



Civic Arts Commission

Civic Arts Commission Meeting

Wednesday, April 26, 2023

6:00 PM

**Meeting Location: Tarea Hall Pittman South Branch Library
1901 Russell St., Berkeley, CA 94703**

Agenda

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. ROLL CALL

3. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The City of Berkeley recognizes that the community we live in was built on the territory of xučyun (Huchiun (Hooch-yoon)), the ancestral and unceded land of the Chochenyo (Chochen-yo)-speaking Ohlone (Oh-low-nee) people, the ancestors and descendants of the sovereign Verona Band of Alameda County. This land was and continues to be of great importance to all of the Ohlone Tribes and descendants of the Verona Band. As we begin our meeting tonight, we acknowledge and honor the original inhabitants of Berkeley, the documented 5,000-year history of a vibrant community at the West Berkeley Shellmound, and the Ohlone people who continue to reside in the East Bay. We recognize that Berkeley's residents have and continue to benefit from the use and occupation of this unceded stolen land since the City of Berkeley's incorporation in 1878. As stewards of the laws regulating the City of Berkeley, it is not only vital that we recognize the history of this land, but also recognize that the Ohlone people are present members of Berkeley and other East Bay communities today. The City of Berkeley will continue to build relationships with the Lisjan Tribe and to create meaningful actions that uphold the intention of this land acknowledgement.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT (for items not on the agenda)

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a) Draft Minutes of March 15, 2023 Meeting (Attachment 1)
From: Commission Secretary
Recommendation: Approval of March 15, 2023 Meeting Minutes

6. CHAIR'S REPORT

- a) Reminder of Annual Work Plan Process Starting
- b) Thanking Commissioners for attendance at public meetings and events

7. PRESENTATIONS, DISCUSSION & ACTION ITEMS (All items for presentation, discussion and possible action)

- a) Action Item: Approval of Two Cube Space Exhibitions, Leila Weefur Presenting (Attachment 2)
From: Introduced by Zoë Taleporos, Public Art Program Lead
Recommendation: Approve Two Cube Space Exhibitions, Leila Weefur Presenting.
- b) Action Item: Approval of Preliminary Art Plan for 2403 San Pablo, Shelly Willis Presenting (Attachment 3)
From: Introduced by Matthew Passmore, Public Art Subcommittee Chair
Recommendation: Approve Preliminary Art Plan for 2403 San Pablo.
- c) Action Item: Approval of Design Development of Artwork by Jean LaMarr for Ohlone Park, Jeremy Kaplan Presenting (Attachment 4)
From: Introduced by Matthew Passmore, Public Art Subcommittee Chair
Recommendation: Approve Design Development of Artwork by Jean LaMarr for Ohlone Park.
- d) Action Item: Approval of Selected Artists for Socially Engaged Art Practice Projects, Zoë Taleporos Presenting (Attachment 5)
From: Introduced by Matthew Passmore, Public Art Subcommittee Chair
Recommendation: Approve Selected Artists for Socially Engaged Art Practice Projects.
- e) Presentation Item: Public Art Administrative Priorities for FY24 (Attachment 6)
From: Zoë Taleporos, Public Art Program Lead
- f) Presentation Item: Public Art on Private Development Quarterly Report (Attachment 7)
From: Jennifer Lovvorn, Chief Cultural Affairs Officer

- g) Presentation Item: Artist Affordable Housing Certification Council Report (Attachment 8)
From: Jennifer Lovvorn, Chief Cultural Affairs Officer

8. STAFF REPORT

- a) Civic Arts Updates, Jennifer Lovvorn
- b) Public Art Program Updates, Zoë Taleporos
- c) Grants Program Updates, Hilary Amnah

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a) Grants
- Dana Blecher, Chair
 - Liz Ozol
 - Cameron Woo
- b) Policy
- Kim Anno, Chair
 - Lisa Bullwinkel
 - Modesto Covarrubias
 - Cameron Woo
- c) Public Art
- Matt Passmore, Chair
 - Kim Anno
 - Riti Dhesi
- d) Representatives on Civic Center Project
- Lisa Bullwinkel
 - Liz Ozol
 - Cameron Woo
- e) Representative on Berkeley Cultural Trust
- Lisa Bullwinkel
- f) Representatives on Berkeley Arts Education Steering Committee
- Liz Ozol

- g) Representative on Design Review Committee
 - Cameron Woo
- h) Representative on Ad-Hoc Artists Affordable Housing Committee
 - Kim Anno

10. COMMUNICATION (Received from the Public for Items not on the Agenda)

- a) Letter from Community for a Cultural Civic Center (Attachment 9)

11. ADJOURNMENT

Attachments:

1. March 15, 2023 Draft Minutes
2. Cube Space Exhibitions
3. Preliminary Art Plan for 2403 San Pablo
4. Design Development by Jean LaMarr for Ohlone Park
5. Selected Artists for Socially Engaged Art Practice Projects
6. Public Art Administrative Priorities for FY24
7. Public Art on Private Development Quarterly Report
8. Council Report Artist Certification
9. Letter from Community for a Cultural Civic Center

Staff Contact:

Jennifer Lovvorn
Secretary to the Civic Arts Commission
Berkeley, CA 94704
Telephone (510) 981-7533
TDD (510) 981-6903
jlovvorn@cityofberkeley.info

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ACCESSIBILITY INFORMATION:

This meeting is being held in a wheelchair accessible location. To request a disability-related accommodation(s) to participate in the meeting, including auxiliary aids or services, please contact the Disability Services specialist at 981-6418 (V) or 981-6347 (TDD) at least three business days before the meeting date. Please refrain from wearing scented products to this meeting.



