



## NEWS RELEASE

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OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**SPRINGFIELD, OH (Oct. 5, 2020)**

#### **City Employees Join Neighborhood in Painting Street Murals**

Members of the City of Springfield Community Development Department partnered Engaged Neighborhood Residents to paint street murals that took inspiration from traditional Signal Quilt Blocks that were used to communicate information along the Underground Railroad.

The effort was completed prior to a Historic Marker Dedication at the Gammon House earlier this month. Painting of the street murals is a part of the implementation recommendations that resulted from the first phase of the Engaged Neighborhood Planning Process, said Community Development Director Shannon Meadows.

“The Neighborhood Planning Process is a coordinated partnership among the neighbors in the area of Limestone to Yellow Springs and Pleasant to Perrin Streets,” said Meadows. “We’re proud and excited to be part of this partnership that’s working together to further improve neighborhoods in the area.”

The mural project was designed by Community Development Specialist Cheyenne Pinkerman. The Signal Quilt Blocks that were painted are replications of quilt blocks used along the Underground Railroad to provide information to escaped slaves in order to guide them toward freedom.

City departments are currently working to prepare the section of Clark Street between Center Street and Fountain Avenue, as well as Piqua Place, for the next phase of mural painting.

A socially-distanced engagement event for residents of the Engaged Neighborhood who wish to share their thoughts and hopes for the future of the neighborhood is scheduled for Oct. 31 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the corner of Yellow Springs Street and Grand Avenue.

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