



Gritty & Golden

So many different flavors in the arts community. Fabrication, application of paints, hammering of elements, combining steel with wood with color and sound. industrial space sharing space, and the grit of the railroad corridor breathing new life with an unsuspecting partner. Closed doors re-open with familiar sounds and strange objects telling compelling stories. Existing industry continues and along side, new industry emerges.

Moving westward and following Eagle Pass Creek are new installations of stories and imagery. restaurants pop-up to take advantage of the new emerging interest and economy. The coffee shop/art gallery forges a foothold grasping tight and shining new light into a tired building, long forgotten and boarded up. The arts district emerges! The experience is rich with a gradient of gritty fabrication to finely crafted color palettes of paint or swirls of performance. City Hall and amphitheatre park anchor the western end adding a new refined layer of culture, rich with conversation.



Eagle Pass Arts District

**Creating space for an emerging and important arts community;
The voices of Eagle Pass**

Cultural aspects of a city is where a city shows the richness of the fabric that makes the place a unique and special place. Eagle Pass has an undiscovered jewel with the wide variety of artistic expression practiced by local residents and craftsmen from painting and photography to sculptural constructions. Much is yet to be discovered and this project is striving to be a catalyst in unearthing these talents, bringing them to light to express new personalities within Eagle Pass.

Art has many forms. Some forms are fine, two dimensional works of graphite or paint. Other works are more coarse or rough and gritty, needing ample space for fabricating heavy materials and constructing challenging elements. In between maybe performance arts of drama or dance. Artists work in studios and show in galleries. Sometimes these places may be one-in-the-same.

The vision as framed here is to establish a district that promotes the arts by making space available for both crafting and showing works of art.

As seen in the map above, this describes a district that spans a variety of spaces and experiences. Along the railroad are older warehouses of which some buildings are actively being used while others are closed up. Attracting sculptors and fabricators into utilizing these areas will add life into a district that otherwise is visually unfriendly and unwelcoming. This proposal is not about displacing viable business or crowding out active industrial enterprise. On the contrary, it is sharing the district with similar activities of heavy metal, stone works, carpentry or other fabrication techniques to not only fill empty warehousing spaces but to provide space for creative endeavours. Moving west along Garrison St the character of the street become less gritty and industrial and more personal scale housing is in the corridor. Studios now become galleries and the works are more refined, smaller scale, less coarse.

Along the entire stretch is the Eagle Pass Creek following along with a hike and bike trail. These spaces are seen as becoming the outdoor gallery for the city to bring significant life to the linear parkway. These are the areas where people should feel the safest for daytime and evening strolls. Bring lights and security to the area will make this district come alive with new activity and events.

Restaurants and bars, retail with arts and crafts, people in the streets and enjoying the freshness of the Summer evening. The western end of the arts district will be the parkland where the amphitheatre is behind the Chamber of Commerce office. Music in the park, and other seasonal events can be elaborated on with the arts district gaining life and stimulating the area with a different flare of lifestyle.