Civic Arts Commission

Draft Minutes
Civic Arts Commission Meeting
Wednesday, March 15, 2023
6:00 PM

Meeting Location: Tarea Hall Pittman South Branch Library
1901 Russell St., Berkeley, CA 94703

1. CALL TO ORDER 6:08 PM

2. ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Anno, Blecher, Bullwinkel, Covarrubias, Dhesi, Ibarra, Ozol, Passmore, Woo.

Commissioners Absent: None.

Staff Present: Hilary Amnah, Grants Program Lead; Jennifer Lovvorn, Commission Secretary/Chief Cultural Affairs Officer; Zoë Taleporos, Public Art Program Lead.

Members of the public in attendance: 2

3. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

4. PUBLIC COMMENT (for items not on the agenda)

1

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a) Draft Minutes of February 22, 2023 Meeting

From: Commission Secretary

Action: M/S/C (Ibarra/Woo) to approve the February 22, 2023 Draft Minutes.

Vote: Ayes — Anno, Blecher, Bullwinkel, Covarrubias, Dhesi, Ibarra, Ozol, Passmore, Woo; Nays — None; Abstain — None; Absent — None.

6. CHAIR'S REPORT

- a) Welcome back to in-person meetings
- b) Appreciation to outgoing chair and vice chair
- c) Subcommittee members

7. PRESENTATIONS, DISCUSSION, AND ACTION ITEMS

- a) Action Item: Approval of Design Development by Lara Kaur for West Service Center
From: Zoë Taleporos
Action: M/S/C (Anno/Passmore) to approve Design Development by Lara Kaur for West Service Center.
Vote: Ayes — Anno, Blecher, Bullwinkel, Covarrubias, Dhesi, Ibarra, Ozol, Passmore, Woo; Nays — None; Abstain — None; Absent — None.
- b) Action Item: Approval of Revised Design for Mural at James Kenney Community Center
From: Jennifer Lovvorn
Action: M/S/C (Covarrubias/ Bullwinkel) to approve Revised Design for Mural at James Kenney Community Center.
Vote: Ayes — Anno, Blecher, Bullwinkel, Covarrubias, Dhesi, Ibarra, Ozol, Passmore, Woo; Nays — None; Abstain — None; Absent — None.
- c) Discussion Item: Draft Poet Laureate Program Guidelines
From: Hilary Amnah

8. STAFF REPORTS

- a) Civic Arts Updates, Jennifer Lovvorn
- b) Public Art Program Updates, Zoë Taleporos
- c) Grants Program Updates, Hilary Amnah

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a) Grants
 - Dana Blecher, Chair
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- d) Representatives on Civic Center Project
- Lisa Bullwinkel
 - Liz Ozol
 - Cameron Woo
- e) Representative on Berkeley Cultural Trust
- Lisa Bullwinkel
- f) Representatives on Berkeley Arts Education Steering Committee
- Liz Ozol
- g) Representative on Design Review Committee
- Cameron Woo
- h) Representative on Ad-Hoc Artists Affordable Housing Committee
- Kim Anno

10. COMMUNICATION (Received from the Public for Items not on the Agenda)


- a) Letter from Community for a Cultural Civic Center

11. ADJOURNMENT 7:48 PM

Action: M/S/C (Covarrubias/ Bullwinkel) to adjourn the meeting.

Vote: Ayes — Anno, Blecher, Bullwinkel, Covarrubias, Dhesi, Ibarra, Ozol, Passmore, Woo;

Nays — None; Abstain — None; Absent — None.

