

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. Based on the initial installation, staff facilitated the retrofit of the eight light boxes from fluorescent ballasts to LED technology to reduce heat loads. The light box retrofit looks good as do the reprint tests. With experience from this initial pilot, staff proceeded with a second pilot to investigate communications introducing artists to the technology/opportunity (e.g. a call for submissions), the process of artist selection, the pragmatics of translating content through lenticular printing, procuring qualified print services, and print production. On July 31, 2024, a Call for Submissions was released and 42 artists from Santa Clara County were invited to submit. On August 14, 2024, Public Art Program staff hosted a virtual briefing for the purpose of introducing lenticular technology to the artists and answering questions. This webinar was recorded for the artists' reference. When the submission deadline closed on September 11th, 32 eligible applications had been received. On September 20, 2024, a selection panel of stakeholders and arts professionals met to recommend four artists and one alternate for the second phase of the pilot. Artists recommended for the project will be presented at the Public Art Committee meeting on October 1, 2024.

Almaden Branch Library and Community Center – Artist Nigel Sussman completed his mural *Our Community, Almaden at Once* late Summer 2024 in the interior stairwell walls of the community center.

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 fabricator to finalize the fabrication plan for these lantern artworks.

Blossom Comanche Valley Neighborhood Association – Artist Paul J. Gonzalez will present a mural design for an exterior mural project at Snell Ave and Snell Way. Community outreach was conducted during summer 2024.

Camden Community Center - Artist Robert Minervini completed his mural *Camden Sunset: A Celebration of Community and Nature* in September 2024 and on the exterior wall of the pool area at the community center.

County of Santa Clara – City assists County 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. Below is a list of current County projects:

- **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, as well as advises on interior art process/selection.

- **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:** County selected 62 artworks for purchase, and City staff completed installation of 54 artworks in the interior public spaces at VHC. 8 artworks were moved into storage for future display or alternative locations.

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 Winter 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. On March 15, 2024 the artists presented their final report. As part of project completion, the artists developed a website where all content is publicly accessible and free to use. The website is now live and can be viewed at <https://www.1day1action.org/>.
- **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. Installation is scheduled for October 2024.
- **Water Resources Administration & Operations Facility** – Fabrication is in progress. Installation is expected 2025.

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 Spring, 2025.

Fire Station 23 – Project in planning stages.

Fire Station 32 – Work is in progress on the installation plan for a sculptural work by Public Art Artist Roster artist Rayos Magos that will be installed in an exterior area of the new fire station facility. Fire Station completion date is estimated for early 2026.

Fire Station 36 – Project in planning stages.

Fourth and San Fernando Parking Garage Mural – Artist Robin Gibson has completed painting 50% of her mural at the Fourth and San Fernando Parking Garage; completion expected by November 2024.

Lincoln Ave Artworks – A mural by San José artist Roan Victor was completed on the Rose Building as one of the final projects in the multi-year Lincoln Avenue Artworks project, created in partnership with the Willow Glen Business Association with all funding provided by Council District 6. Over the course of this project, eight murals have been created on buildings along Lincoln Ave. and 10 sculptures, by Michael Gustavson and Jeff Owen, have been installed along that Lincoln Ave. streetscape between Coe Ave. and Minnesota Ave.

Market/San Pedro Parking Garage – The façade project with artist Brian Brush has completed construction documentation. The City Department of Public Works overseeing the BID for the demo and removal of the tile (GFRC) panels and build-back to support the illumination enhancement. The Bid closes in October. Contract for artist and base contractor to go before City Council for approval sometime late 2024 or early 2025.

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*. *English Lit* and *Vessel* are now operational. They are connected to a cloud-based scheduler and “live” a few hours per day.

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), curating, and installing 31 two-dimensional artworks by San José artists is now complete as the framed artwork reproductions were installed in July, 2024.

Olinder Community Center Time Mural – Artist Juan Raul’s has completed 50% restoration of his *Time* mural. Restoration is anticipated to be complete by the end of 2024.

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. The map went live in Spring 2024 and updates are being made on a continuing basis.

Red Tree and Reflections of Mirassou restoration – Restoration of two projects is in process:

- *The Red Tree* by artist Dio Mendoza (originally titled by the artist as *Citizen Tree*), located at the south end of Parque De Los Pobladores, is underway.
- Artist Eric Powell is in the process of repainting *Reflections of Mirassou*, the flatscape cut metal artwork in tribute to the historic Mirassou winery, comprised to two panels that together extend a total of 125’ in the Aborn Road median, adjacent to the site where the Mirassou winery and vineyards was located.

Santa Teresa Library – Artist Jolene Russell completed her mural in September, 2024, entitled *Sunset Storytime* on the facade of the Santa Teresa Library.

Sensing You – Maintenance and cleaning of the *Sensing You* artwork by Dan Corson, located on W. Santa Clara Street on the 87 underpass, is completed. The project required significant traffic control measures and coordination with City’s DOT. The programming of the lights failed during the summer, potentially due to heat/power outages, and the issue was investigated, repaired, and completed by September, 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’s construction documents for *Daisy* (both sculpture and plinth) were approved by the Department of Public Works in June 2024. Project fabrication and installation is reliant on PRNS moving forward with the northwestern zone of the park. At that time the City will contract with the artist to fabricate and install the sculpture. The plinth will be detailed in the base project drawings to assure integration with the site. While future public art funding will pay for the plinth, bidding with the base project, and including it as part of the contractor’s work, will be most economic.

Sueños De Las Mariposa (Dreams of the Butterfly) extension – Artist Morgan Bricca’s *Sueños De La Mariposa* mural runs 120’ of the length of the wall that backs the neighborhood Mariposa Park at Havana and Midfield Ave. Recently an additional 40’ length of untreated wall was exposed due to unexpected removal of foliage wall covering; the foliage removal created a hotspot for tagging. Morgan Bricca was contracted to extend the original mural 40’, continuing the themes and content of the original artwork. This was possible due to Public Art working in partnership with the Mayor’s Office’s citywide community mural initiative, which funded the work through an outside grant. The extension is complete.

Thank You America – Monument was installed in June 2024. Plaques are to be installed by end of September 2024.

Vineland Branch Library – Artist Morgan Bricca will begin painting the mural in October 2024.

Vista Park Neighborhood Center – Artist Roan Victor has completed her mural *Grow Together* on the exterior wall of the neighborhood center.

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 is finalizing his construction documents coordination with his fabricators, and base project consultants. The team of Haddad and Dragan’s Design Development Proposal for Eastridge Station was presented to Public Art Committee on June 4, 2024, and approved. On September 10, 2024, the artist’s met with the base building consultants to being coordination required to integrate the sculpture with the plaza landscaping.

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 has completed painting his mural *Flor Del Barrio* on the northside of the community center gymnasium.

Watershed at San Jose Environmental Innovation Center (SJEIC) – Restoration of Peter Richard’s artwork is complete: the water tank was replaced; the artwork was repainted; deck boards were replaced; and the irrigation system was updated by local landscaping company Bay Maples.

Welch Park Neighborhood Center - Artist Andrew Kong Knight has completed his mural *Spirit of Welch Park* on the east side exterior wall of the neighborhood center in September 2024.

Willow Glen Community Center and Senior Center – Artist Olivia Losee-Unger will begin painting her mural in October 2024.