

## PUBLIC ART STAFF REPORT

Selected activities organized by goals in *Cultural Connection: San José's Cultural Plan*

### Cultural Connection Goal: Integrate High Impact Public Art & Urban Design throughout the Community

#### **Airport Art:**

- **Art Window** – The Art Window platform at the Airport is located adjacent to the TSA Pre-Check lanes. In December, staff installed a group of lenticular artworks by local artists Robin Gibson and Sam Rodriguez. This is the first iteration of a program for artists to reimagine their work through the lens of a humble but innovative technology. Staff is working with the lenticular printer to troubleshoot compatibility between the printing and lightbox mounting.
- **Ecloud** – Issues related to the weather data not updating has been resolved. The artwork now reflects current weather.
- **XO** – Staff has been troubleshooting the sculpture lighting controls. Once resolved airport staff will be trained so sculpture lighting can be programmed for special events.

**Almaden Branch Library and Community Center** – The Community Visioning Meeting with artist Nigel Sussman was held on Wednesday, December 6, 2023, at Almaden Community Center. The artist is currently working on a mural design concept.

**Alviso Branch Library** – Artist Morgan Bricca was selected from the Public Art Program's Mural Artists Roster for a mural commission on an interior wall. Community outreach is in planning stages.

**Bassett Park (Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities Grant Project)** – Parks department has reactivated the Bassett Park project. Included in the park design is artist Vicki Scuri's illuminated streetscape pedestrian light elements. The base construction project schedule has been reset which impacts the completion date for the public art. The completion goal is now planned for 2026. Staff is working with the artist and a fabricator to finalize the fabrication plan for these lantern artworks.

**Camden Community Center** - Artist Robert Minervini was selected from the Public Art Program's Mural Artists Roster for a mural commission on an exterior wall. Community outreach was held on Tuesday, January 23, 2024. The artist is currently conducting independent research for a mural design concept.

**County of Santa Clara** – City recently completed negotiations with County to assist with the management of their percent for art program on Capital Improvement Projects as well as one gallery space at the County of Santa Clara Civic Center. Approval of agreement between City and County occurred at the City Council meeting on June 20, 2023, and at the County of Santa Clara Board of Supervisors meeting on June 27, 2023. Staff has been assigned County projects and the transfer of project management duties to City staff is ongoing. Below is a list of current projects:

- **Animal Shelter:** Artwork by artist Ivan Depeña is currently in production with installation anticipated Spring 2024. In preparation for the sculptures, site work is scheduled to be complete mid-February 2024.
- **Behavioral Health Services Center:** City staff is working with architect and consultant for curated interior artworks, and one large exterior artwork by artist Jim Sanborn.

- **County Government Services Center:** staff provided a site evaluation and recommendations for improvements for a gallery space in this building.
- **Palo Alto Courthouse:** a mural created in the 60's for the courthouse is currently being investigated for a potential deaccession.
- **Silver Creek Campus:** staff provided a site evaluation for a potential sculpture walk at this campus.
- **Tasman Campus:** staff provided a site evaluation for public locations on the exterior and interior of facility for potential artworks.
- **Valley Health Center (VHC)– Morgan Hill:** City staff is working on an invitational RFQ to art galleries within the County of Santa Clara to submit original artworks for consideration for permanent display at VHC with installation anticipated Spring 2024.

**Environmental Services Department (ESD) Projects:**

- **Don Edwards National Wildlife Refuge (DENWR) and Guadalupe River Park/Children's Discovery Museum (GRP/CDM)** – The DENWR project by artist Mark Brest Van Kempen is substantially completed and GRP/CDM project is anticipated for completion by Summer 2024.
- **One Day One Action** – *One Day/One Action* is a social media public art project designed to reframe how we can all contribute to climate action, one day at a time, one action at a time, now and in the future. The project concluded on December 21, 2023. Artists are currently collecting data from all project partners, including the Office of Cultural Affairs (OCA), and compiling a final report expected in Spring 2024. As part of project completion, the artists are developing a website where all content will be publicly accessible and free to use.
- **River Oaks Pump Station** – In consultation with the base project design team, the public art element will be integrated into the site perimeter fence. Artist Michael Amescua's artwork design development proposal was approved by the PAC in August 2023 and fabrication of the artwork is underway. The project is scheduled for completion in Summer 2024.
- **Water Resources Administration & Operations Facility** – Permit drawings have been approved. Coordination with the base project contractor and fabricator is in process. The artist completed his final template that will be vectorized and translated into the final waterjet cut metal.

**End of Watch Police Memorial** – Artist Gordon Huether's memorial artwork element has been installed at the Police Administration memorial site. A dedication event, intended primarily for families of fallen Officers and San Jose Police Department (SJPD) personnel, was held on October 4, 2023. Close out on project in process.

**Fair Swim Center** – The Community Visioning Meeting with artist Lacey Bryant was held Saturday, December 2, 2023 at Tully Branch Library. The artist is working on a mural design concept.

**Fire Station 8** – Bay Area artist Jesse Hernandez's design for a metal mural on exterior walls of the new facility was approved by the PAC at its June 2023 meeting. His design development proposal was approved by the PAC at its December 5, 2023 meeting. Completion of the fire station is estimated for 2025.

**Fire Station 23** – Project in planning stages.

**Fire Station 36** – Project in planning stages.

**Fourth and San Fernando Parking Garage Mural** – PAC approved Robin Gibson's concept design at their October 3, 2023 meeting. Painting will commence in spring 2024.

