

Artist: Alan Leon, 532-2933
Sponsor & Fiscal Agent:
Temescal Telegraph Business Improvement District (TTBID), 860-7327

"TEMESCAL FLOWS"

City of Oakland - Open Proposals - Public Art
Semi-Finalist Submission – 9/4/09

- I. Image of artwork – paper and digital, see Attachments.
- II. Photo image of site - paper and digital, see Attachments.
- III. Narrative – paper and digital.

1. Concept and Intent - Concept and Intent - The project will create a highly imaginative gateway connector mural between Children's Hospital and the Temescal shopping district. It will encompass 25 columns and 2 large (180 linear feet) concrete fascias of Highway 24 painted in a coordinated way to bring the overpass alive with color, light and flow. This is art tuned-in to its district and locale.

The *Temescal Flows* mural project evokes a convergence of the watershed and creek system that is the natural history of the area. If all the creeks were to merge, splashed by sunlight and filtered through the prism of an artist's eye, it might transform the frozen freeway concrete into a moving, undulating, waving, flowing bridge. The artist's intention is to connect the natural environment and the unnatural, man configured one. It also connects the Temescal business district with Children's Hospital and its surrounding residential neighborhood. The freeway overpass thus transforms from divider of neighborhoods to a gateway and connector to all, a flowing, undulating bridge to time, history, ecology and space. It does so metaphorically as much as literally.

Embedded in the flow of lines, like cameos, and not metaphorical, are images of the history of the area, its people, pioneers, history and highlights. The connection is not just geographic, it's the timeline of history that flows like water under a bridge. But this is *that* bridge, that water flows under, over, around and through. Again, the overpass connects us to the past, and the present, and flows even into the future

2. Site Ownership – The first phase of the project, anticipated with receipt of this grant and BID funding, is on CalTrans' property. Phase 1 includes 12 of the overpass support columns and 2 fascias at the underpass at 52nd St. and Hwy 24. Access to the CalTrans' infrastructure will be across City of Oakland public right-of-way areas (sidewalks and streets). The Temescal BID has contacted CalTrans' David Eng in Landscape Architecture, who services CalTrans' public art projects. Mr. Eng forwarded encroachment permit application and guideline materials and further explained that:

- a) artwork approval via CalTrans' local District Transportation Art Committee (DTAC) is required prior to submittal of an encroachment permit application;
- b) any group proposing art on Cal Trans property must be "approved" by the local jurisdiction (this has to do w/ out year maintenance);
- c) paint can not "seal" their concrete; their engineers must be able to observe the condition of the concrete at all times (project will use appropriate paint);

d) the art must have some type of "community approval" (the *Temescal Flows* artwork has already been vetted, selected and approved by the community based TTBID and will be presented more broadly after a mock up is created via the City's grant procedures); and e) the artwork can contain no political or libelous language.

See attached CalTRANS correspondence. CalTRANS' regulations are noted but not included in the Attachments.

3. Site description, use, variations, access, map - The site consists of a convergence of BART and Highway 24 overpasses, an onramp, an off-ramp, two large facias (approx. 180 feet wide), and 25 supporting columns, creating approximately 325 linear feet of gray, cold, tunnel-like, dark concrete. The walkway through is wide but uninviting, dark and intimidating. The area is poorly lit, dirty, and presents a dividing line and not a connecting point between Children's Hospital and the business district. There is full public access to the site since it is a public city street with sidewalks and 2-directional roadbeds.

4. The user groups/audience for this mural are the scores of pedestrians and cyclists who walk or pedal through the underpass every day, and the estimated 100,000 cars (200-250K passengers) that pass through it every day. The hospital employs 2,600 people, many who walk under the overpass to get to Telegraph Ave for breakfast, lunch or dinner. Patients' families also drive or walk through the underpass. With the Outpatient Center and hospital, Children's Hospital gets more than a million visitors (patients, family members, visitors, staff) a year. All of these people are the mural's audience, plus people who live and work in the area, plus dog walkers, moms with strollers and delivery people. Foot traffic spikes at lunch, but there really isn't a seasonal component to it. It's a very busy underpass, being part of a major east-west artery in Oakland. The public access is through two sidewalks, one on each side, and the road itself.