Staff Contact: 
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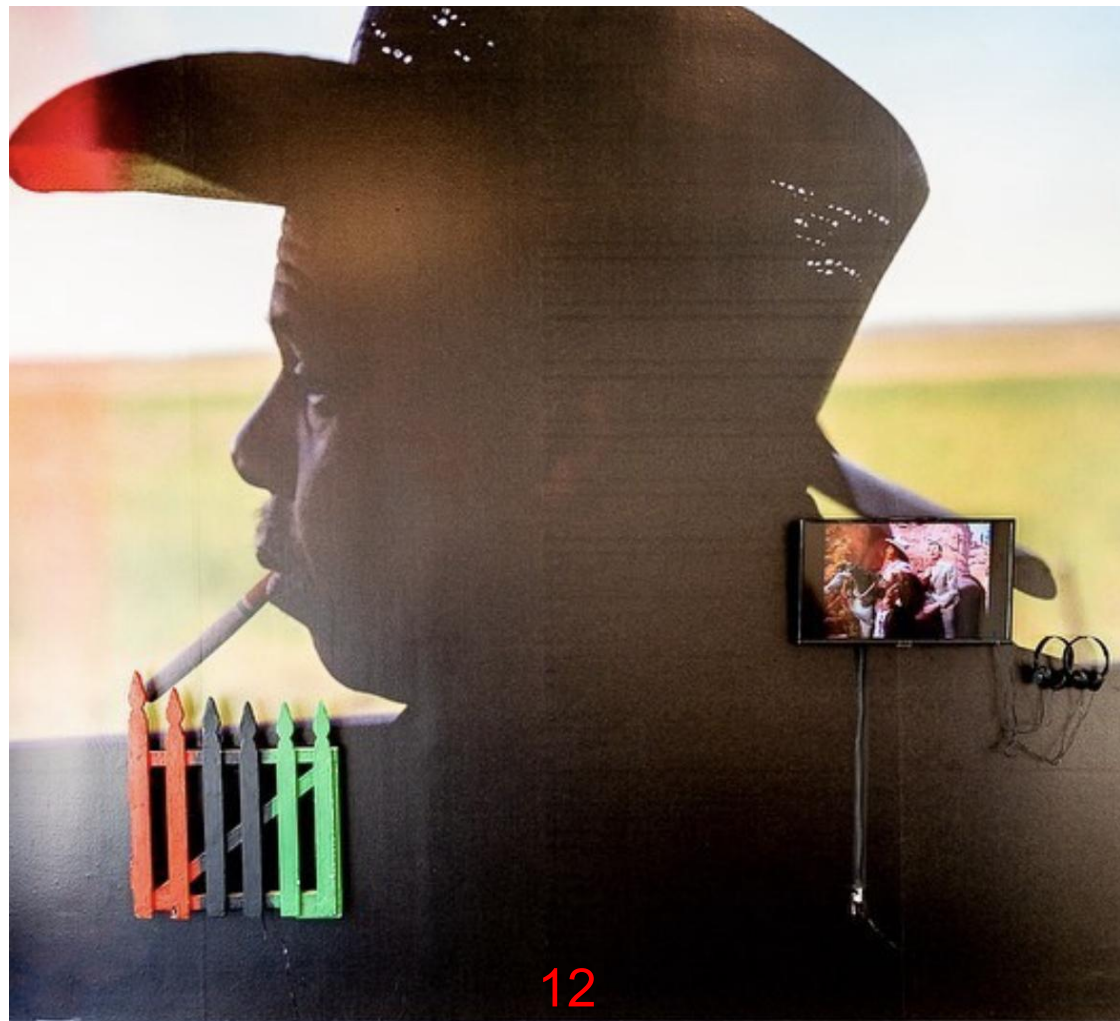
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CHARLES LEE







KERRI CONLON







16



BERKELEY MOSHAV

2403 San Pablo Ave.

ABOUT Berkeley Moshav

- Multi-generational cohousing community
- 36 Flats
- 3,000 square foot common house



ARTWORK GOALS

- Visible to the general public
- Enlivens the pedestrian experience
- Provides a warm welcome to Moshav visitors and residents coming home
- Highest artistic quality
- Relevant over time
- Durable materials

ARTWORK

Artist Selection Process

- Moshav Art Team
- Limited competition
- 4 finalists
- Proposal by Nancy Blum Selected

Artwork Materials

- Mosaic

About Nancy Blum

- Completed many major public artworks including a suite of large-scale botanically themed mosaics at the 28th St. Station in NYC, a glass installation at San Francisco General Hospital, 50 hatch covers for the streets of Seattle and a sculptural installation at the Seattle International Airport.
- Drawings and sculptures shown in dozens of exhibitions across the U.S. at the the International Print Center, New York; and the Brooklyn Botanic Gardens.
- Work is held in multiple private and public collections.
- Received MFA from Cranbrook Academy of Art.



CONCEPT

- Glass mosaic
- Image depicting the Seven Species – the agricultural products mentioned in the Hebrew Bible that grow in Israel and in California.
- This concept speaks to the harvest, of breaking bread, coming together to reap rewards of communal effort.
- It welcomes members to their home.



