

**Transportation Art Proposal  
(Form 1)  
Cover Sheet**

<b>Lead Agency</b>	<b>Priority</b> ____ <b>of</b> ____ <small>(If submitting more than one application under this cover, list project's priority here)</small>
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**Project**  
 Name: SHATTUCK AVENUE GATEWAY  
 City: OAKLAND County: ALAMEDA  
 Local Cross Street: 54th STREET, SHATTUCK AVENUE  
 State highway(s) affected: \_\_\_\_\_ Post Mile / Bridge No. : \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact Person**  
 Name: STEVEN HUSS  
 Title: CULTURAL ARTS MANAGER  
 Phone: (510) 238-4949 Fax: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: shuss@oaklandnet.com  
 Mailing Address: City of Oakland, 1 FRANK OGAWA PLAZA, 9th Floor  
Oakland, Ca. 94612

<p><b>Nature of Artwork</b> (Check all that apply)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Statuary</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture (Free-standing)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Painting(s) or Mural</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Mosaic(s)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Decorative treatment to existing structures</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other (Explain) _____</p>	<p><b>Proposed Installation Date:</b> <u>APRIL - JUNE - 2013</u></p> <p>If temporary, proposed removal date: _____</p> <p>If permanent, expected lifespan: <u>25</u> years</p> <p><b>PEER Review:</b> ____ Yes ____ No (If "Yes", see attached file)</p> <p align="right"><small>(Caltrans Office Use)</small></p>
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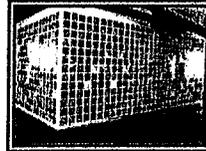
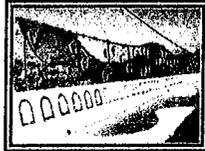
This project has been reviewed by the District Transportation Art Committee (DTAC) for compliance with the policy and requirements under the Caltrans - Transportation Art Program and is cleared for the Encroachment Permit Application process

**Caltrans Concurrence by District Transportation Art Committee (DTAC) (Sign and Date)**

\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

(Print Name and Title)

(Caltrans Office Use)



Transportation Art Proposal  
(Form 2.)  
**APPLICANT CERTIFICATION**

I certify that the Oakland Cultural Arts & Marketing (**Applicant**) supports the proposed Transportation Art project, and is the responsible Local Public Agency or tribal government representing the community where the art will be placed.

I understand that this is NOT a grant application, but is a request for authorization to install the proposed artwork within or on existing Caltrans right-of-way or structure. Once approval for the art project has been granted, a separate encroachment permit application will be filed by the applicant with the District Encroachment Permits Unit.

I certify that I have read and understand the requirements for the Transportation Art Program as stated in Chapter 29 - (Section 6) of the **Caltrans Project Development Procedures Manual (PDPM)**, and that the Transportation Art Proposals are complete.

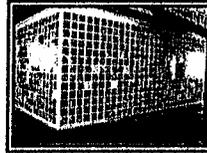
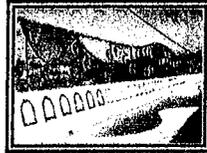
In addition, I certify that the Oakland Cultural Arts & Marketing (**Applicant**) will be responsible for:

- All costs associated with the design, engineering, testing, construction and installation of the proposed artwork including labor, materials, supplies, and traffic control, maintenance and removal
- Obtaining and documenting local community support for the art project
- Providing an adopted local agency or tribal government resolution supporting the proposed artwork. The adopted resolution must describe:
  - 1) The local agency's jurisdiction in the vicinity of the project site;
  - 2) The date of public consideration and comment of the proposed art;
  - 3) The approval of the artwork content and location
  - 4) The proposed life span of the project
  - 5) The local agency's commitment to ensure maintenance of the artwork, including timely graffiti removal/repair, and removal (or restoration) of the artwork at the end of its life span; and
  - 6) A schedule for commencing and completing project installation.
- Removing the artwork at the end of its useful life cycle, at the end of the term of the permit, or if requested by Caltrans and returning the site to a condition as good or better than at the start of the art project.
- The artist(s) and the Oakland Cultural Arts & Marketing - (**Applicant**) will adhere to and remain in compliance with Caltrans' rules, regulations and any additional restrictions Caltrans may apply to the transportation art project.
- Providing the name, address and telephone number of each responsible person who will be working within the State right of way to construct, maintain, rehabilitate or remove the artwork.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