5. Working with the Community - The *Temescal Flows* project began as a concept in the community and is being developed with sponsorship, guidance and financial participation by the community. The TTBID initiated a design and selection competition prior to the City of Oakland's Open Circles grant RFP. The artwork was vetted, selected and approved by the community-based BID. The final 2D or 3D *Temescal Flows* design will be presented more broadly to the community.

Education component: The project is adjacent to Children's Hospital. It is the artist's intention, working with the hospital's school program and its artist-in-residency program, to hold mural design workshops, teaching kids about mural-making and the process of painting, as well as doing hands-on, kids-created mural projects. Hospitalized children will be able to design their own underpass mural. These may be exhibited in the hospital as well as shown at any opening event for the mural's completion.

The lower portions of one or two columns will feature art created by the patients. There will be regular visits to the classrooms to provide project updates and to bring kids behind the scenes with the artists and painters as the art project progresses. The hospital's rehabilitation program staff is interested in taking its rehab children on field trips to the underpass as well, to see the process, meet the artists, and possibly add a dab of paint on the actual mural. In all, the project will be both an educational and creative opportunity for hospitalized children.

6. Oakland relationship - The idea is to create an imaginative artwork related to the Temescal watershed. The artwork will be visible from blocks around because of its size and location. The fascias are 20' in the air and the 25 columns are 2' to 10 'wide. The design is unique (in Oakland) in that it is not the typical, realistic imagery approach to murals, but is abstract in form. In its flowing, striped wave form, it recalls the past and present flow of the creek and the timeline of the area. Temescal will benefit from this striking and bold mural identifying this as an exciting, thriving, creative place.

7. Collaborations - The team (including representatives from Children's Hospital, the Temescal Business Improvement District and community members) will work together in the design development, and ongoing review of all design changes. Community interaction will be sought throughout all phases of the project. A team of muralists headed and directed by Alan Leon will actually execute the artwork.

8. Materials - The murals will be painted with KEIM Sodalit Silicate Paints. These paints have a unique 125-year history and have been requested on other CalTrans' mural projects. They are composed to bond with the mineral substrate by silification, ensuring a firm attachment to the concrete surfaces. The organic content is below 5% and the sol-silicate paint satisfies the requirement of DIN18363 for silicate emulsion paints. Manufacturers specifications have been sent under separate cover.

9. The Temescal Telegraph Business Improvement District (BID) will be the project's fiscal agent and Contractor with the City under this grant.

10. The artwork is permanent, and will have a 30-year life span.

11. Maintenance of the artwork – **NOTICE – CalTrans' approval requires city's participation in maintenance.** The murals will be covered with KEIM product PSS 20, made of vegetable polysaccharides, an anti-graffiti, anti-soiling (i.e. pollution) protection that is reversible and vapor permeable. Graffiti removal is easy using hot water. Otherwise, annual hosing is recommended. The TTBID will monitor the site, and will discuss a shared maintenance program with the City of Oakland. (The TTBID currently contracts for a sidewalk steam cleaner.)

