

Third Ward Mural Initiative

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EDPT February 10, 2026

Strategic Alignment

- Supports City Strategic Plan
- Reinforces Third Ward cultural identity
- Advances Southtown Area Specific Plan
- Public process shapes mural name & design
- Promotes Third Ward identity
- Supports local artists
- Fosters community ownership & pride
- Advances beautification & storytelling

Key Partners

- GRAAMA (Grand Rapids African American Museum & Archives)
- Southtown Corridor Improvement Authority
- Local artists & residents
- Art Advisory Committee (AAC)

Release of RFP

- Develops and issues artist RFP
- Coordinates engagement sessions with GRAAMA
- Calls for building owners to host murals
- Helps facilitate artist selection
- Oversees design and installation phases
- RFP will be available on February 12 at <https://bit.ly/3rdWardMural>
- RFP Closes on March 14.

Third Ward Equity Fund

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| Third Ward Equity Fund | | FY25 | FY26 |
|---------------------------------|--|--------------------|--------------------|
| Cultural Investment | Cultural Arts Tour | \$200k | |
| | Mural Project | \$50k | |
| Summer Youth Investments | Grow1000 plus Additional Summer Anti-Violence Programing | \$125k | \$125k |
| Construction | Alger Street/Blaine Ave | \$100k | |
| | Fuller Ave Midblock Crossing | \$100k | |
| | General Construction - TBD | | \$600-675k |
| Small Business/Economic Support | EDC Revolving Loan Fund | \$425k | |
| | Southtown Position | | \$200k-\$250k |
| Total | | \$1,000,000 | \$1,000,000 |