Manager, and its functions include assisting the City's General Services Department on matters relating to public art; implementation of the Public Art Policy; and reviewing proposals for public art projects brought to it by the City administration; and making recommendations to the Durham [Cultural Advisory Board](#) regarding project approvals. To further help artists connect with opportunities, the City has also launched a [Durham Calls for](#)

[Artists](#) page on its website, which lists a number of upcoming opportunities for artists in and around Durham. Artists and other stakeholders who would like to be notified of current and future art-related opportunities and news can now sign up for alerts through the [Cultural and Public Arts Calls for Art mailing list](#). For more information about the City's Cultural and Public Arts Program, visit the City's [cultural and public arts page](#).

About the City of Durham General Services Department

The [General Services Department](#) builds and maintains City properties to make Durham a great place for people to live, work, and play. Guided by the City's [Strategic Plan](#), the department's core functions include the acquisition and sale of properties, design and management of new construction and renovation projects, building maintenance, landscaping and urban forestry services, cemeteries management, sustainability and energy management, and supporting the nonprofit [Keep Durham Beautiful](#).

About the City of Durham Transportation Department

The [Transportation Department](#) remains steadfast in its commitment to providing and maintaining quality, multimodal infrastructure to improve mobility, promote environmental sustainability, and enhance the quality of life for current and future Durham residents, businesses, and visitors. To learn more, follow the department on [Twitter](#).

About the Durham Parks Foundation

The [Durham Parks Foundation](#) exists to preserve, strengthen and expand parks, trails, open space and recreational opportunities in Durham through diverse community involvement, fundraising, partnerships and education. Founded in 2015 to facilitate public/private partnerships for the benefit of all in Durham, the foundation assists groups with fundraising, providing information about future projects in parks, and advocating for the expansion and improvement of parks, trails, and open space in Durham. For more information, follow on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

About Bloomberg Philanthropies

Bloomberg Philanthropies invests in 810 cities and 170 countries around the world to ensure better, longer lives for the greatest number of people. The organization focuses on five key areas for creating lasting change: the Arts, Education, Environment, Government Innovation, and Public Health. Bloomberg Philanthropies encompasses all of Michael R. Bloomberg's giving, including his foundation, corporate, and personal philanthropy as well as Bloomberg Associates, a pro bono consultancy that works in cities around the world. In 2020, Bloomberg Philanthropies distributed \$1.6 billion. For more information, please visit [bloomberg.org](#) or follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [YouTube](#), [Twitter](#), [Snapchat](#), and [Flickr](#).

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