Resolution # Supporting Project \_\_\_\_\_ Date Adopted \_\_\_\_\_



Transportation Art Proposal  
(Form 3)  
**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

A) Nature of Artwork (e.g., sculpture, mural):

MURAL

B) Artwork Description: (the artwork's content, size and proposed location; proposed lifespan; a brief description of the existing site conditions; brief description of the resulting conditions after artwork is installed; attached reproducible drawings, maps, photographs, photo simulations or other appropriate documents (no larger than 11" x 17" and preferably 8.5" x 11")

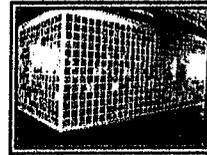
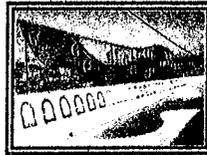
THE ARTWORK IS TITLED SHATTUCK AVENUE GATEWAY.  
THE LOCATION IS 54<sup>th</sup> STREET and SHATTUCK AVENUE; 14 OVAL CALTRANS COLUMNS, SUPPORTING HIGHWAY 24, WILL BE PAINTED WITH KEIM MINERAL COATINGS PAINT IN A WAVY, ORGANIC STRIPED, VERTICAL DESIGN. EXISTING LANDSCAPE WILL NOT BE DISTURBED. THAT PORTRAYS TREES.

\_\_\_\_ (Check here and add attachments if more space is needed)

C) Describe the extent to which this artwork implements the values of the local community and the guidelines contained in the approved Corridor Master Plan or Corridor Aesthetic Improvement Plan for the proposed location (if applicable). Refer to Chapter 29 - (Section 6) of the **Caltrans Project Development Procedures Manual (PDPM)** if an approved plan for the area does not exist.

THE ARTWORK PROVIDES LIFE-ENHANCING, COLORFUL PATTERNS TO 'LIGHT-UP' A DARK UNDERPASS. THE ARTWORK CREATES A PLACE-MARKER, A BEAUTIFUL WAY-FINDER and ACTS AS A TWO-DIRECTIONAL NORTH, SOUTH GATEWAY, near the OAKLAND, BERKELEY BORDER. COMMUNITY IS HIGHLY SUPPORTIVE OF TREES theme

\_\_\_\_ (Check here and add attachments if more space is needed)



Transportation Art Proposal  
 (Form 3 continued)  
**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

D) Describe the process used for review and approval of the artwork by local agencies, neighborhoods or communities adjacent to and most affected by the proposed artwork. List public meetings, environmental hearings (if required), resolutions, legislative actions, etc. affecting development of this project. List the government agencies, public or private organizations, and individuals that have endorsed this project.

Attach copies of endorsement letters and other written proof of support from the parties most affected by the proposed artwork. *Community meeting was held December 18, 2012 at the Telegraph Branch LIBRARY.*  
*Additional Community meeting will be held in January 2013 at the Telegraph branch of the <sup>OAKLAND</sup> Public LIBRARY.*

ENDORSEMENTS by:

- CHILDRENS HOSPITAL OAKLAND.
- Temescal Telegraph Business Improvement District
- Vas Kiriis
- City of Oakland Cultural Arts & Marketing Department *see attached document*
- RONT-A-RELIC; 4444 TELEGRAPH AVE.

E) Describe how the artwork is consistent with local adopted comprehensive plans or transportation plans (if applicable)

*N.A.*

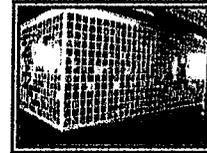
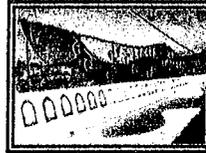
\_\_\_\_ (Check here and add attachments if more space is needed)

F) Does any part of the project affect existing utilities? \_\_\_\_ Yes  No  
 If "Yes", describe the type and owner of the utilities affected and how they will be impacted or mitigated.

\_\_\_\_ (Check here and add attachments if more space is needed)

G) Does any part of the project require the disturbance of soil? \_\_\_\_ Yes  No  
 If "Yes", estimate the area (SQFT or acres) and describe the nature of the soil disturbance.