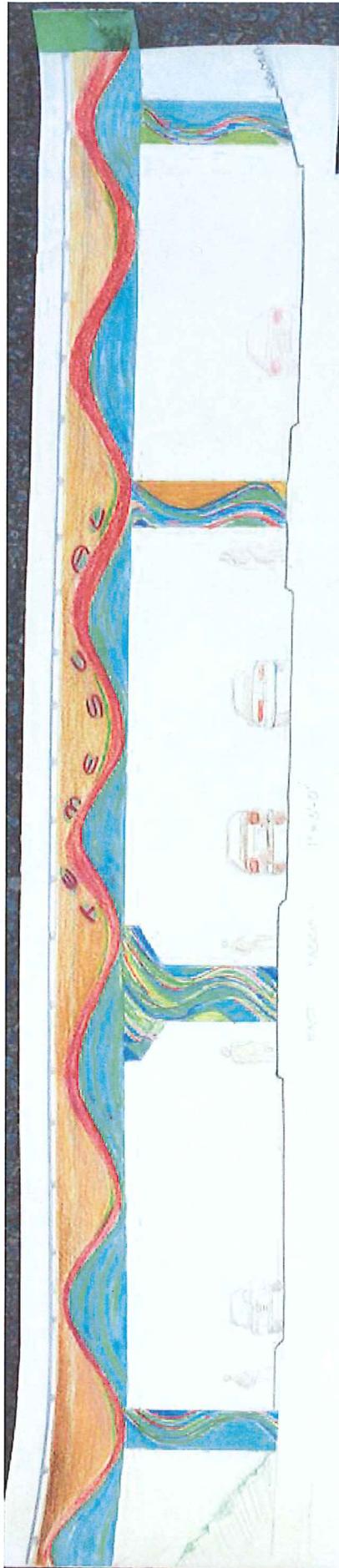
IV. Site Ownership - See item III.2. above and the attached files demonstrating supportive and instructional correspondence from CalTrans.

V. Budget (showing Sponsor contribution) – see Attachments. Sponsor's Board of Directors' authorizing Resolution was submitted as part of the initial application.

"TEMESCAL FLOWS"

Attachments:

1. Proposed Artwork
2. Site Map and Images
3. Site Ownership – CalTrans Correspondence
4. Budget



TEMPESCAL



TEMPESCAL



TEMPESCAL FIDUS
Edm. G. G. G.
J. G. G. G.
1953. 15. 01
A. G. G. G.

five days

columns 1953



Spring
Columns
detail

Columns
subject
to
brushing

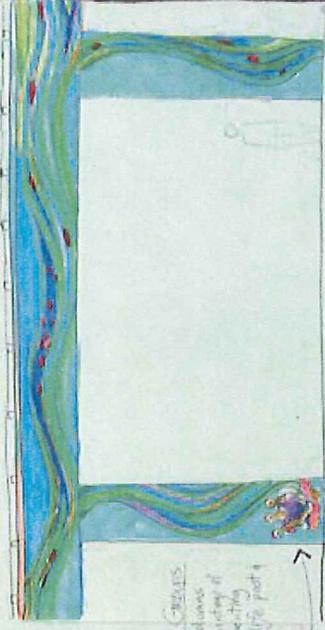
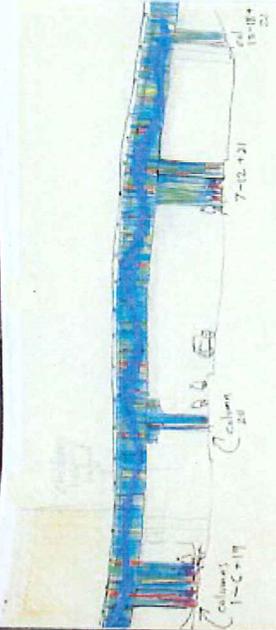


FIGURE CREATES
14-4 25 columns
will have paintings of
people representing
Tennessee life part 4
project

Tennessee Title
COMMISSION
COLUMBIAN
EXPOSITION
1915

ORGANIC, SHIMMERSOME, WAVE
WEST-FACED
detail

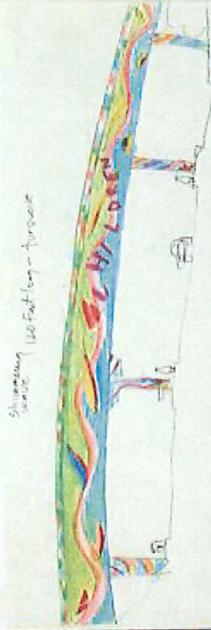


7-12-21
15-18-21

STRIPES
vertical
(as per large color sample book)
shimmering, sparkling,
iridescent translucent
glowing background

