



## CITY OF CAÑON CITY

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May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

On behalf of the Public Art Committee of The City of Cañon City, I am pleased to express our enthusiastic support for the citizen-led mural project proposed for the Safeway grocery store wall along Highway 50.

Although the Public Art Committee's primary focus is on facilitating and overseeing art installations within public spaces—such as City buildings and rights-of-way—we strongly believe that the vibrancy and vitality of Cañon City's artistic landscape benefit from creative initiatives across *all* parts of the community, both public and private.

Led by Phil Lund, this grassroots effort has demonstrated an exemplary model of community engagement. Through stakeholder input campaigns, social media outreach, and a public design selection process, this group has meaningfully involved the broader community in shaping the visual identity of our city. Such projects help strengthen Cañon City's growing reputation as a community that values public art, creativity, and civic pride.

Murals like this not only beautify and re-energize highly visible corridors like Highway 50, but they also contribute to our local identity, support cultural tourism, spark community pride, and signal a collective investment in the future of the arts in Cañon City. These are precisely the kinds of impacts we seek to cultivate through our work as a Public Art Committee, and we are heartened to see citizens taking ownership of these values in their own spaces.

We commend Mr. Lund and the citizen group for their dedication, their collaborative spirit, and their commitment to improving Cañon City through Art. We are proud to support this project and are excited to see the positive impact it will have on the Highway 50 corridor and our community.

Sincerely,

Ryan LeClair  
Staff Liaison of Public Art Committee & Small Business Liaison  
Public Art Committee  
The City of Cañon City