\_\_\_\_ (Check here and add attachments if more space is needed)



Transportation Art Proposal  
 (Form 3 continued)  
**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

H) Does any part of the project encroach on, cross, or will be within 25 feet of the centerline of railroad right-of way?

Yes  No

If "Yes", describe the nature of the encroachment, the impact and whether an agreement is in place between the railroad and the Local Public Agency or Tribal Government that covers the encroachment.

(Check here and add attachments if more space is needed)

I) Does any part of the project cross or will be within 25 feet from the edge of pavement of State highway, expressway or freeway?  Yes  No

If "Yes", provide a traffic control plan for review and approval by the District Traffic Safety unit

(Check here and add attachments if more space is needed)

J) Does any part of the project cross or will be within 5 feet from the edge of curb or pavement of local streets and roads?  Yes  No

If "Yes", provide a traffic control plan approved by the responsible Local Public Agency department (i.e. Public Works, Traffic & Parking Control, etc.)

*A six foot width of clear Shattuck Avenue sidewalk will be provided at all times.*

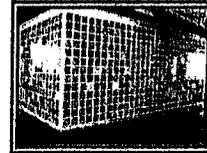
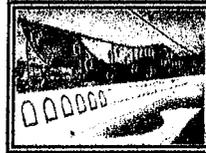
(Check here and add attachments if more space is needed)

K) Provide a Cost Estimate for the proposed transportation art project, include breakdown for labor, materials & equipment, operational (traffic) control, and maintenance.

(Check here and add attachments if more space is needed)

L) Provide a copy of all agreements between the artist(s) and the Local Public Agency or Tribal Government pertaining to ownership, copyrights installation, operation, maintenance and removal of the artwork.

*The State of California should be named as a party in all agreements regarding removal, ownership, copyrights, and indemnification, as described under Chapter 29 - (Section 6) of the Caltrans Project Development Procedures Manual (PDPM).*



Transportation Art Proposal  
 (Form 3 continued)  
**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

**M) Provide the name of artist and description of his/her work and background (Artist's Resume)**

ALAN LEON IS THE ARTIST. HE HAS LIVED and WORKED in OAKLAND for almost 20 YEARS. HE HAS PAINTED OVER 50 MURALS since 1990. HE HAS painted murals at Temescal neighborhood businesses, like RENT-A-RELIC and PICO PACO. In 2011 and 2012 Alan PAINTED TEMESCAL FLOWS on BART & CALTRANS COLUMNS at 52nd STREET near SHATTUCK AVENUE. THE PROJECT CONSISTED OF 17 COLUMNS and 2 OVERPASS FASCIAS.

ALAN HAS WORKED ON SEVERAL LARGE ARCHITECTURAL PROJECTS, BOTH AS LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT and AS A PUBLIC ARTIST.

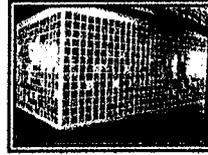
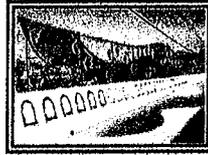
ALAN IS A FULBRIGHT SCHOLAR, TEACHER and OMEGA INSTITUTE ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE.

(Check here and add attachments if more space is needed)

**N) Briefly describe the construction and installation techniques; traffic control and operation plan for this project. Include any specifications, technical data sheets and details necessary to convey construction methods and proposed materials, including, but not limited to paint and protective coatings.**

INSTALLATION - ARTIST WILL USE ONLY LADDERS and 30" WIDE SCISSORS LIFT, WHICH WILL BE STORED OFFSITE WHEN NOT IN USE. KEIM MINERAL COATING PAINTS WILL BE USED EXCLUSIVELY. APPLIED WITH STANDARD PAINTBRUSHES. GRAFFITI COATING WILL BE APPLIED OVER the paint from sidewalk height to 10' HEIGHT ON ALL COLUMNS.

(Check here and add attachments if more space is needed)



Transportation Art Proposal  
(Form 3 continued)

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

O) Briefly describe the proposed long-term maintenance plan and schedule  
(Maintenance practices must protect air and water quality as required by law)

- Regular Cleaning: LOW PRESSURE WASHING WITH WATER <sup>once</sup>/2 years

- Graffiti Removal/ Repair: MURAL WILL BE SEALED WITH KEIM product PSS-20 GRAFFITI COATING. ANY GRAFFITI CAN BE REMOVED WITH HOT WATER

*(Caltrans policy requires prompt removal of offensive messages and timely removal of all other graffiti)*

- Restoration Work: USE KEIM PAINTS

- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ (Check here and add attachments if more space is needed)

P) Briefly describe the removal plan of the artwork at the conclusion of the term of the permit (unless renewed), if it becomes a safety hazard, or if it deteriorates beyond repair.

