



## **OFFICE OF MAYOR ANDY SCHOR**

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# **City of Lansing, CATA and Neighborhood Organizations Partner to Design New Community Inspired Bus Shelters**

**(LANSING)** – Mayor Andy Schor, Deputy Mayor Samantha Harkins, City of Lansing Director of Neighborhoods and Citizen Engagement Andi Crawford, CATA Chief Executive Officer Bradley T. Funkhouser, South Side Community Coalition members and Lansing residents celebrated the completion of two community designed CATA bus shelters earlier this month. The group took the #2 CATA bus from downtown Lansing to one of the new shelters located at Holmes and Pleasant Grove.

This is the first year that CATA has partnered with neighborhood organizations to design new bus shelters. The Sycamore Park Neighborhood Association (SPNA) and South Side Community Coalition (SSCC) each applied for and received a \$3,000 Neighborhood Grant through the City of Lansing, and CATA contributed an additional \$7,000 toward the projects.

“Both of the new community inspired bus shelters are a great example of what can happen when the City of Lansing, partners and residents all work together,” said Mayor Schor. “The bus shelters not only provide a safe space for people to wait for the CATA bus, they also showcase the creativity of Lansing, the surrounding neighborhoods and add new pieces of public art to the area. Thank you to CATA, the Sycamore Park Neighborhood Association and the South Side Community Coalition for all of the hard work put into the design and completion of the bus shelters.”

The SPNA bus shelter, located along eastside of Pennsylvania Avenue, just north of Baker Street - bus stop number 3539, is a one of a kind artistic bus shelter reflecting the neighborhood. SPNA took the lead on the project and worked with Neighbors of Scott Woods, The Holmes Street School Community and the Baker Neighborhood. Proposals were submitted to SPNA by a number of local artists and Nathan Gonzalez was selected to create artwork for the station. In addition to artwork, the stop also includes new solar lighting.

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The SSCC bus shelter, located at Holmes and Pleasant Grove - bus stop number 1797, incorporates images of all of the kids that spend time at the SSCC, as well as the newly installed Beacon Field. SSCC worked with Reach Art Studio to design all of the artwork for the shelter. SSCC received support from Colonial Village Neighborhood, Rejuvenating South Lansing and South West Action Group. The bus serves as a stop for Beacon Field, making travel to and from the park more convenient.

“Our partnership with the City of Lansing on the latest bus shelter initiative is truly exciting,” said CATA Chief Executive Officer Bradley T. Funkhouser. “In the early 1990s, my career as a transit planner was just getting underway. I learned pretty quickly the immeasurable benefits of involving the customer in designing service. As such, giving the Sycamore Park and Baker-Donora Neighborhood Associations the opportunity to choose their shelter design, and specify the unique features and characteristics they desired in a bus shelter was a no-brainer. Allowing them to have a voice in addressing the safety concerns they raised, such as mid-block street crossings, loitering and solicitation, is sure to give them a sense of ownership and pride. This is their neighborhood. It was an honor to facilitate their vision.”

The City of Lansing’s Neighborhood Grant Program funded almost 70 totaling \$60,000 in funding in 2019. Any registered civic organization or active neighborhood watch can apply for the next round of neighborhood grants now. The application deadline is February 3, 2020. For more information, visit <https://lansingneighborhoods.info/562/Neighborhood-Grants>.

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