

PUBLIC ART STAFF REPORT: September 7, 2021

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

Integrate High Impact Public Art & Urban Design throughout the Community

Thomas Fallon Statue - On Friday, January 29, 2021, the Mayor and City staff hosted a [Public Forum](#) to share community perspectives on public art in our city. The forum provided an opportunity for residents to share their views with City leaders and staff about specific works of art, including the *Thomas Fallon Statue* by artist Robert Glen. The community that attended the meeting overwhelmingly requested the removal of the *Thomas Fallon Statue*. In response to this, and the notorious history of the statue, the Mayor issued a [memorandum](#) to the Rules and Open Government Committee to begin the deaccession process. The Rules and Open Government Committee discussed and unanimously approved of the Mayor's recommendation February 22, 2021. On May 4, 2021, the Public Art Committee was presented with a recommendation to deaccession and remove the statue. The Public Art Committee unanimously approved the recommendation with an amendment to ensure that the statue will be permanently stored and will not be displayed or sold in the future. Due to the ongoing high volume of public input and documentation required to meet the City Council-approved Art Removal and Deaccession Policy, the Public Art Committee's recommendation to the Arts Commission will be deferred until the Arts Commission October meeting.

Airport Art:

- **Feature Wall/A million times for San José:** Artwork is installed. Operational training still to be scheduled. Press release pending final documentation scheduled for August 30th.
- **Showcase Permanent Artwork/Threshold:** A "teaser" installation consisting of a small sculpture fragment for each case is installed. Installation of the full artwork is expected by the end of September pending US Canadian COVID restrictions
- **XO:** Staff is working with artists to advance design development.

Bassett Park (AHSC Grant): PRNS has reactivated the project to complete Bassett Park. The integration of Vicki Scuri's illuminated pedestrian light elements in the park construction is underway. The project is expected to be completed in Spring 2023.

Emergency Operation Center & Fire Department Training Facility Relocation

(EMC/FDTF) – Project development is underway for major projects in these new co-joined facilities on Senter Rd. The public art will focus primarily on engaging local artists, with works by multiple artists to be featured within the facility interior and one or more major works on the facility exterior. Facility completion is forecasted for Summer (FDTF) and Fall (EOC) 2022.

Environmental Services Department (ESD) Projects:

- **CoGeneration** – "*Methanogen Polyptych*" plaque installed. Final photographs transmitted. Video of artwork is in production.
- **Don Edwards National Wildlife Refuge and Guadalupe River (DENWR) and Guadalupe River Park/Children's Discovery Museum (GRP/CDM)** – The project has been substantially completed and GRP/CDM project is anticipated for completion by early 2022.

- **One Day One Action:** An environmental awareness project is in development with artists Trena Noval and Sue Mark, which will encourage residents to shift their habits, rituals, and behaviors. Contract is in development.
- **River Oaks Pump Station:** Project is in the project development planning stage, and a variety of opportunities are being explored within a design plan vetted by community.

End of Watch Police Memorial – Artist Gordon Huether’s approved memorial design is in fabrication. Key stakeholders are apprised of developments. Construction documents are undergoing the final review process by Public Works, after which the project will proceed to the construction process in coordination with Public Works.

Fire Station 14 – A small mural project is planned for the exterior of Fire Station 14 as part of the community’s budget process priorities. The process of collaboration between the community and SJFD to develop a vision for the artwork and to select a local artist is underway.

Fire Station 37 – Artist Sam Tubiolo is fabricating the tile work and the window treatment for the new fire station in Willow Glen. Artwork installation is scheduled for September 2021 with additional artwork window treatment in early 2022.

Havana Drive/Midfield Avenue Soundwall mural – CalTrans has approved all necessary permits for this project. Site preparation was completed by City’s Department of Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services. Artist Morgan Bricca started work on creation of the mural on September 1 and the expected completion of the project by the end of October 2021. The District 7 Council Office is considering a dedication event to celebrate the mural’s completion.

Hummingbirds – Due to safety reasons, the pole mounted sculptures on Park Ave., were dismantled, will be retrofitted, and reinstalled. This work is being funded through the Participatory District Funding process. Staff is in communication with the artist on the sculpture and retrofit plans are pending artist’s availability/schedule.

Japantown Heinlenville Park/Plaza Art - San José artist Roger Stoller is in coordination with the park’s construction to fabricate the sculpture for the park. The estimated completion date, which is determined by Shea Properties, the site developer, is planned for Spring 2022.

Lincoln Ave Art – Staff is working with the Willow Glen Business Association to determine which final art projects they will undertake to complete the Lincoln Avenue Artworks project.

Market/San Pedro Parking Garage – The project with artist Brian Brush is in construction documentation development.

Neighborhood Galleries - Murals in District 5 are pending Caltrans permits. A permit application has been approved by BART for the District 4 mural by Jason Jagel. Installation of the District 4 mural is pending direction from VTA.

Olinder Community Center *Time Mural* - Artist submitted the proposal to restore the 72' long mural installed on the façade of Olinder Community Center. This will involve repainting the entire mural on more stable and robust materials appropriate for an outdoor installation. In parallel, Parks is working with Public Works to assess the structural integrity, and repair of wood façade which has termite/wood rot damage.

Pellier Park – Construction has commenced. Completion of the feature wall by artist is pending PRNS Service Orders.

Right the Blight II- Through budget document 68 for Council District 7, and budget document 79 for council district 10, a second phase of this project has been funded for those specific districts. The project launch meeting was conducted on 8/2/2021, and the evaluation of 20 sites citywide is being conducted with the goal selecting five sites total, two in District 7, and three in District 10.

Santa Clara County – The City's Public Art Program has been contracted by the County as a consultant to the County to develop guidelines for their public art program and provide other consultation resources as needed, including project management. In addition, the City is also consulting on five large scale projects in development – Animal Services Center, Tasman Art Campus, Behavioral Services Center, Vietnamese American Community Center and Silver Creek campus.

Sonic Runway – Fabrication is nearing completion; installation is scheduled for Fall 2021.

Urban Confluence Silicon Valley (not a City project) – City Council approved the recommendation of the finalist at its meeting on May 4, 2021. The finalist is an architect by trade, and the design is a building/structure. Public Art will no longer be involved in the project and consultation will only occur on an 'as needed' basis with staff time being funded by the Urban Confluence team.

Valley Medical Center – Artist's structural drawings are complete. Construction documents were submitted to the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development (OSHPOD) in order to obtain permits for the hospital. OSHPOD provided feedback and is being reviewed by the artist and base project structural engineers.

VTA-EBRC – Public Art is working with VTA on two large-scale projects associated with the Eastridge to BART Regional Connector. The RFQ was released on April 26th and will close on July 2nd. On August 11th, artists were selected for Story Road and Eastridge Stations. Announcement pending contract negotiations.

Weavers' Gifts – One of the major sculptural elements, the limestone basket, has been damaged beyond repair. Staff is working with the artist for perspective on replacement costs and logistics. Councilmember Peralez has submitted a Budget Document with a request to fund the replacement, and it was included in the Council-approved June Budget Message.