SCRAPE COLUMN of DEBRIS, if NECESSARY  
REPAINT COLUMN

\_\_\_\_ (Check here and add attachments if more space is needed)

## D) Neighborhood Community Meeting

This project came about by community members asking for an artistic treatment to the SITE. FLYERS and WEBSITE announcements were distributed widely, for a Community meeting, held December 18, 2012 at the Telegraph Branch Library. Fifteen neighbors attended.

Some widely accepted ideas were;

- The Theme of TREES.
- GRADUATED COLOR, Balance of soft, bright & earth tones.
- PEDESTRIAN & CAR-SPEED APPEAL
- HIDDEN TREATS, CAMEOS. within the Artwork.

COMMUNITY IS HIGHLY SUPPORTIVE OF  
THE MURAL ARTWORK.



CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL  
& RESEARCH CENTER OAKLAND

November 21, 2012

To whom this concerns:

Alan Leon is a very talented painter who has beautified the area beneath the freeway leading to the main campus of Children's Hospital & Research Center Oakland on 52<sup>nd</sup> Street in Oakland. We understand that he is now seeking approval to paint 14 columns at 54th Street and Shattuck – the Shattuck Avenue Gateway project. We are very supportive of this endeavor as the project will brighten the community and also helps to keep graffiti at bay. In fact, there has been no vandalizing of his work done on 53<sup>rd</sup> Street and it is a beautiful gateway to our campus.

We hope that you are supportive of this project.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cynthia Chiarappa". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Cynthia Chiarappa  
Vice President Strategy

Cc: Bert Lubin, MD – President and Chief Executive Officer  
Richard DeCarlo – Executive Vice President and Chief of Hospital Operations

Margo Rivera-Weiss  
Women's Cancer Resource Center  
5741 Telegraph Avenue  
Oakland, CA 94609  
510-350-1311  
[margo@wcr.org](mailto:margo@wcr.org)

November 26, 2012.

Dear Caltrans,

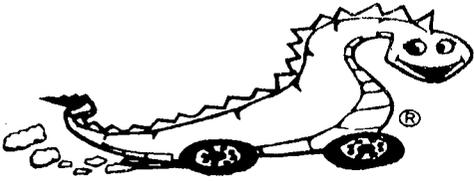
I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for the Shattuck Avenue Gateway project. I have lived in Oakland for over three decades and have worked in the immediate area for the past 20 years and drive past the Caltrans columns 10 – 12 times each week. I am the art gallery curator and community outreach coordinator at the Women's Cancer Resource Center just a few blocks away at Telegraph and 58<sup>th</sup> St. I wholeheartedly approve and encourage the mural painting on 14 Caltrans columns at the underpass at 54th street and Shattuck Avenue.

I have seen 4 of Alan Leon's large scale public artworks/murals and feel his art would beautify and transform a functional but unattractive spot in the neighborhood. I fully endorse this project. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Margo Rivera-Weiss', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Margo Rivera-Weiss



## **Rent-A-Relic**

4444 Telegraph Avenue  
Oakland, California 94609  
**(510) 601-6560**

Nov. 27, 2012

Dear Caltrans,

As business owners and long-time members of the community on Telegraph Ave (Rent-A-Relic), we hereby express our support for Alan Leon's Shattuck Avenue Gateway mural project at 54<sup>th</sup> and Shattuck Avenue. We feel that his work on "Temescal Flows" has enhanced our neighborhood and brightens our days.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rich Craig and Todd Connors'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Rich Craig and Todd Connors

to whom it may concern at Caltrans ,

November 19, 2012

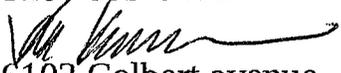
This letter is written to express support for the Shattuck Avenue Gateway project. As a local property owner in the neighborhood, I feel the mural painting of 14 Caltrans columns at the underpass at 54th street and shattuck would improve the area greatly.