52nd St. looking West

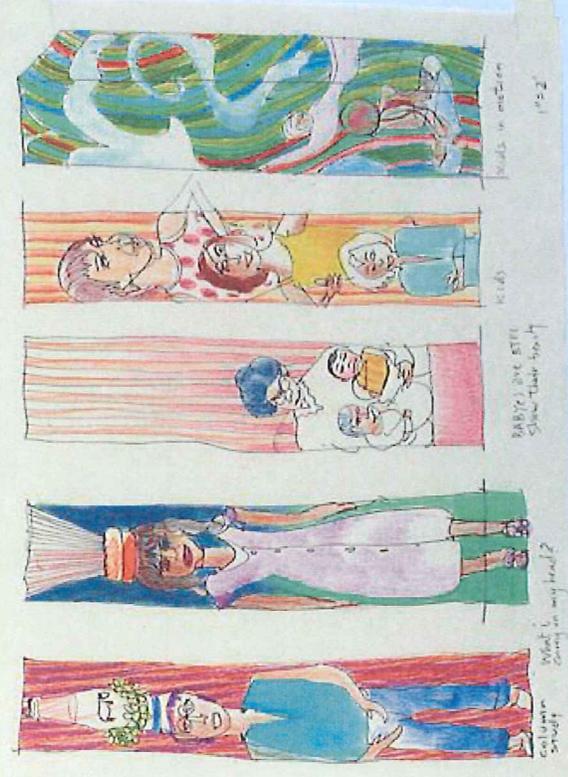
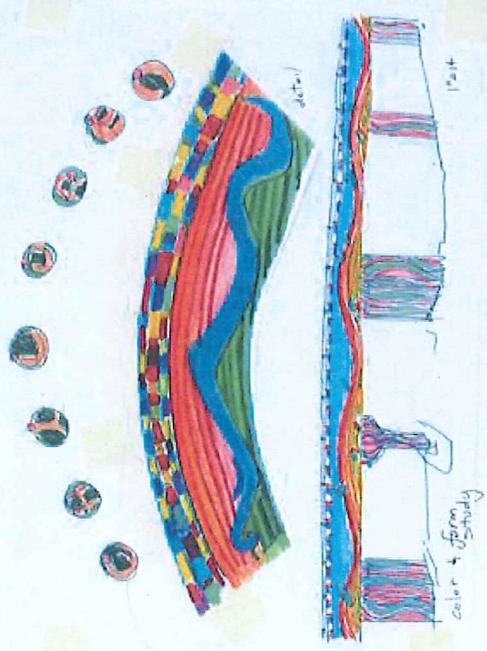
WEST FACADE



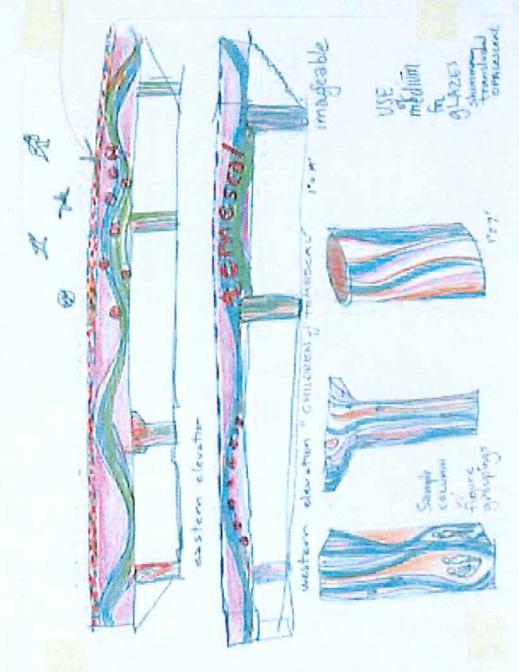
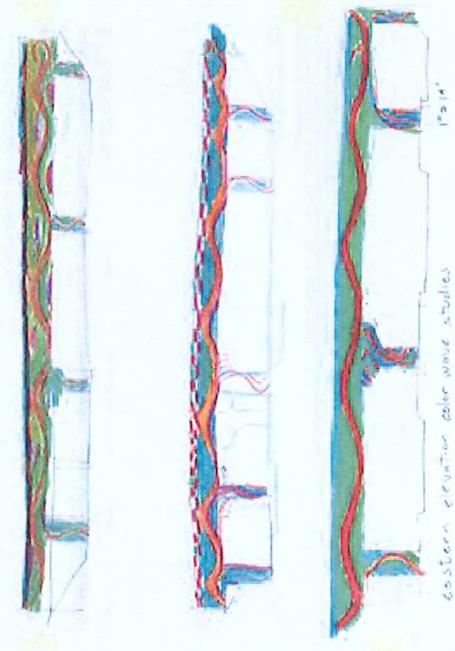
Shimmering
120 East from Avenue

