

DATE: October 18, 2023

TO: Senior Advisory Committee

FROM: John Lang, Economic Vitality Manager

SUBJECT: Rengstorff Park Maintenance and Tennis Buildings—Development of Public Art

PURPOSE

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide an update to the Senior Advisory Committee on the preferred mural choice from artists Fernanda Martinez and Harumo Sato. Each artist developed three mural renderings based upon their engagement with the Youth Advisory Committee (YAC) and Senior Advisory Committee (SAC) from April 2022. At their September 13, 2023 meeting, the Visual Arts Committee (VAC) selected a concept from each artist.

BACKGROUND

Capital Improvement Project 21-48, Rengstorff Park Maintenance Buildings, is the construction of new restrooms and maintenance buildings. The project includes demolition of the existing restroom/maintenance building and the existing tennis building and replacement of these buildings with two new, prefabricated buildings. The location of the new tennis/restroom building will be at the existing tennis building. The new maintenance/restroom building will be relocated and adjacent to the parking lot in the barbecue area (see Figure 1—Project Site Map).



Figure 1: Project Site Map

In November 2021, the VAC began an artist selection process and confirmed the process for developing the public art. On March 9, 2022, the VAC selected two artists to design and construct murals at three locations within the project. The VAC selected Harumo Sato, a visual artist based in Mountain View (www.harumosato.com), to develop a mural for the maintenance building. For the mural at the tennis building, the VAC selected Fernanda Martinez, an Oakland-based artist (www.latintaart.com).

ANALYSIS

The VAC outlined a new process where development of public art should include input from both youth and seniors in the community. The VAC requested artists partner with the City’s YAC and SAC on this project. The YAC and SAC were invited to have a conversation with the selected artists and convey their background, stories, and/or themes about the Mountain View community. Based on input from the YAC and SAC, the artists developed three design concepts for the artwork to present to the VAC.

In April 2022, staff and artists engaged the YAC and SAC on themes. The artists developed three designs for review by the VAC.

At their September 13, 2023 meeting, the VAC evaluated three mural concepts each as developed by artists Fernanda Martinez and Harumo Sato. The VAC selected the following mural concept developed by Fernanda Martinez (Figure 2).



Figure 2: Mural Design by Fernanda Martinez

The VAC selected the following mural concept developed by Harumo Sato (Figure 3).



Figure 3: Mural Design by Harumo Sato

In addition to the mural concepts by Harumo Sato, the VAC preferred the color palate to be rich colors as noted below in Figure 4.



Figure 4: Mural Design and Color Palette—Harumo Sato

NEXT STEPS

Staff will return to the YAC on the selection on October 30 and seek comments. The VAC will make the final recommendation for the City Council.

JL/6/CDD
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