I heartily endorse the project. Please contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Vas Kiriis

510 333-0401

  
6103 Colbert avenue  
Oakland, Ca., 94618

**Alan Leon - Artist**

Oakland, CA, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
www.alanleon.org  
[REDACTED]

Alan Leon has painted over 50 murals in the Bay area and internationally

2011 Temescal Flows 146' x 6', 120' x 5' on Highway 24, North Oakland

2010 The Earth Flourishes, 4' x 32', community mural depicting a vision for the Santa Fe R.O.W., Berkeley

2008 Spiral Dance 8' x 16', at the Global Mural Fest, Tasmania, Australia

2007 You Are the Light, 156' x 17' on the Cuban National Library in Santiago de Cuba (group mural)

2006 Port of Oakland Shipping Container Murals, 20' x 8' x 8'

2006 Pico Pico Guadalajara Town Square mural, 7' x 25'

2004 Port of Oakland Shipping Container Murals, 20' x 8' x 8'

2003 The Light of Knowledge: A Journey with Books and Friends, 46' x 8' on the Lovyanya DeJean Middle School, Richmond, CA

2000-2002 Mural: Parallel Migrations, for the Ohlone Natural and Cultural History Greenway, Berkeley Civic Arts Commission, 6' x 72'

2000-2001 Exterior Artifact Garden, Highland Hospital, Oakland, CA  
Sculptural artwork incorporating terra cotta building fragments, 20' x 20' x 5'

2000 Celebration Mural, Oakland Festival of the Arts at The Alice, Alice Arts Center, 10' x 15' 1999-2000.  
14th Street and Broadway Transit Center, Oakland, CA, public art consultant; developed themes for siting of downtown public art

1999 Neighborhood Icon Murals, for Jerry Brown inaugural, assisted Dan Fontes

1998 Mural: Golden Rice Fields of the Vietnamese Lowlands, Pho 84 Restaurant, Oakland, CA, 5' x 15'

1998 Mural: Rent-A-Relic sign and mural, Oakland, CA, 24' x 8'

1997 Mural: The Garden is a Gateway, Peralta Street Community Garden mural, Berkeley, 7' x 12'

1996 Mural: Delicious Mountain; Edible Landscape, Oakland, CA, Office of Economic Development, Neighborhood Commercial Revitalization at the House of Produce, 16'X44'

1996 Mural: Curlicue Landscape with Hut, Hammock, and Seashells, at Tropix Restaurant, Oakland, CA, 7'X26'

1995 Mural: The Ancient City Petra, San Bruno, CA, at Petra Restaurant 17'X80'

1995 Mural: Mount of Olives, San Bruno, CA, Olive Tree Cafe, 8'X16'

1994 Mural: Pan-Exodus, San Francisco, CA, Jewish Community Center Auditorium, 5'X7' lunette

1993 Mural: Waterfall Charge, San Francisco, CA, Haight Street Natural Foods, 8'X6'X20

1992 Mural: Valley of the Dance; Life Is Worth Living, San Francisco, CA, at Footwork Dance Studio, 7.5'X13'

54th ST

S h a t t u c k A v e n u e

10'

10'

9'

