



June 10, 2025 City Council Meeting

## **Title**

Consider approval of the display of “Newtown Before Urban Renewal” mosaics in the City Hall lobby for the month of August — Barbara Camph

## **Summary**

City Council will consider approving the display in City Hall for the month of August of twenty (20) mosaics created by local artist Barbara Camph depicting the vibrant life in Newtown before Urban Renewal.

## **Recommendation**

Option 1- Approve the display of “Newtown Before Urban Renewal” mosaics in the City Hall lobby for the month of August

## **Fiscal Impact**

No fiscal impact.

## **Context & Analysis**

Barbara Camph, a local artist, created twenty mosaics depicting the vibrant life in Newtown before Urban Renewal. Ms. Camph developed the mosaics based on memories and photographs shared by residents, including Sara Sampson, Howard Curry and Emmitt Lee. Dale MacAllister also assisted. Ms. Camph additionally relied on photographs and information available at the Lucy Simms Center, James Madison University, the Shenandoah Valley Black Heritage Project, and books written by Doris Allen. The Shenandoah Valley Black Heritage Project was a major contributor of information for the individual panel plaques. The mosaics were sponsored, in part, by The Arts Council of the Valley, and Mary Jo Gault and Peter Valtin. Ms. Camph will provide the tables and any other materials necessary for the display in City Hall’s lobby.

## **Options**

Option 1- Approve the display of “Newtown Before Urban Renewal” mosaics in the City Hall lobby for the month of August

Option 2- Deny the display of “Newtown Before Urban Renewal” mosaics in the City Hall lobby for the month of August