CHILDREN

WEST FACADE - CHILDREN'S PROMENADE

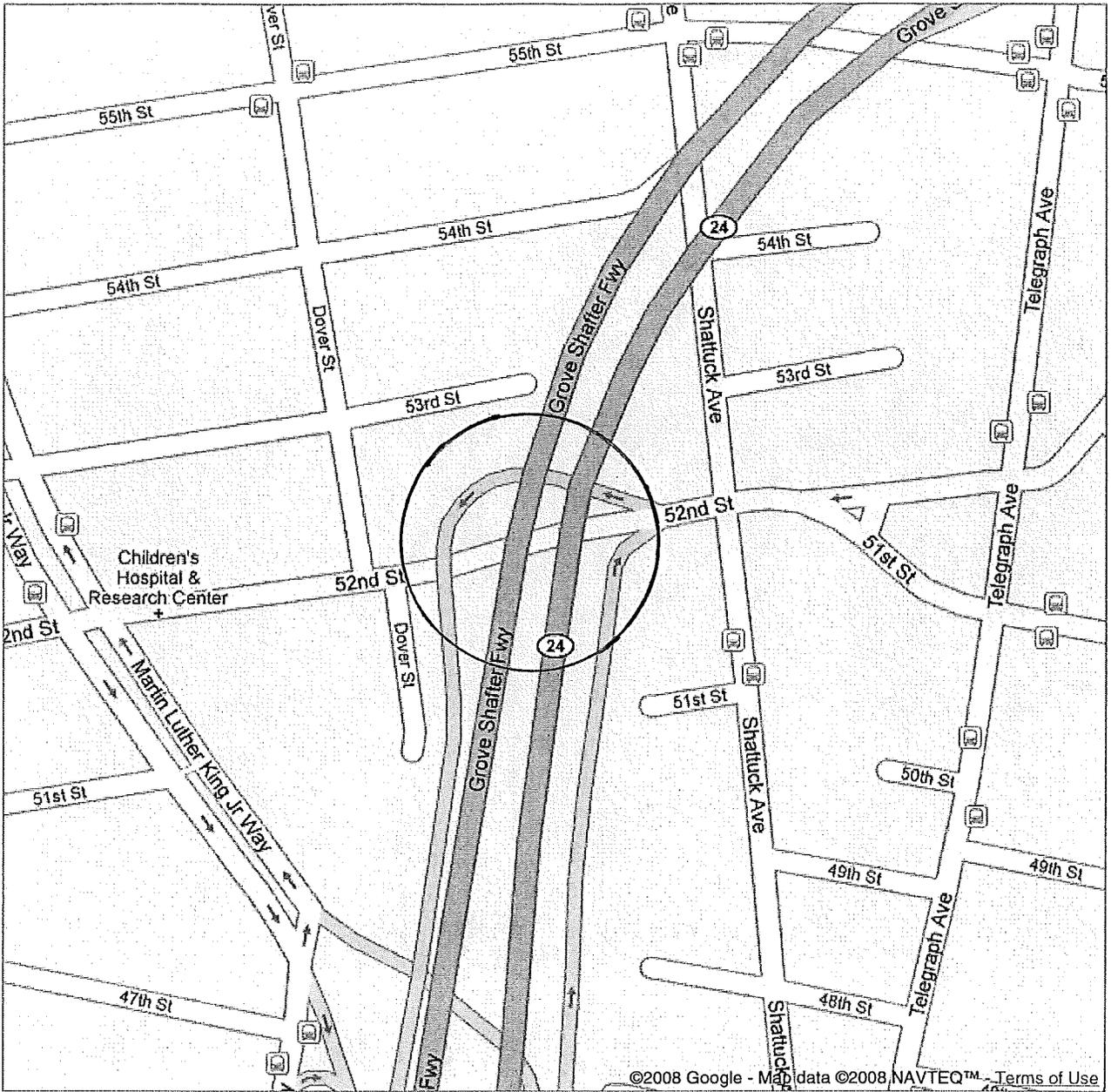


TEAMESCAL FLOWS
 52nd STREET UNDERPASS
 B + U D V + CIRCULAR
 B . 15 . 0 3
 ALAN LEAH



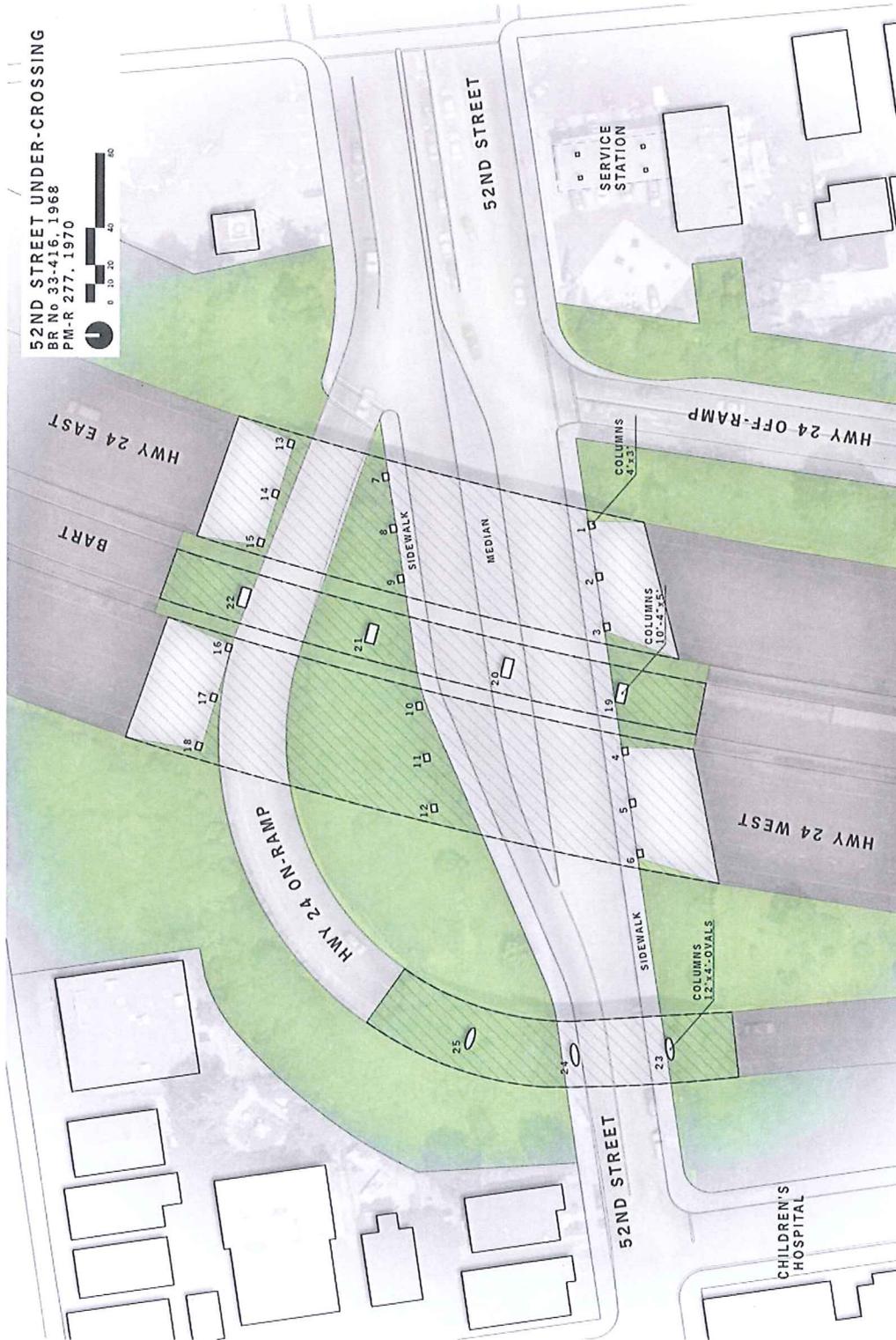


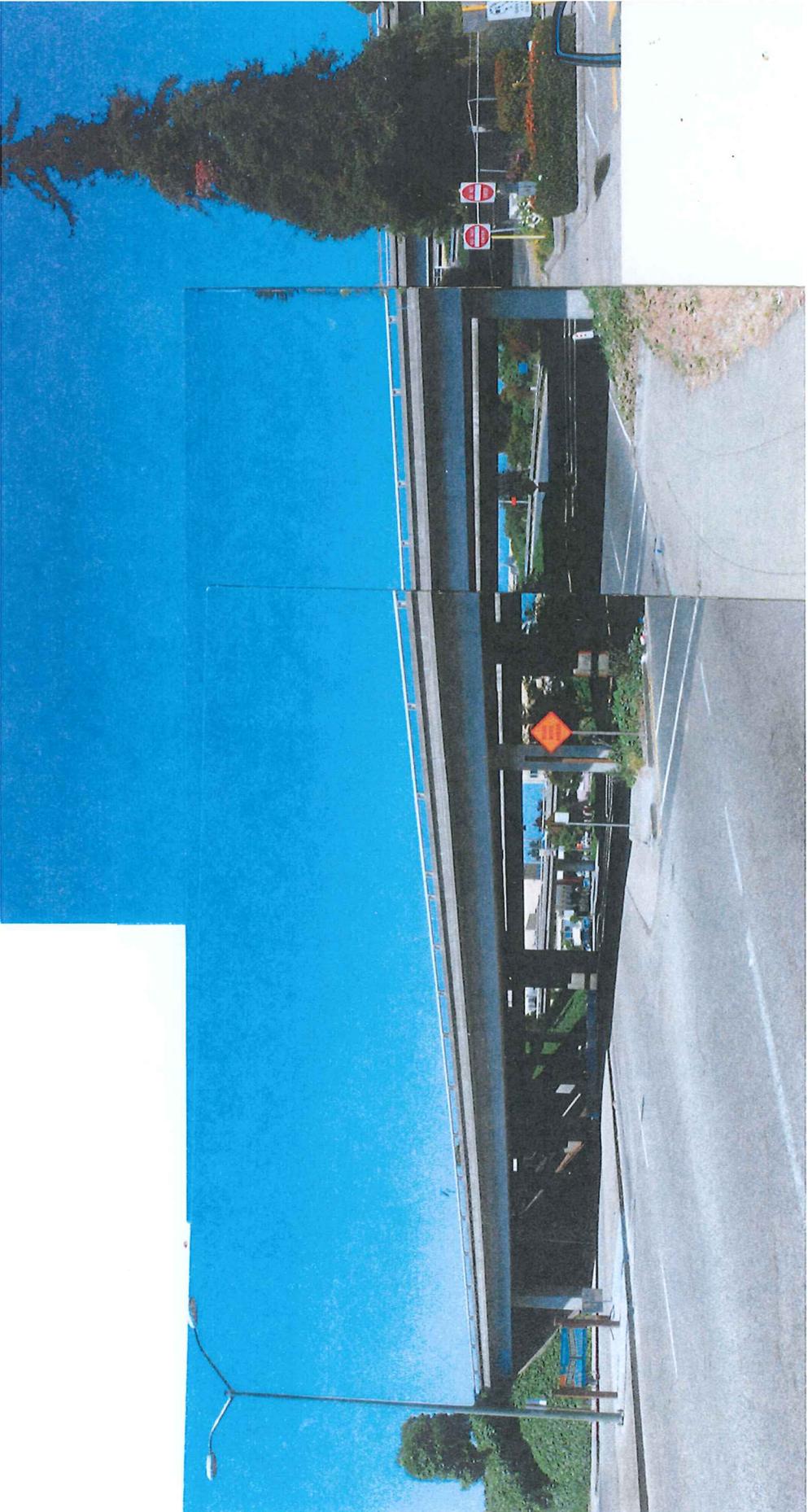
Temescal Flows' Site
North Oakland



Temescal Flows' Site
52nd St & Hwy 24

52ND STREET UNDER-CROSSING
BR No 33-416, 1968
PM-R 277, 1970







Re: Fw: Temescal Flows Revised

Wednesday, August 26, 2009 7:00 PM

From:

"David W Eng" <david_w_eng@dot.ca.gov>
[Add sender to Contacts](#)

To:

"Bill Lambert" <bill_lambert@sbcglobal.net>

Cc:

"DTAC (Transportation Advisory Committee)" <DTAC@dot.ca.gov>

Message contains attachments

[Caltrans Trans Art Quick Guide.pdf \(33KB\)](#), [transportation-art-policy.pdf \(411KB\)](#), [Caltrans Comm ID Quick Guide.pdf \(31KB\)](#), [Temescal Flows.pdf \(8270KB\)](#), [Text for Semi-Finalist Submission8-25-09.doc \(38KB\)](#)

