

ALERT

Update: Union City looking for killer of Fairburn man

NORTH FULTON NEIGHBOR

https://www.mdjonline.com/neighbor_newspapers/north_fulton/news/roswell-arts-fund-working-towards-bringing-a-performing-arts-center/article_c1b99c26-56af-11e7-b348-8f22d8b2ee49.html

Roswell Arts Fund working towards bringing a Performing Arts Center to downtown

Lindsay Moscarello Jun 21, 2017

Roswell Arts Fund is shaping the city for the possibility of what they feel will "fulfill a niche market" in the city.

"A destination for entertainment, inspiration, and laughter and opportunity to showcase emerging talent and bring world-class performances to our city," is being proposed for Roswell.

Potential for a performing arts center has received "a resounding 'Yes,'" from the community.



Currently in the feasibility study phases, the second phase was recently approved for funding by City Council.

This phase will clarify the ideal size, location, and funding opportunities, as well as identify potential challenges.

On May 31, the Steering Committee, led by co-chairs Jeff Hopkins and Lawrence Catchpole, heard from our consultant partners, DLR Group/Westlake Reed Leskosky/Arts Consulting Group that Roswell's unique location and character offers several possibilities.

The look of the theatre on several different locations was sourced through study of interviews and concept drawings.

The Performing Arts Center envisioned includes approximately 35,000 feet to provide for adequate performance, support, and public spaces.



A main theatre would seat a minimum of 500 to 600 people. A black box, which will be designed to accommodate multiple purposes, will entertain 200 people and serve as a special event location when not in use.

"Ideally, the site will be located on the periphery of the Canton Street area," said Jeff Hopkins.

Hopkins emphasized the importance of the site "will accomplish several goals related to the project."

"Perhaps most importantly, such a site will keep traffic and parking outside of the heart of the restaurant district while creating a bridge between the other proposed projects, in and around Canton Street and the Roswell Square," he said.

Mayor Jere Wood has previously stated his desire to make Roswell a "walkable community."



Consultants on the performing arts center project determined that the ideal location will fall into that category, with easy access to Canton Street.

The architectural design is envisioned to embody what is unique and desirable about the city, drawing elements from historic buildings in the downtown area. A front porch is multi-faceted, serving as a warm and inviting feature while also offering an informal, yet elegant design.

According to the Roswell Arts Fund website, "a performing arts center could serve as Roswell's 'veranda,' or a place where residents gather to enjoy a wide variety of performing and visual arts."

Roswell Arts Fund predicts that the Performing Arts Center has the potential to welcome diverse range of patrons from near and far, drive economic development, increase tourism, reflect city pride, and activate the tag line, "Modern Spirit. Southern Soul."

For more information about the Feasibility Study, contact Roswell Arts Fund at board@roswellartsfund.org.