



DATE: October 3, 2017

CATEGORY: Consent

DEPT.: Community Development

TITLE: **Public Art for the Library Children's Services Area Expansion Project**

RECOMMENDATION

Select Artist Lisa Long for the commission of a public art project for the Library Children's Services Area expansion.

BACKGROUND

On June 20, 2017, Council appropriated \$3.82 million for the construction phase of the Library Space Modifications, Project 18-60. The Library modifications project creates an opportunity to add public art to the improved Children's Services Area. Council Policy No. K-5 requires capital improvement projects (CIPs) of \$1 million or greater to include public art with a budget of 1 percent of the construction budget. The Visual Arts Committee (VAC) is responsible for advising the City Council on the selection of artists and art for qualifying CIPs.

ANALYSIS

The Library renovation will expand the Children's Services Area toward the main lobby. The existing wall and entry doors leading into the Children's Services Area will be removed and a new glass wall with an entry doorway at the lobby oval will delineate the new Children's Services Area (see Figure 1 – Proposed Art Location).

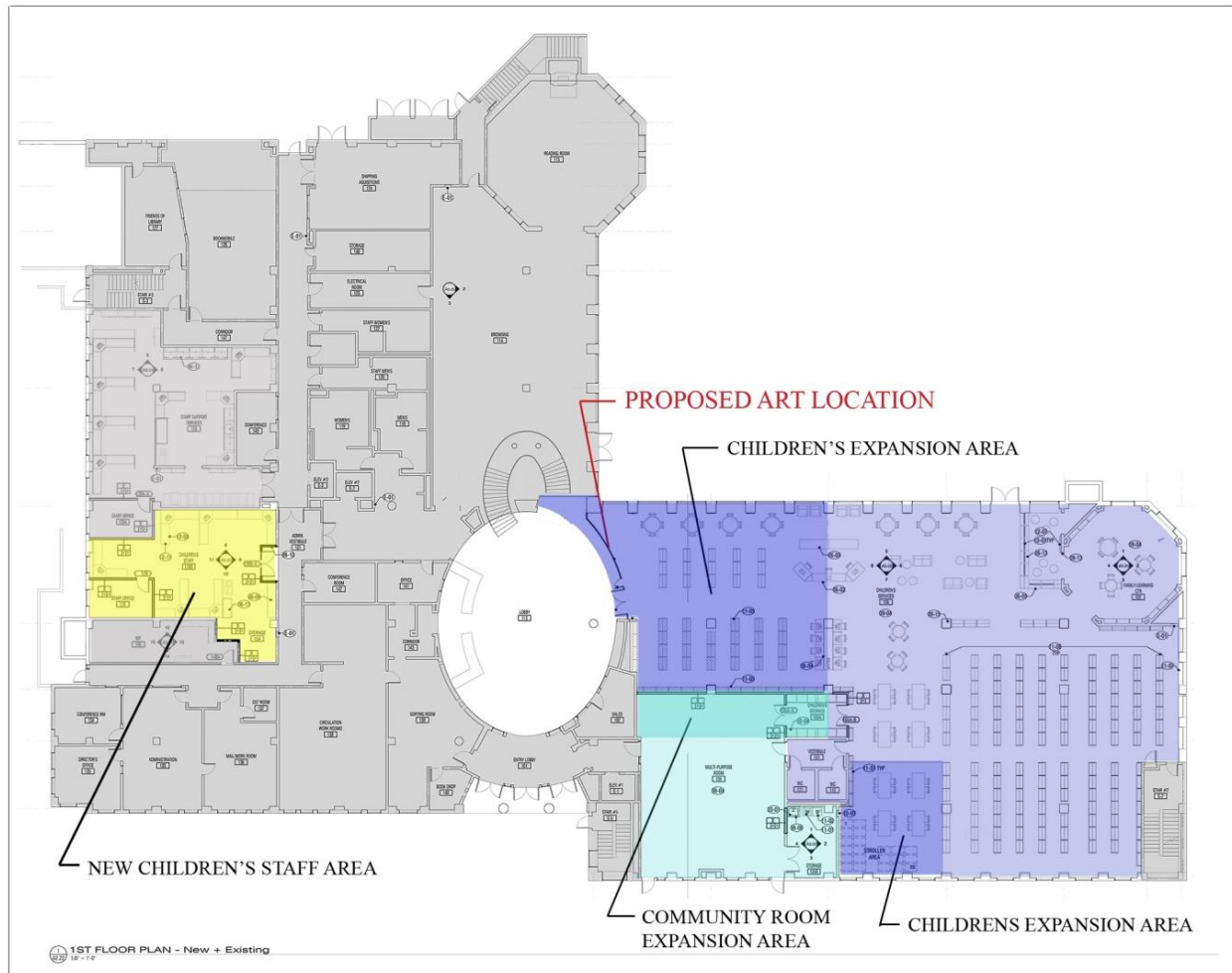


Figure 1 – Proposed Art Location

Visual Arts Committee Recommendation

On March 8, 2017, the VAC recommended that staff issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) for design of the new glass curtain wall, double door for entry, and a smaller “playful” doorway for children to enter. The RFP was issued in April 2017 (Attachment 1) and a total of 22 applications were submitted. The VAC selected the top three artists and designs from Lisa Long, Abbey Luck, and Ene Osteras-Constable. At the September 2017 meeting, the VAC formally selected Lisa Long as the best qualified artist and her design titled “Magical Garden Gateway.”

The Magical Garden Gateway design places a child in a whimsical garden. This artwork invites children to imagine “What would it be like to be just a few inches tall?” The garden features line artwork with a watercolor effect, much like the illustrations often found in children’s literature. It includes plants which are native to Northern

California, including wild California roses, naked buckwheat, morning glories, and California poppies. It also includes various insects (see Figure 2 – Artist Rendering).



Figure 2 – Artist Rendering

FISCAL IMPACT

The cost of the proposed art is \$30,000 and is budgeted in the Library Space Modifications, Construction, Project 18-60. The breakdown of the art budget includes \$8,000 for the artist's design and coordination and \$22,000 for the fabrication, delivery, and installation.

ALTERNATIVES

1. Direct staff to reissue the RFP.
2. Select one of the remaining top two artist candidates from the current RFP.
3. Provide other direction.

PUBLIC NOTICING

The Council meeting agenda and Council report have been posted on the City's website and announced on Channel 26 cable television. This public art project was discussed and recommended for Council approval at the September 13, 2017 VAC meeting.

Prepared by:

Noelle Magner
Administrative Aide

Alex Andrade
Economic Development Manager

Approved by:

Randal Tsuda
Community Development Director

Audrey Seymour Ramberg
Assistant City Manager

NM-AA/7/CAM
824-10-03-17CR-E-1

Attachments: 1. Request For Proposals – Call For Artists
2. Artist Lisa Long's Public Art Proposal