Bill,

Thank you for the opportunity to review your initial proposal for artwork on the Route 24/52nd Street undercrossing. Under the current Caltrans' Transportation Art program, we find the proposal acceptable for presentation to our District Transportation Advisory Committee (DTAC) as long as the following conditions are met on the attached document:

(See attached file: Caltrans Trans Art Quick Guide.pdf)

(See attached file: transportation-art-policy.pdf)

Of significance to your current proposal, please be aware that the artwork cannot contain any reflective or glaring surface or finish. The proposal indicates a shimmering opalescent finish which may not be approved. Any object to be attached to the bridge structure and walls must be approved by our Office of Structure Maintenance and Inspection (OMSI).

Also, transportation artwork should not contain text but can be used under the "Community Identification" program, which we will now categorize your project in future communication. Its very similar to the transportation are program with a few differences. Here is a quick guide to that program:
(See attached file: Caltrans Comm ID Quick Guide.pdf)
The artwork and community identification must also have the support of the surrounding community and local government entity (City of Oakland) for

funding, construction (painting) and maintenance. This should be provided in a form of a city resolution or other official document.

Once you receive city approval and have prepared your proposal for submittal, we can schedule a presentation with our DTAC, which will have the final say on approval. The DTAC meets on a quarterly basis with the next meeting scheduled on 10/20/09.

We look forward to further discussion of your art proposal once you receive city approval. Best of luck to you.

Dave Eng
Sr. Landscape Architect
Caltrans D04 - Office of Landscape Architecture
510-286-5918

TEMESCAL FLOWS PROJECT BUDGET
August '09

SOURCES:

Tem. Tel. Bus. Impr. Dist.	\$60,000
City of Oakland	\$14,000
Total Sources	\$74,000

USES:

Description*	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 4	Total
Ownership					
2 Fascias &					
Columns 1 - 12					
CalTrans	\$53,250	12000	15000	14000	\$94,250
Artist Contract(#1)	\$2,929	\$660	\$825	\$770	\$5,184
Materials(#1)	\$2,396	\$540	\$675	\$630	\$4,241
Scaffold Rental(#1)	\$58,575	\$13,200	\$16,500	\$15,400	\$103,675
Subtotal-Artist					
Permits/Fees	\$2,130	480	600	560	\$3,770
Insurance	\$1,331	\$300	\$375	\$350	\$2,356
Admin-BID	\$2,663	600	750	700	\$4,713
Dedication Ceremony	\$1,000				
Contingency	\$8,301	\$1,856	\$2,320	\$2,165	\$14,642
Totals	\$74,000	\$16,436	\$20,545	\$19,175	\$129,156

* Reference project base map
#1 - based upon Artist's response to RFP
All other figures are rough estimates