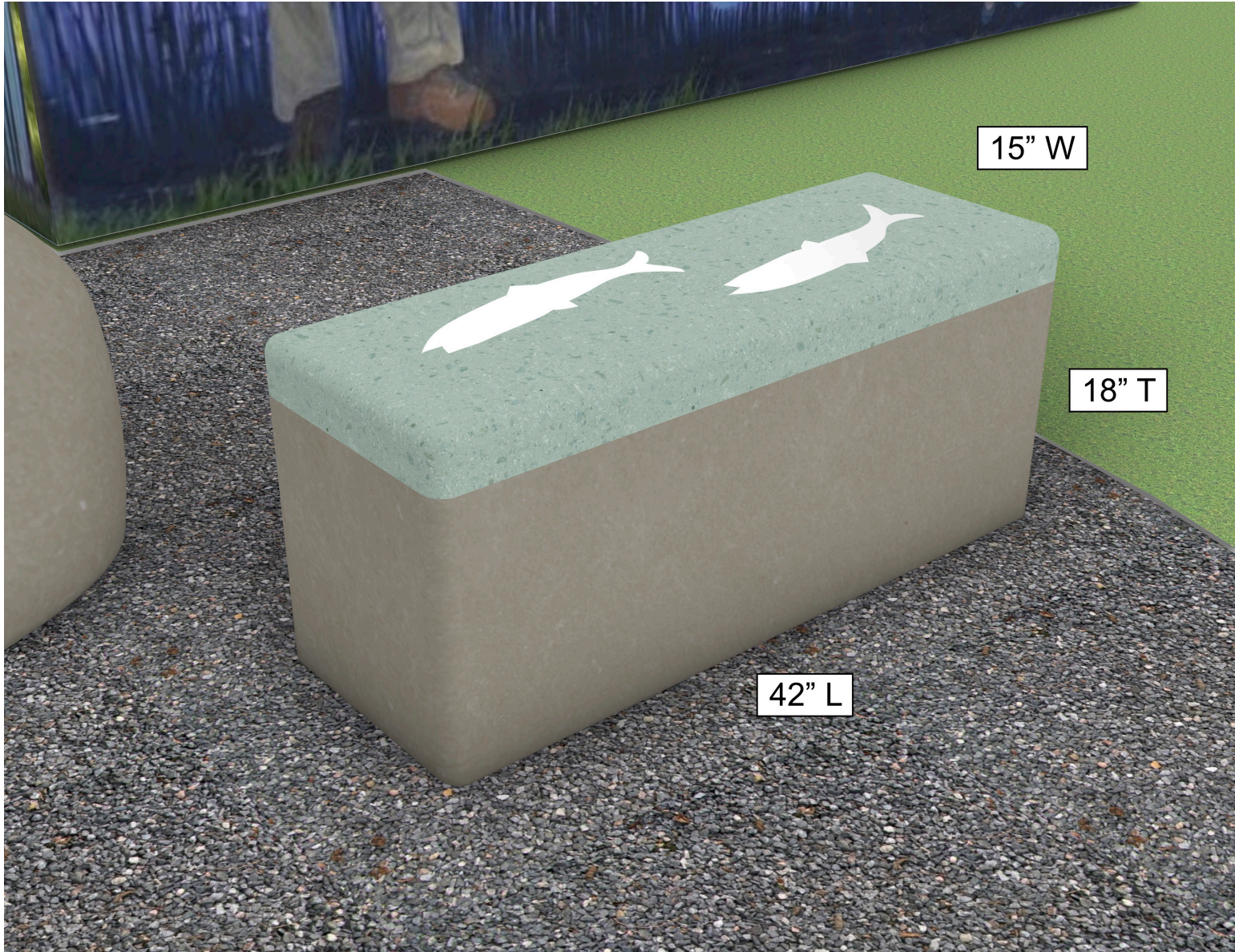


Jean LaMarr Ohlone Park Artwork

Benches & Grinding Rock Design Development Update

Presented to Berkeley Civic Arts Commission, Public Arts Subcommittee April 25, 2023
Prepared by Jeremy Kaplan







Notes

Color shown for bench tops is a placeholder only. Artist preference, which is for green concrete with blue aggregate, will need to be confirmed with concrete fabricator during final design development.

Stainless steel fish not shown with intended iridescent patina.

Project totals

Grinding stone: \$4,775

Benches: \$27,795

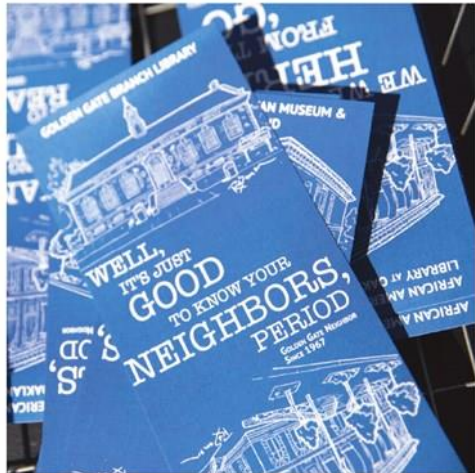
Install: \$10,432

Management & Engineering: \$11,200

Contingency: \$10,786

Total: \$65,258





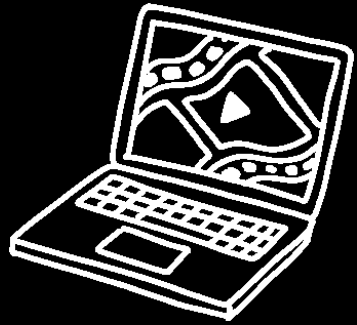






Music Performances by Homeless Musicians





Project Website

Zine Booklet

Fundraiser Music Album

Radio Broadcasts

Documentary Short Film

Audiovisual project webpage hosting videos, photos, audio recordings, and calls for action.

In addition to artistic focus on music and personal testimony, there will be a call for action leading to volunteer and donation opportunities.

Formatting images, interviews, and project information into a DIY book that can be distributed through local shops and public events.

