

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING – WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2022
VIRTUAL MEETING WITH NO PHYSICAL MEETING LOCATION
6:00 P.M.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Jesse Cupp called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Committee members Cliff Bryant, Susi Merhar, Regina Sakols, Tootoo Thomson, Don Whitebread, and Chair Jesse Cupp.

Absent: Vice Chair Toni Hsu (excused).

Staff Present: John Lang, Economic Vitality Manager; Joy Houghton, Associate Engineer; Robert Gonzales, Principal Civil Engineer; and Jim Lightbody, Consultant Project Manager.

3. MINUTES APPROVAL

The minutes of the November 9, 2022 meeting were distributed prior to the meeting and approved as distributed.

Motion—M/S Merhar/Sakols—Carried 6-0-1; Hsu absent—To approve the November 9, 2022 minutes as presented.

4. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Public Comment: None.

5. UPCOMING AGENDA TOPICS

- Placemaking opportunities related to the Castro Interim Pedestrian Mall and other long-term Capital Improvement Program (CIP) projects.
- Public Art Strategy.

- Discuss how art placement and landscaping integration can be further explored.
- Council Policy K-5 augmentations to better capture more CIP projects (art in bike lane integrations).
- Joint committee meeting with the Downtown Committee.
- Evelyn Park, Project 21-60.
- Discuss and review the Café platform used for calls for artists.
- Discuss touch points with artists through the contract process by developing a checklist related to calls for artists.
- Explore programs for youth artists.
- Grade Separation and Access Project location and call for artists in 2023.

Public comment. Bruce England commented additional consideration can be given to other landscape elements, transportation elements, and bike separation areas with the inclusion of art further supplementing work that may be captured via the Biodiversity Strategy.

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

6.1 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM PUBLIC ART PROJECT UPDATES

- Rengstorff Park Aquatics Center (Project 18-38): Project is at approximately 25% complete and on track to open in fall 2023. Artist coordination has commenced with the design team.
- Fayette Park (Project 20-48): Construction has just recently commenced. No additional updates at present time.
- Rengstorff Park Maintenance and Tennis Buildings (Project 21-48): Design is wrapping up, and the project will be bid out later this fall. Staff received additional insurance information that will support the execution of artist agreements. Artist renderings will come back to the Visual Arts Committee (VAC) for review before being finalized.

Public Comment: None.

6.2 CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS CALL FOR ARTISTS

Staff provided an update on the jurying results for the 2023 Center for Performing Arts call for artists. The following top 11 artists were:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Average</u>	<u>Selected</u>
Martinez	6.1667	Yes
Mullery	5.8333	Yes
Lima	5.5	Yes
Yoon	5.5	Yes
Bardach	5.3333	Yes
Broom	5.3333	Yes
Allen	5.1667	Yes
Karimi	5.1667	Yes
Bott	5.0	Alternate
Brueckner	5.0	Alternate
Corich	4.833	Alternate

Staff provided a brief presentation on the results of the VAC’s jurying associated with the 2023 Center for the Performing Arts call for artists. The call for artists went out to the nine-county Bay Area region. The call provided the requirements for display and did not delineate any theme for the exhibits as has been done historically. The VAC discussed the scoring results from the call for artists. The VAC would like to see more promotion of the exhibits. Staff will work with the Center for the Performing Arts to help amplify the artist displays and evaluate the program after a year to see artists’ reactions and success of the program. The VAC would like to see more artists displaying and, therefore, recommended eight artists and three alternates.

Motion—M/S Sakols/Bryant—Carried 6-0-1; Hsu absent—To move forward with artist agreements for the top eight scored artists, including three alternates.

Public Comment: None.

7. NEW BUSINESS

7.1 TRANSIT CENTER GRADE SEPARATION AND ACCESS PROJECT

Public Works staff Joy Houghton, Robert Gonzales, and Jim Lightbody provided an overview of the Transit Grade Separation and Access Project and outlined potential timing and art consideration for this Council Policy K-5-eligible project. The number of trips associated with the electrification of Caltrain starting in 2024 is estimated to

increase significantly, resulting in an increased amount of time gates are lowered, thus the need for the Transit Grade Separation and Access Project. The project goals are to improve safety for all modes of travel, improve traffic flow and reduce congestion, and support the pedestrianization of downtown. The design phase for the project is July 2022 to July 2024 with construction anticipated to start July 2024 and last through December 2026. Urban design guidelines were developed for the project in May 2020. The guidelines discuss architectural treatments, surface treatments, lighting, landscaping signage, and fixtures and railings. Areas where art can be incorporated include the undercrossing (walls, ceiling, floor) and concourse areas. Staff will come back to the VAC with location recommendations and initiate a call for artists in early 2023. Staff is seeking early feedback on concepts ahead of coming back to the VAC. Some concepts include concepts of lights, more plants incorporated, such as living walls, and places to have rotating displays where art could be swapped out.

Public Comment: Bruce England supports the concept of a living wall for inclusion along with the inclusion of functional restrooms with artistic elements to mitigate some maintenance costs.

7.2 GUIDANCE ON PUBLIC INQUIRES TO VAC MEMBERS

Staff provided a brief verbal update on best practices associated with how to handle public inquiries related to the VAC. VAC members should coordinate with the staff liaison first before responding to such inquires. Staff will work with the City Clerk's Office on the appropriate response.

Public Comment: None.

7.3 PAST THRESHOLDS RELATED TO RFP ART EVALUATIONS REQUIRING STIPENDS

Staff provided an overview of past projects that the VAC had elected to use a two-phased Request for Proposals (RFP) approach for providing a stipend to an artist to better visualize and understand a larger art piece. The memorandum outlined that for projects that were greater than \$60,000 in Council Policy K-5 funding, the VAC typically used a stipend approach.

The VAC would like to approach future Council Policy K-5-eligible art projects with the default of including stipends and decide piece by piece whether the project warrants any stipend instead of using a dollar threshold as the sole trigger for the two-phased RFP approach. This can be determined when defining the call for artists, including asking artists for a single sentence for a vision for the art. Staff also noted prior comments from the VAC regarding the desire to capture more community input from the scoping of projects. Staff will work with the Public Works and Community Services

Departments to bring forward more community input and feedback that can help inform the call for artist process. The VAC also expressed interest in having an inflation adjustment to occur each year so inflation does not erode the stipend.

Public Comment: None.

8. COMMITTEE/STAFF COMMENTS, QUESTIONS, COMMITTEE REPORTS

Staff thanked the VAC for their service the past year and wished members happy holidays and a new year and reminded the VAC that the next meeting will be in February 2023.

Public Comment: None.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

These Minutes are hereby submitted for approval by John Lang, Recording Secretary.

Approved on _____.

JL/G/CDD
~~819-12-14-22mn~~