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Posted February 28, 2008

## Green Bay riverfront art increasing

Two more pieces will be installed along Fox River Trail

By Paul Srubas

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Two more works of art are headed to the banks of the Fox River in Green Bay.

A committee of the Mayor's Neighborhood Leadership Council will meet next week to discuss the exact placement of two artworks, the latest in The Life of the River program that aims to install sculptures along the Fox River Trail.

Four sculptures are there, and two more will be placed and unveiled July 4. Another two will be placed in July 2009.

"It's intended to be part of the experience of being downtown and also to have some artwork to get people talking and to promote walking and biking," said Green Bay Mayor Jim Schmitt. "I think it's great."

Two of the sculptures there now were not originally part of The Life of the River but have been more or less ingested into the program, said Andy Rosendahl, a neighborhood development specialist for Green Bay who has been part of the art selection and placement.

One of those pieces was located elsewhere in the city but was hit by a vehicle and had to be repaired and moved farther from street traffic, Rosendahl said. He was unsure of the history of the other piece. Both were purchased through community block grant funds, not through the Neighborhood Leadership Council.

But both fit in nicely with the two that were selected specifically for the trail walk, and the program overall is resulting in a variety of sculptures for the enhancement of the trail experience, he said.

A committee selected the two newest pieces earlier this month. The artists are Don Lawler of Stephensport, Ky., and Joan Truckenbrod, an art professor at the School of Art Institute in Chicago. Lawler's piece will be a stone bench called "Currents" and will resemble one he installed elsewhere. Truckenbrod plans to install a mobile of large, colorful fish made out of EcoResin, a kind of recycled plastic.

The two artists were selected from 48 applications, Rosendahl said.

The committee will meet Wednesday to discuss the exact placement, but the pieces will be installed along the Fox River Trail between the Walnut Street and Don A. Tilleman bridges.

That's where the other four already are. From north to south, they

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The "River Revival" sculpture by Bounnak Thammavong stands along the Fox River Trail in downtown Green Bay as part of the Life of the River art program. H. Marc Larson/Press-Gazette

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are:

- A four-piece sculpture, straddling the trail, called "River Revival," by Bounnak Thammavong.
- "Dancing With Light," by Jeff Benson and Jim Enloe.
- "Renewal," by Green Bay artist Carrie Fonder.
- "My House of Feather And Stone," by Richard Taylor.

The artwork purchases are funded entirely through private money raised by the leadership council, which does fundraising every three years. The cost of the three-year project is \$60,000.

Next year's installation of two more pieces will be the end of it. Schmitt said he and the group would like to install some leased pieces in the future, to keep the display varied, and overall want to avoid putting up too many artworks, which could start to seem intrusive.



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Sunlight shines through "Renewal" by Carrie Fonder in downtown Green Bay, one of four sculptures in the Life of the River art program. H. Marc Larson/Press-Gazette



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"My House of Feather and Stone" by Richard Taylor is one of the four Life of the River sculptures. H. Marc Larson/Press-Gazette