Zine will lead readers to project website where additional art and records are available.

Sourcing songs from 15+ Bay Area musicians or groups for a fundraiser compilation album for Dorothy Day House. Contributing artists can help promote project on social media.



Special radio broadcasts blending music and interviews that help promote project and provide space for discussion.



A short film documenting the Home Frequencies project and services provided by the Dorothy Day House.

BAVC
MEDIA





Civic Arts Commission
Office of Economic Development

STAFF REPORT

Date: April 26, 2023

To: Members of the Civic Arts Commission

From: Zoe Taleporos, Public Art Program Lead

RE: Administrative Priorities for FY 24-26

Attachment 1: List of Previously Approved Public Art Projects

The Public Art Program manages the Private Percent for Art requirement, managing the Public Art Collection, and commissioning new and temporary public art projects. The Public Art Program currently has 39 projects that have previously been approved by the Civic Arts Commission as part of the annual work plan. 27 are actively being worked on by Civic Arts Staff. 10 projects have yet to be initiated. 2 projects were investigated and determined to be infeasible.

The Public Art Program Lead is currently assigned to 22 active projects, and is also responsible for program administration. The average number of projects managed per person, according to public art industry standard, is 12-15. The average timeframe for a public art project to be completed is 1-4 years.

Many of these projects were allocated funds prior to the increase in materials costs across the US. As a result, many projects need extra funding to be realized as designed. Some existing projects, such as Turtle Island Monument, are incurring unanticipated costs as the scopes become larger.

In the last year, there has been a demand for use of the Cultural Trust Fund from outside groups seeking to implement public art projects in Berkeley. We currently do not have a general framework for how public art projects are developed within the Civic Arts Commission. And we currently do not have a competitive funding mechanism for community-initiated public art projects.

Taking these factors into consideration, Civic Arts Staff plans to take the following actions:

1. Hire two consultants to work on the backlog of projects from prior Fiscal Years.
2. Recommend a hold on new public art projects for implementation by Civic Arts Staff until the backlog of projects and Public Art Master Plan are completed.
3. Allocate Fiscal Year 23-24 revenue from the Public Art Fund (150) and the Cultural Trust Fund (148) towards existing projects to cover budget shortfalls and unanticipated cost increases, for approval by Civic Arts Commission.
4. Develop a Public Art Master Plan for the City of Berkeley with input from the Civic Arts Commission, community, and other stakeholders. This will provide a framework for developing new projects and funding community-initiated projects.

Attachment 1

List of Public Art Projects Previously Approved in the Annual Work Plan

Active:

1. Jean LaMarr at Ohlone Way
2. Po Shu Wang Signage
3. Turtle Island Monument
4. Rachel Wolfe-Goldsmith at James Kenney
5. Utility Box Murals
6. Cube Space Exhibitions
7. BART Plaza Sound Installation
8. Municipal Artist in Residence
9. 2D Art Purchases for City Buildings
10. Berkeley Art Works Projects
11. Eduardo Pineda at Berkeley Food Network
12. Mildred Howard at Adeline and MLK
13. Homelessness Social Practice Project 1
14. Homelessness Social Practice Project 2
15. Homelessness Social Practice Project 3
16. Lara Kaur at West Service Center
17. Re-installation of Romare Bearden
18. John Wehrle Mural Conservation
19. Eric Powell Gates Conservation
20. Assyrian Queen at Old City Hall
21. Aquatic Park Tile Wall
22. Aquatic Park Sculpture
23. Santa Fe ROW
24. MLK Youth Service Center
25. Willard Clubhouse
26. African American Health Resource Center
27. Home Sculpture De-Installation

Not Started:

1. Peace Wall Conservation
2. City Flag, Song, and Motto
3. Telegraph Crosswalk Murals
4. Telegraph Avenue Public Art Project
5. Council Referral for Family Friendly Art
6. Hidden Gems in Berkeley Hills
7. Mural Commemorating Black Lives Matter Movement
8. Replacement Mural for Center for Independent Living

9. South Berkeley Senior Center
10. Harrison Street Corridor Project

Determined Infeasible:

