Fountain Plaza

Art Opportunities Plan

30% Draft
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1. Mosaic Tiles

Use of tile mosaics on vertical surfaces under circular seating elements and vertical surface area around base of fountain to create a glowing area of color in the center of the square.

- Artist created pattern/imagery prefabbed in sheets that can be installed by contractor to save money. Bright colors fade into each other and indicate possible cardinal directions. Examples:
  - blue=north, red=west, green=south, yellow/orange=east, or
  - hues of blue in water-like forms

- Possibly using opportunities to include work on imagery with Whatcom Middle School students that could be included in the tile surfaces.

- Mosaic tiles could be installed in the future, or in phases with set colors, tile sizes and patterns.


Example Image of possible mosaic colors and sketch of survey targets:
2. Festival Light Poles

Using paint color, integrate the light poles for festival lights into the art aspect. Again, suggesting to use color coding to indicate directions, connecting to mosaic tiles and PSE guy pole colors, or hues of blues.

Images of model showing color festival light poles in relation to other site elements include guy pole and mosaic tiles on vertical surfaces of fountain and seat walls:
3. Compass Rose

Compass rose or directional elements will be used to highlight significance of the Meridian guide and history. Work with local chapter of the NW Surveyor’s Association to reference Meridian guide history. Possible detail elements may include:

- Use of different colors or aggregate in cast concrete as integrated art element to reduce cost-related to color of mosaic surfaces.
- Use of different colored sheets of tile patterns to create a circle of color in the heart of the area around the fountain.
- Use cardinal direction points accent tiles to create a compass rose pattern.
- Use GPS coordinates etched or embedded in concrete to reference geographic location and history.

Example sketch of cardinal directions located in mosaic tiles:
4. Puget Sound Energy Guy Pole

Design team strongly recommends working with PSE to paint the existing guy pole with a color and text identifying the Fountain District. This will be a separate project funded by PSE, with design team input on pattern color, text size and font. The required sustainable theme of the PSE project could include references to hydroelectric power, and possible solar powered lighting attached to the pole.

- Explore use possibility of adding water imagery related to sustainable hydro-power and the fountain aspect of the site with PSE.

- Suggest fonts/words/color(s) for pole – possibly referencing Art Deco style architecture in neighborhood.

- Addition of solar lighting.

- Maintain relation to vertical lighting support poles for festival lighting with color choice.

Examples images and sketches:
5. Future Art Opportunities

Art based out-of-project scope opportunities for related community enrichment:

- Create a community mural based on shadow of legacy tree on wall of Diamond Jim’s.

- Extend colored poles throughout fountain district on Meridian on the angled streetlight poles to bring color and focus to the area as city painting budget/repair permits (some of the poles appear to be aging and rusting)