



Cultural Arts Programs

Cultural Arts & Marketing Division

PUBLIC ART ADVISORY COMMITTEE AGENDA ITEM IV.

Title: BART 17th Street Gateway Project Conceptual Design Phase 2 Review
Submitted by: Kristen Zaremba, Assistant Public Art Coordinator
Committee Date: October 27, 2010

SUMMARY

The Public Art Advisory Committee (PAAC) will review and approve or give direction on artist Dan Corson's most recent art concept for the Uptown BART 17th Street Gateway project, to allow the artist and project designers Sasaki Associates to proceed with refined schematic design.

BACKGROUND

As previously reported, in February 2010, the PAAC approved artist Dan Corson for the BART 17th Street Gateway project for a total commission not to exceed \$600,000 for design, fabrication and installation of integrated and discrete public art elements at the project site, located on BART property at the 17th Street entrance between Broadway and Telegraph. In March the artist prepared a public art presentation for and participated in a stakeholders design charette and subsequent design team meeting with representatives from Public Art, Redevelopment, BART and Sasaki Associates (project designers) to summarize and review project design aspirations, goals and constraints. Council approved the artist recommendation and authorization to negotiate a public art design, fabrication and installation contract in May 2010.

Mr. Corson and Sasaki collaborated on designs presented to the PAAC in August 2010. These designs were also distributed to the project charette participants who supported any general improvements to cleanliness, lighting and general attractiveness of the space. After receiving design direction from the PAAC, the artist and Sasaki made revisions and shared the concepts with BART representatives. As reported at the September 2010 meeting, BART representatives expressed reservations regarding the proposed overhead lighting concepts. Subsequently, City staff directed the artist to develop an alternate design taking into considerations BART's specified design constraints.

Mr. Corson's new design concept continues to emphasize illumination and transformation of the area, but the focus has now shifted from overhead to the adjacent (north) wall, in response to BART's expressed reservations. Taking into consideration feedback from BART representatives, City staff and the PAAC, the artist's new concept focuses on harnessing daylight and light reflection through a sculptural wall design, inspired by the Oakland hills' topography and San Francisco Bay, that utilizes light-refracting paint, programmable robotic mirrors and specialized lighting to create an inviting and dynamic environment. The artist's new concept has received enthusiastic support from BART representatives, Oakland Redevelopment management and Public Art Program staff.

As previously stated, this is a fast-track project. The construction contract will go out to bid in mid-2011 for estimated completion by June 2012.

Staff recommends that Mr. Corson proceed with schematic design development of this new art concept(s), in conjunction with Sasaki Associates.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There is no direct financial impact associated with this design review and approval.

REQUEST

Staff requests that the Public Art Advisory Committee (PAAC) review and approve artist Dan Corson's new art concept for the Uptown BART 17th Street Gateway project, to allow the artist and designers Sasaki Associates to proceed with refined schematic design.