1. Sculpture at Marina Spinnaker Way Circle
2. Christine Wong Yap at Mental Health Facilities

PUBLIC ART ON PRIVATE DEVELOPMENT												Dated: 4/26/23			
Fiscal Year	Project Address	Project Street	Type	On-Site Art Value	In-Lieu Fee Payment Amount	On-Site Art Admin 5% Fee	Date Paid	On-Site Art	In-Lieu Fee	Cumulative Totals: Number of On-site Art Projects	Cumulative Totals: Value of On-site Art Projects	Cumulative Totals: Number In-Lieu Fees Collected	Cumulative Totals: Total In-Lieu Fees Collected		
FY19															
1717	University		On-Site Art - Final Art Plan Approved						1						
1950	Addison		On-Site Art - Final Art Plan Approved	\$252,682.00					1						
2120	Berkeley		On-Site Art - Final Art Plan Approved	\$60,000.00					1						
2124	BANCROFT		In-Lieu Fee Paid		\$60,186.58		8/4/2017		1						
2029	BLAKE		In-Lieu Fee Paid		\$126,400.00		8/7/2017		1						
				\$312,682.00	\$186,586.58	\$0.00			3	3	\$312,682.00	2	\$186,586.58		
FY20															
2503	HASTE		On-Site Art - Final Art Plan Approved	\$328,460.28		\$16,423.01	3/1/2019		1						
2510	CHANNING		In-Lieu Fee Paid		\$106,664.00		4/17/2019		1						
2621	TENTH		In-Lieu Fee Paid		\$84,000.00		5/13/2019		1						
739	CHANNING		In-Lieu Fee Paid		\$20,388.00		5/23/2019		1						
2580	Bancroft		In-Lieu Fee Paid		\$235,569.89		6/27/2019 for FY20		1						
				\$328,460.28	\$446,621.89	\$16,423.01			1	4	\$641,142.28	6	\$649,631.48		
FY21															
2628	SHATTUCK		In-Lieu Fee Paid		\$88,879.00		9/3/2019		1						
999	ANTHONY		In-Lieu Fee Paid		\$25,200.00		12/18/2019		1						
2180	SAN PABLO		In-Lieu Fee Paid		\$144,000.00		3/21/2020		1						
2072	Addison		In-Lieu Fee Paid		\$74,936.00		2/24/2020		1						
2452	Durant		On-Site Art - Final Art Plan Approved	\$42,185.00					1						
2556	TELEGRAPH		On-Site Art - Final Art Plan Approved	\$103,722.50		\$5,186.13	5/20/2020		1						
2028	BANCROFT		In-Lieu Fee Paid		\$48,000.00		8/27/2020		1						
				\$145,907.50	\$381,015.00	\$5,186.13			2	5	\$787,049.78	11	\$1,035,832.61		
FY22															
2229	FOURTH/2222 5th Street		In-Lieu Fee Paid		\$17,360.21	\$0.00	5/26/2021		0	1					
				\$0.00	\$17,360.21	\$0.00			0	1	\$787,049.78	6	\$1,053,192.82		
FY23															
3000	SAN PABLO		In-Lieu Fee Paid		\$72,329.13		9/22/2021		1						
2176	Kittredge (Same Project)		In-Lieu Fee Paid		\$236,792.00		11/3/2021		1						
2176	Kittredge (Same Project)		In-Lieu Fee Paid		\$49,748.00		12/23/2021		1						
2025	Kala Bagal Way		In-Lieu Fee Paid		\$31,002.00		11/19/2021		1						
600	Addison		In-Lieu Fee Paid		\$1,414,578.00		12/21/2021		1						
2352	Shattuck (Combo Art and Fee)		In-Lieu Fee Paid		\$230,166.07		1/25/2022		1						
2352	Shattuck (Combo Art and Fee)		On-Site Art - Final Art Plan Approved	\$425,250.00		\$21,262.50	1/25/2022		1						
2902	ADELINE		In-Lieu Fee Paid		\$80,000.00		4/11/2022		1						
2000	Dwight		In-Lieu Fee Paid		\$115,625.00		4/13/2022		1						
2701	SHATTUCK		In-Lieu Fee Paid		\$37,352.90		6/21/2022		1						
2099	MLK		In-Lieu Fee Paid		\$103,304.58		6/23/2022		1						
				\$425,250.00	\$2,370,897.68	\$21,262.50			1	9	\$1,212,299.78	21	\$3,445,353.00		
FY24															
1951	SHATTUCK		In-Lieu Fee Paid		\$480,000.00		7/19/2022		1						
2000	University		In-Lieu Fee Paid		\$41,388.52		7/20/2022		1						
1331	ASHBY		In-Lieu Fee Paid		\$7,040.00		7/21/2022		1						
787	BANCROFT		In-Lieu Fee Paid		\$164,905.22		9/20/2022		1						
2213	Fourth		In-Lieu Fee Paid		\$96,000.00		9/20/2022		1						
2650	TELEGRAPH		In-Lieu Fee Paid		\$46,278.00		9/22/2022		1						
				\$0.00	\$835,611.74	\$0.00			0	6	\$1,212,299.78	27	\$4,280,964.74		
In Progress															
742	Grayson		In-Lieu Fee		\$314,637.06				1	1					
1110	University		On-Site Art (5% Admin Fee)	\$175,000.00					1						
1155 (11)	Hearst		In-Lieu Fee				No Declaration Yet								
1200 (12)	SAN PABLO		In-Lieu Fee		\$66,166.54		Not yet paid/This FY or next			1					
1201	SAN PABLO		In-Lieu Fee		\$65,789.48					1					
1207	TENTH		On-Site Art (5% Admin Fee)	\$56,039.00					1						
1367	University		In-Lieu Fee (20% for Admin)		\$7,651.19				1						
1650	Alcatraz				not compliant										
1650	SHATTUCK				\$32,000.00				1						
1652	University		In-Lieu Fee		\$29,939.27				1						
1740	SAN PABLO				not compliant										
1822	San Pablo				not compliant										
1835	SAN PABLO		In-Lieu Fee		\$94,198.00		Not yet paid			1					
1860	FOURTH		In-Lieu Fee		\$560,000.00		Not yet paid			1					
1914	Fifth		In-Lieu Fee		\$224,385.86					1					
2001	ASHBY				no applic- not compliant										
2015	Blake		In-Lieu Fee		\$246,317.00		Not yet paid								
2023	SHATTUCK aka 2025 Kala Bagal Way		In-Lieu Fee		\$30,822.00		Not yet paid			1					
2115	KITTREDGE		In-Lieu Fee		\$237,979.00		Not yet paid			1					
2128	Oxford (2132-2154 Center)		In-Lieu Fee		\$917,163.00		Not yet paid			1					
2136	SAN PABLO		In-Lieu Fee		\$104,878.65		Not yet paid			1					
2190	SHATTUCK		In-Lieu Fee		\$680,000.00					1					
2198	SAN PABLO		In-Lieu Fee		\$46,400.00		Not yet paid			1					
2210	Harold		In-Lieu Fee		\$122,500.00		Not yet paid			1					
2221	Fourth/2216 5th St		In-Lieu Fee		\$87,200.00					1					
2229	FOURTH/2222 5th Street														
2300	Ellsworth		In-Lieu Fee		\$263,324.00					1					
2317	Channing		In-Lieu Fee		\$40,000.00		Not yet paid			1					
2325	MCGEE Ave		In-Lieu Fee		\$8,000.00		Not yet paid			1					
2403	SAN PABLO		In-Lieu Fee		\$61,583.63		received decl. form 1/27/22			1					
2427	SAN PABLO (2427-2433)		In-Lieu Fee		\$72,106.00		Not yet paid			1					
2434	SAN PABLO				not compliant										
2435	SAN PABLO		In-Lieu Fee		\$24,671.14		Not yet paid			1					
2440	SHATTUCK		In-Lieu Fee		\$120,000.00		received declaration 11/18/21			1					
2449	Dwight		In-Lieu Fee (20% for Admin)		\$70,880.00		received declaration 11/9/22			1					
2527	SAN PABLO		In-Lieu Fee		\$59,200.00		Not yet paid			1					
2538	Durant		In-Lieu Fee		\$132,000.00					1					
2590	BANCROFT		In-Lieu Fee		\$110,964.00		Not yet paid			1					
2712	TELEGRAPH		In-Lieu Fee (20% for Admin)		\$58,118.00		Not yet paid			1					
2720	SAN PABLO						No Declaration Yet								
2795	SAN PABLO														
2800	TELEGRAPH		In-Lieu Fee		\$24,573.85		not yet paid			1					
2847	Shattuck		On-Site Art (5% Admin Fee)	\$247,415.72		\$12,370.79			1	1					
2920	Shattuck		On-Site Art (5% Admin Fee)	\$449,914.00		\$22,495.70			1	1					
2942	College		In-Lieu Fee (20% for Admin)		8636.05					1					
3000	SHATTUCK						No Declaration Yet								
3030	TELEGRAPH		In-Lieu Fee (20% for Admin)		\$264,569.00					1					
3031	Adeline						No Declaration Yet								
3031	TELEGRAPH		In-Lieu Fee		\$312,000.00					1					
TOTAL				\$928,368.72	\$5,498,652.72	\$34,866.49			4	32	\$2,140,668.50	59	\$9,814,483.95		