**Market/San Pedro Parking Garage** – The façade project with artist Brian Brush has completed construction documentation. The City Department of Public Works will oversee BID for the demo and removal of the tile (GFRC) panels and build-back to support the illumination enhancement. The City Planning Department is reviewing the Public Art CEQA exemption to determine whether this project is exempt.

**Martin Luther King (MLK) Library Maintenance and Conservation** – Public Art staff working with joint library staff on conservation and maintenance of the collection. including: English Lit, Vessel, Rosetta, Round Up, Fiction/Fiction and the Milagro Table.

**Office of Emergency Management & Fire Department Training Facility Relocation (EOC/FDTF)** – Installation of the exterior artwork by artist Johanna Poethig is complete. The process for procuring artwork for the facility interior (Phase 2) is underway; it is focusing primarily on engaging local artists, with up to 30 two-dimensional artworks by San José artists to be commissioned for permanent display in select locations inside the facility. Facility completion is forecasted for Summer 2024.

**Olinder Community Center *Time* Mural** – Artist Juan Raul's has started restoration of his *Time* mural. Restoration is anticipated to be complete by Summer 2024 with installation completed by the end of 2024.

**Plata Arroyo Park Mural** – Local artist Carlos Rodriguez is currently painting his mural.

**Public Art Map (Online)** – Staff is working with the City's GIS Enterprise Team on the development of an online map for the City's website that will have many desirable features including links to detailed info in the Public Art Collection webpages on the City's website, the ability to filter by Council Districts, type of location, type of artwork and more, and it can be used as a navigation tool on a mobile device or printed out. Completion is estimated for Spring 2024.

**Pune, India Sister City Statue** – (not part of Public Art collection). The Shivaji Maharaj statue was a gift to the City from sister city Pune, India in the late 1990s. The statue has meaning to people from India and many people (residents and visitors from India) visit the Guadalupe River Park trail to see the statue. In recent years the statue has been subject to severe vandalism including removal of the sword, horse tail, and most recently the entire statue was stolen, and then recovered at a melt facility. The artist who created the statue is deceased, and staff is working with the sister city organization to make a restoration assessment. As this is not part of the public art collection, and there is no fund source from public art to restore, funding for restoration remains an open question.

**Santa Teresa Library** – The Community Visioning meeting with artist Jolene Russell about her mural project there was held on Thursday, December 14, 2023 at Santa Teresa Library. The artist is working on a mural design concept.

**Sensing You** – Staff are working with the City Department of Public Works and vendor KiboWorks on the maintenance of *Sensing You* located on the 87 underpass and Santa Clara Street. It is expected to be complete early 2024.

**Sonic Runway** – The OEDCA Events Team is working on a schedule of curated events at the site and on-going programming can be found here: <https://www.sanjoseca.gov/your-government/departments-offices/cultural-affairs/public-art/sonic-runway>.

**St. James Park** – Artist Mark Reigelman Design Development Proposal to the Public Art Committee at their December 5, 2023, meeting. He is approved to move forward with construction documentation.

**Thank You America** – Engineering phase complete and artist has begun fabrication of the statues. Staff met with D7 staff and community members to get an update on the monument and Viet Heritage Garden site improvement project on Thursday, January 25, 2024. Community present would like City to consider shifting the placement of the monument. There are different community groups with varying opinions that were not present, so it was agreed to hold a larger meeting on site to reach a final consensus. That meeting is set for February 22, 2024, at 2pm.

**Tully Branch Library** – The Community Visioning Meeting with artist Elba Raquel was held Saturday, December 2, 2024, at Tully Branch Library. The artist is working on a mural design concept.

**Vineland Branch Library** – The community visioning meeting with artist Morgan Bricca was held on Tuesday, January 20, 2024, at Vineland Library.

**Vista Park Neighborhood Center** – Artist Roan Victor was selected from the Public Art Program's Mural Artists Roster for a mural commission on an exterior wall. Contracting with the artist is in process.

**VTA-EBRC** – Public Art staff is working with VTA on two (2) large-scale projects associated with the Eastridge to BART Regional Connector. Artist Amir Fallah (Story Station) will present his Design Development Proposal to the Public Art Committee on February 6, 2024. The final proposal incorporates work from four local poets, contributing a layer to that design. The team of Haddad and Drugan are further developing their schematic design for presentation to the Public Art Committee in June 2024.

**VTA BART Phase II** – VTA staff have yet to identify funding for public art on this project. Public Art Director, who was on the Design Review Committee for the first round of design on this project voiced concern over the absence of funding for art, has confirmed to be part of the second round.

**Washington Community Center** – Artist Desi Mundo will present a mural design concept to the Public Art Committee for final approval on February 6, 2024.

**Watershed at San Jose Environmental Innovation Center (SJEIC)** – Artist Peter Richards is currently working on restoration of his *Watershed* artwork at SJEIC.

**Welch Park Neighborhood Center** - Artist Andrew Kong Knight was selected from the Public Art Program's Mural Artists Roster for a mural commission on an exterior wall. Community outreach is in planning stages.

**Willow Glen Community Center and Senior Center** – Artist Olivia Losee-Unger was selected from the Public Art Program's Mural Artists Roster for a mural commission on an exterior wall. Community outreach is in planning stages.