

# Utility Box Art Program



**Tracy Martin**, Project Manager Public Works Department Committee of the Whole January 12, 2022

#### Ask:



# Does the City of Corona want to create a Utility Box Art Program?









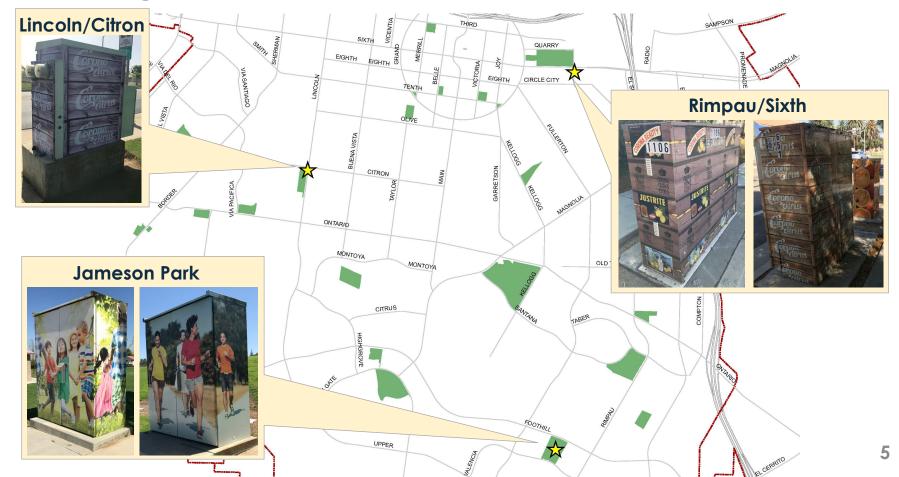
# **Today's Presentation**

- Existing wrapped boxes in Corona
- Research on existing programs at other agencies
- Review potential next steps



# Existing Wrapped Boxes in Corona

# **Existing Locations**



# **Existing Locations**

- Installed in 2016
- Cost: \$800 \$3,600, depending on size
- Themes: Corona's citrus history & sports / children
- Some fading, but overall good condition



# Research on Existing Programs at Other Agencies

# **Agencies Researched**

















## Types of Media (All Anti-Graffiti Coated)

#### **Paint**



#### **PROS**

- Professional & amateur artists
- Less expensive

#### **CONS**

- Liability / insurance
- Safety concerns
- Vandalism/ damage (not easily replaced)
- Longer time to implement

#### **Vinyl Wrap**



#### **PROS**

- Professional contractors
- Use digitized art
- Quick to implement
- Easily re-installed
- Most common approach

#### CONS

- More expensive
- Less "hands-on" by the artist

# **Program Offerings**

#### "Call for Projects"

- Grants or stipends offered to local artists to design artwork
- Funded by:
  - Philanthropic organizations
  - Business sponsorships or donation programs

#### **Adopt-A-Box Program**

 Businesses can pay for the decoration of a utility box, with their name included (no advertising allowed)



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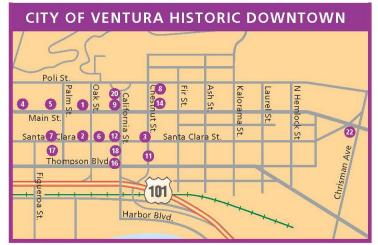
# Variety of Program Content & Purpose



#### Locations

#### **Traffic Signal Cabinets**

- Main thoroughfares
- Downtown / business
- Intersections
- Pre-approved sites
- Artists scope sites subject to approval





# **Summary of Research**

Topic	Survey Information
Types of Media	Anti-graffiti coated Paint or vinyl wrap
Program Offerings	Agencies offer grants to artists or an Adopt-A-Box program. Program funding comes from a variety of private sponsorships and donations.
Content & Purpose	Cultural diversity, local history or culture, global & local issue awareness, local flavor & activities
Locations	Traffic signal boxes, main intersections and downtown, limited vs. unlimited locations

# Discussion & Potential Next Steps

## Ask:



Does the City of Corona want to create a Utility Box Art Program?

#### **PROS**

- Beautify the City
- Deter graffiti
- Showcase aspects of the community

#### Yes

Provide direction on what Corona's program would look like.

#### CONS

- Potential expense
- Additional staff time/resources

#### No

No further action needed.



## How to Fund the Program?



OPTIONS	PROS	CONS
1. CITY FUNDED	Program guaranteed to be implemented as funding is provided	<ul> <li>City funds may be needed in other areas</li> <li>No direct opportunity for businesses to participate</li> </ul>
2. SPONSORSHIPS	No City funds allocated	<ul> <li>Program depends on generosity of sponsors</li> <li>No sponsors = no activity</li> </ul>
3. SPONSORS + CITY SUBSIDIZED	Lessens burden on City funds	Program still depends on generosity of sponsors but may encourage more participation

Which option is the preferred PROGRAM FUNDING?



# What Media Types are Allowed?



OPTIONS	PROS	CONS
1. PAINT	<ul> <li>One-of-a-kind piece of art</li> <li>Opportunity to showcase local artists</li> <li>Less expensive</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Cannot be replicated</li> <li>Safety concerns for artist</li> <li>Equipment ventilation</li> <li>Insurance requirements</li> <li>Time to implement</li> <li>Increased staff time</li> </ul>
2. VINYL WRAP  PREFERRED	<ul> <li>Durable</li> <li>Professional installation</li> <li>Can be re-created</li> <li>Quick implementation</li> <li>Supports local businesses</li> <li>Variety – photos or artwork can be digitized</li> </ul>	More expensive

Which option is the preferred MEDIA?



#### Who Designs the Artwork?



OPTIONS	PROS	CONS
1. CITY PRE-APPROVES SEVERAL DESIGNS TO BE USED	<ul><li>Faster process</li><li>Consistency throughout City</li></ul>	<ul><li>Limited variety</li><li>Potential for duplicate images</li></ul>
2. APPLICANT SUBMITS A DESIGN FOR APPROVAL	<ul> <li>Allows for community creativity</li> <li>Program can evolve over time</li> <li>Allows businesses more incentive to participate</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Increased staff time for application processing</li> <li>Must develop program guidelines</li> <li>Longer implementation period</li> </ul>

Which option is preferred for ARTWORK DESIGN?



## **How Many Locations?**



OPTIONS	PROS	CONS
1. CITYWIDE – 170 CABINET LOCATIONS	<ul> <li>All areas of Corona can participate</li> <li>Consistency throughout the city</li> <li>May encourage more organizations to participate, i.e. schools, HOAs, etc.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>More expensive</li> <li>Costs to fully fund 170 sites: <ul> <li>\$100,000 for paint</li> <li>\$700,000 for vinyl wrapping</li> </ul> </li> <li>Long time to fully implement</li> <li>Some areas may want them, some may not</li> </ul>
2. SELECT AREAS – ex., 5 to 10 PER YEAR	<ul> <li>High impact to smaller area</li> <li>Fit with specific area's look and feel</li> <li>Lower cost, depending on funding source</li> <li>Can restrict to business districts</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Limited sites may deter potential sponsors if a preferred location is not available</li> <li>Some areas may want them, some may not</li> </ul>

How many LOCATIONS to be included in the program?

# **Potential Next Steps**



# QUESTIONS?





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