Civic Arts Commission

CONSENT CALENDAR
May 23, 2023

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
From: Civic Arts Commission
Submitted by: Jennifer Lovvorn, Secretary to the Civic Arts Commission
Subject: Development of Artists Affordable Housing Certification Program

RECOMMENDATION

Refer to the City Manager the further development of an Artists Affordable Housing Certification Program based upon the program guidelines developed by the Civic Arts Commission in May 2022 (Attachment 1).

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

The fiscal impact of an Artist Affordable Housing Certification Program consists of staff time dedicated to the following activities:

- Developing a program that includes: certification process guidelines, a staffing plan, and forecasting annual proposed costs for the development and implementation of ongoing Artist Affordable Housing Certification Program.
- Maintaining a database of affordable artist live/work units located in Berkeley
- Maintaining a database of certified artists in Berkeley
- Convening a panel of arts professionals and community members to conduct a review for artist certification that might complement an application to low-income live/work housing in Berkeley
- Conducting public outreach workshops for artists interested in becoming certified
- Providing information to building owners and developers interested in listing housing opportunities with the program

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The City of Berkeley's Arts & Culture Plan (adopted 2018) determined that affordable housing for artists was an urgent need. Additionally, there is an opportunity in the City of Berkeley to meet this need by utilizing vacant storefronts, as well as integrating artist housing into new housing developments. These strategies would help the City fulfil the goals for increased low-income housing articulated in the Housing Element (adopted 2023).

Artists affordable housing could play a positive role in supporting Berkeley's cultural resilience, fostering a healthy intergenerational environment in new housing projects, as

well as activating existing vacant storefronts. Artists can provide a cultural environment that nurtures community in Berkeley's overall housing development plans.

