




COMMUNICATION UPDATE

TO:	Mayor and Members City Council
DATE:	July 31, 2025
SUBJECT:	Downtown Hamilton Creative Placemaking Grant Program Update (Wards 2 & 3)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	Wards 2 & 3
SUBMITTED BY:	Lisa Abbott Director, Tourism and Culture Planning and Economic Development Department
SIGNATURE:	

The purpose of this Communication Update is to share information about the projects awarded funding through the Downtown Hamilton Creative Placemaking Grant Program.

The Downtown Hamilton Creative Placemaking Grant Program has awarded funding to 12 new, community-led placemaking projects that will animate outdoor public spaces in a designated area of Downtown Hamilton (Victoria Avenue to Queen Street and from Strachan Street to Duke Street/Young Street). Applications were accepted from groups of residents and non-profit organizations.

A total of \$78,946 in funding has been awarded with most grant amounts being \$5,000 and under. Funding for the grant program has come from multiple sources demonstrating a shared interest to support innovative community-led initiatives in Downtown Hamilton that help residents feel ownership of public spaces and use them in ways that are specific to community need. Funding sources include \$38,946 from the Economic Development Initiatives capital project 3621708900, \$30,000 from the City of Hamilton's Municipal Accommodation Tax, and \$10,000 from Healthy and Safe Communities Dept ID 679115.

All projects were reviewed for technical feasibility and ranked using the published assessment criteria. The projects are all temporary and expected to take place by May 2026.

OUR Vision: To be the best place to raise a child and age successfully.

OUR Mission: To provide high quality cost conscious public services that contribute to a healthy, safe and prosperous community, in a sustainable manner.

OUR Culture: Collective Ownership, Steadfast Integrity, Courageous Change, Sensational Service, Engaged Empowered Employees.

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Please refer to Appendix “A” attached to this Communication Update, for a list and description of the funded projects.

If you require any further information on the above matter, please contact Sarah Ehmke, Senior Project Manager – Placemaking and Animation, by email at Sarah.Ehmke@hamilton.ca or at (905) 546-2424 Ext. 7505 or Claire Calnan, Cultural Project Specialist, by email at Claire.Calnan@hamilton.ca or at (905) 546-2424 Ext. 2036.

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED

Appendix “A” – Downtown Hamilton Creative Placemaking Grant Program 2025 Funded Projects