



City of Apache Junction

Development Services Department



PUBLIC ART COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING STAFF REPORT

DATE: April 30, 2025

TO: Public Art Commission

THROUGH: Rudy Esquivias, Development Services Director
Sidney Urias, Planning Manager & Deputy Director

FROM: Erika Hernandez, Planner

SUBJECT: AJHS Pride – Traffic Cabinet Public Art Contest

REQUEST: Staff respectfully requests that the Chair and the Public Art Commission recommend their favorite art submission to the Apache Junction City Council for the Apache Junction High School Pride – Traffic Cabinet Public Art Contest.

BACKGROUND

On October 1, 2024, the Apache Junction City Council ("Council") requested that a traffic cabinet near the Apache Junction High School ("AJHS") include a design that represents AJHS.

On February 10, 2025, the Apache Junction Public Art Commission ("Commission") asked that the Apache Junction Youth Advisory Council ("YAC") chose a theme for a future competition with AJHS, and work with the selected artist to complete the design. Staff decided that it would be a great opportunity for the winner of the design and YAC to showcase their art skills by painting the traffic cabinet together.

On April 3, 2025, AJHS, the Commission, and YAC released a school wide competition (Exhibit 1) to design artwork for a city traffic cabinet located on the northeast corner of Ironwood Drive and Southern Avenue with the theme of "AJHS Pride", which will be painted by the selected artist, if available and interested, with the help of YAC.



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The entry deadline for the contest was April 23, 2025, for which five (5) submissions were made. YAC received the submittals and ranked them for the Commission.

The Commission has been asked to recommend their favorite design for City Council consideration.

RECOMMENDED MOTION

I move that the Public Art Commission recommend to the Apache Junction City Council the approval of Submission 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5, as shown in Exhibit 2, as the winner in the "AJHS Pride – Traffic Cabinet Public Art Contest" for the proposed traffic cabinet design on the northeast corner of Ironwood Drive and Southern Avenue, to be painted by the selected artist, if available and interested, with the help of the Apache Junction Youth Advisory Council, also known as "YAC".

Attachments:

- Exhibit 1: Contest Materials
- Exhibit 2: Submissions