BACKGROUND

Increasing access to affordable housing and affordable spaces for artists and arts organizations was identified as the top goal in the City of Berkeley Arts & Culture Plan approved by City Council in 2018. Affordable living and workspace for artists is a pressing issue for our community, with artists increasingly priced out and unable to live and work in Berkeley.

In response, the Civic Arts Commission generated a report entitled "Affordable Housing for Artists in Berkeley" (Attachment 1) that includes data about the unique housing and space needs of artists based on a survey and focus groups with diverse artists and cultural workers. The report was presented at the December 8, 2021 Civic Arts Commission meeting and it gave rise to important discussions around housing and work-space affordability for artists and was further studied by an ad hoc Artists Affordable Housing Task Force composed of a Civic Arts Commissioner, a local developer, artists, and nonprofit housing professionals which has been working concurrently with the affordable housing for artists assessment (2020-22).

In response to this affordable housing for artists assessment, Council approved a referral (Attachment 2) on January 25, 2022 requesting that the City Manager, Planning Commission, and Housing Advisory Commission "review, consider, and incorporate recommendations [from the assessment of affordable housing needs for artists in Berkeley] to the greatest extent possible, into the Housing Element update and related planning and zoning processes." Consultants hired by the City to assist with the development of the Housing Element requested an artist certification process for affordable housing as a prerequisite for including affordable housing for artists into the upcoming Housing Element. To respond, the ad hoc Artists Affordable Housing Task Force, convened to develop recommendations for an artist certification process, which was further developed by the Civic Arts Commission's Policy Subcommittee. The Artist Certification Process was ultimately approved by the Civic Arts Commission at its May 24, 2022 meeting (Attachment 3).

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE IMPACTS

There are no environmental impacts associated with this recommendation.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

An artist certification process is needed in order to determine whether an individual is eligible for affordable housing specifically designated as live/work space for artists.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

None.

CITY MANAGER

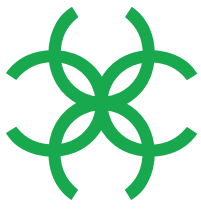
The City Manager takes no position on the content and recommendations of the Commission's Report.

CONTACT PERSON

Jennifer Lovvorn, Secretary to the Civic Arts Commission, (510) 981-7533

Attachments:

- 1: Civic Arts Commission, "*Affordable Housing for Artists in Berkeley*" Report, December 2021.
- 2: Berkeley City Council, *Referral: Affordable Housing for Artists Inclusion in Housing Element*, January 25, 2022.
- 3: Artist Certification Process (Approved), Berkeley Civic Arts Commission, May 24, 2022.



Community for a Cultural Civic Center

March 13, 2023

Dear Mayor and City Council,

In preparation for your Civic Center Vision Plan Work Session on March 21, the members of CCCC want to share below our thoughts regarding the latest draft plan that was presented to the Super-Subcommittee of Commission on February 9. (Since CCCC is a "big-tent" community group, our comments reflect general consensus of our group, although not always unanimity.) **Our primary goals are: ensure that these historic buildings do not suffer "demolition by neglect"; preserve and restore the documented historic features of the Civic Center inside and out; and ensure diversity and inclusion.**

A. Maudelle Shirek Building

1. We support a **multi-use space** that could serve as Council Chambers either in a new structure on the west side of MSB, seismically shoring up the building; or in the existing space once it is seismically retrofitted. There should be meeting spaces of various sizes for commissions and other civic meetings, as well as third party rental use for conferences, special events, etc.
2. The **Berkeley Historical Society** museum, library and archives should be housed as contiguously as possible in the renovated building.
3. Adequate facilities for **Berkeley Community Media**.
4. **No relocated City offices.**

B. Veterans Memorial Building

1. We support an **Arts & Culture Center** concept under direction and leadership of Civic Arts. As proposed by Tipping Engineers, we support the addition of two new structures to seismically shore up the building, which would add much needed space for the arts community.
2. Ensure the clients of **Options Recovery Service** and **Dorothy Day House** are still served.

C. Civic Center Park

1. **Turtle Island Monument** project should be completed as soon as possible.
2. Further study feasibility of **daylighting Strawberry Creek**.
3. **Remove parking and tarmac** west of the Civic Center Building.
4. Provide for **food/beverage service** in or near west side of Civic Center Building.
5. Provide spaces for occasional large and small **outdoor events/performances**.
6. Maintain a **beautiful green open space**.
7. California **native-plant** habitat and **biodiversity** enhancements.
8. **Minimize new hardscape** in the park.
9. **Welcoming** to neighbors and all community members.

D. Next Steps

Council and staff need to develop **funding plans** for **shovel-ready** seismic retrofit and renovation for planned uses of buildings and park, subsequent construction, and then ongoing operations of the buildings and park. The City also needs immediate **water intrusion** remediation plans.

Sincerely,

John Caner

Convener, [Community for a Cultural Civic Center](#)

Cc: City Manager; Public Works and OED staff; Consultant Siegel & Strain Architects; Landmarks Preservation, Civic Arts, Parks Recreation & Waterfront, Transportation & Infrastructure Commissions & Staff