54th St

highway overhead

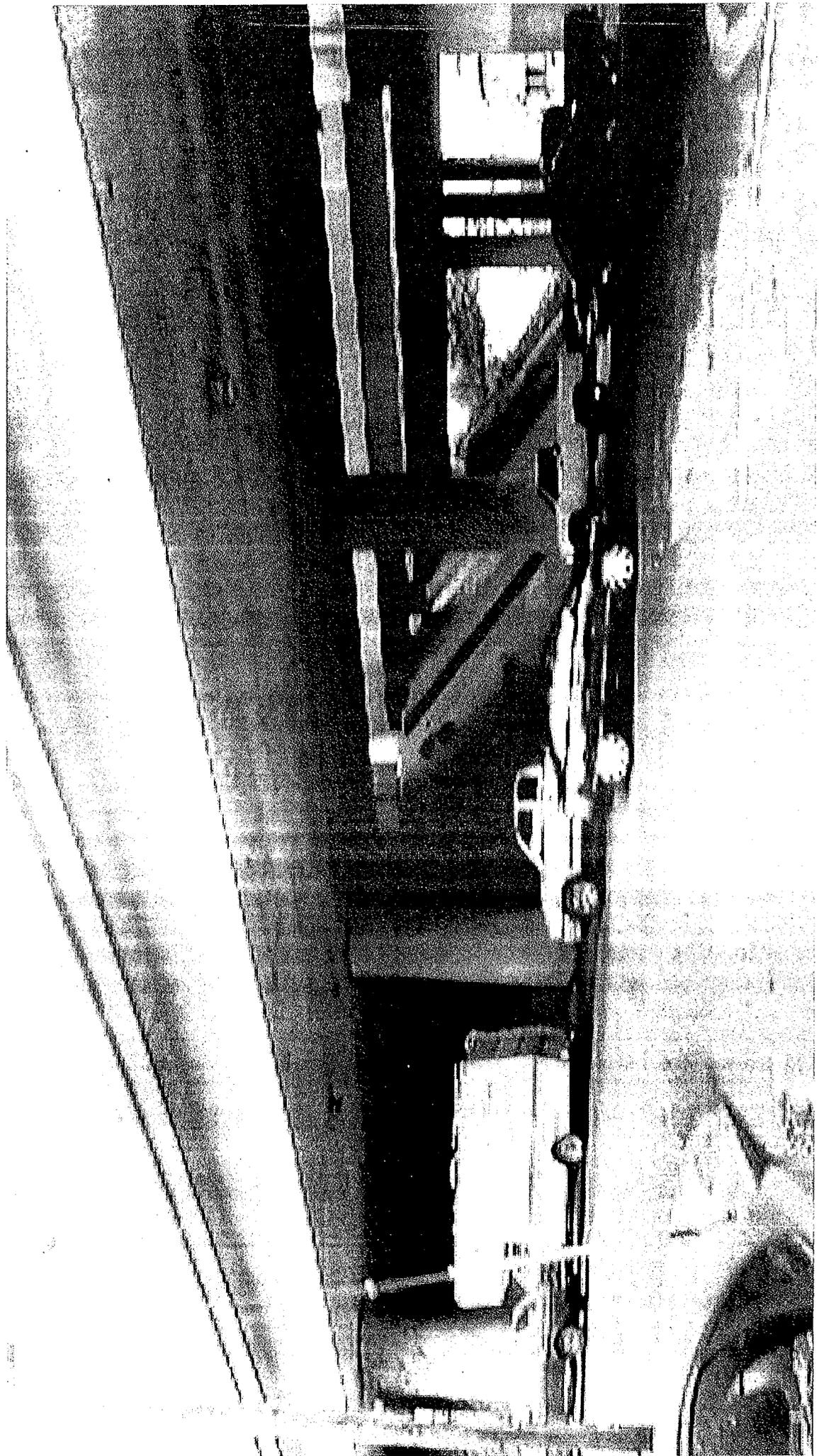


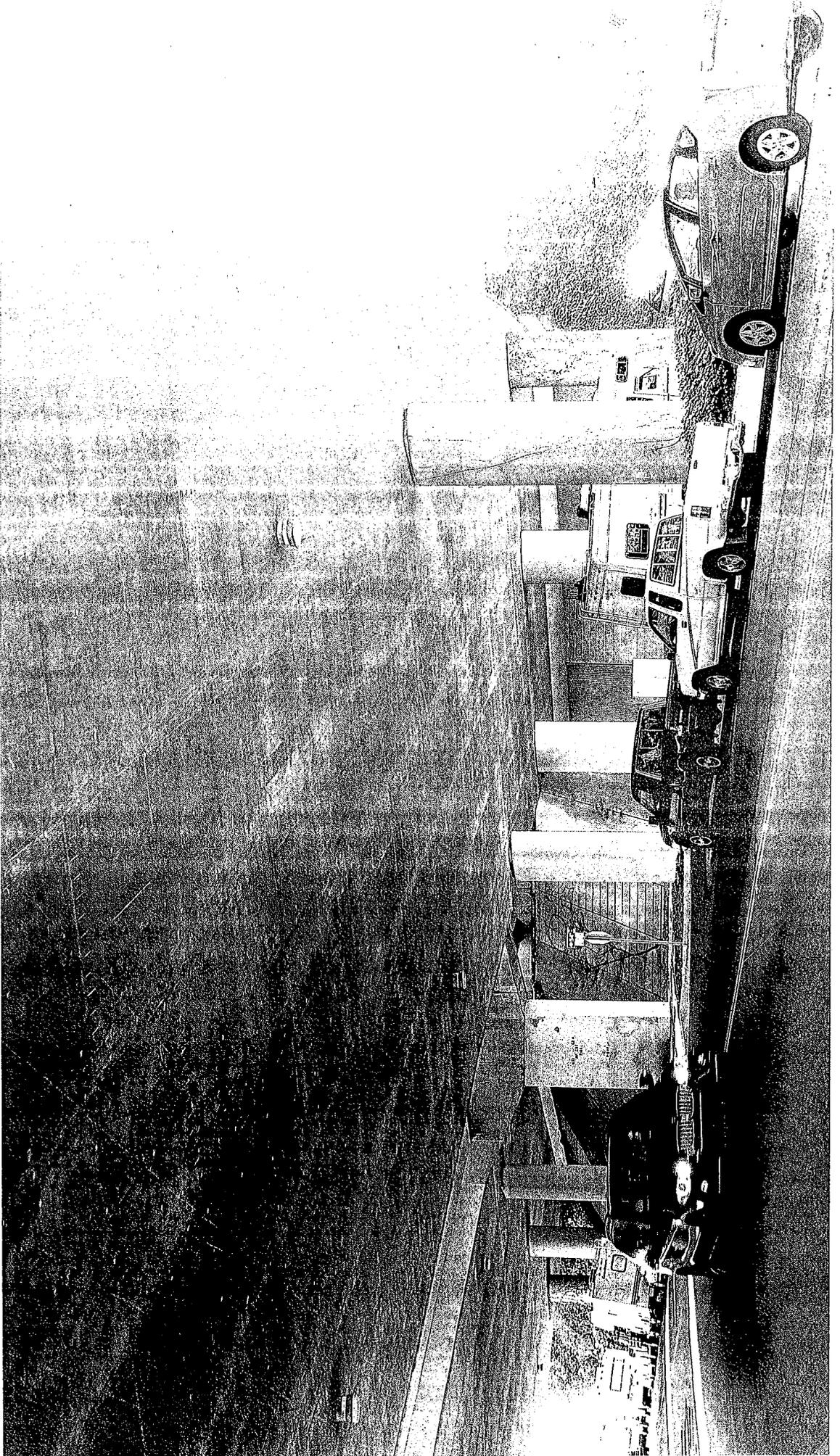
SHATTUCK AVE. GATEWAY

NOVEMBER 2012

ALAN LEON







# Narrative-----Alan Leon

I. The project proposes to create an entirely new branch of Temescal Flows Public Art Mural Project ; the project consists of painted artworks on ~~14~~ Caltrans highway columns at 54th street and Shattuck avenue in Oakland, California. The designs will be thematically coordinated and offer fresh perspectives to the larger recently completed artwork 3 blocks away. The artwork , which is under the highway 24 overpass, will create a gateway along Shattuck Ave. in both directions. The rounded concrete columns are between 15' to 19' in height with an 8'-10' length and offer a substantial "canvas" on which to paint.

This project would extend the aesthetic established on 52nd street and bring the feeling of motion, hope for our future, care, a celebrating the genius of local place, and "color therapy" to the neighborhood. The highway crosses Shattuck ave. at a very acute angle making it an ideal place for a bold artwork. This project will give expression to new variations of wave forms , color tapestries and organically unfolding images that recall the Temescal Creek and other nature patterning like the importance of trees in the urban fabric.

As the artist for Temescal Flows Mural (2 painted highway fascias and 17 painted columns) I am committed to bringing light and color to the pedestrian, bicycle , and auto traffic traversing a 'dark and foreboding underpass. I endeavor to inspire peoples' creativity and delight passersby. A cared for, artistically inspiring block makes for a better quality of urban life. It can bring much joy.

Partners are Vas Kiniris, building owner on shattuck ave. and the Temescal Telegraph Business Improvement District and Association, as well as many neighborhood artist collaborators.

Community connections----strong roots and involvement in the community in an artistic and social presence. I have painted Telegraph avenue business murals such as Rent-A- Relic and Pico Pico Restaurant. I have lived in the area for over 14 years. I participated in the recent Holiday Stroll as the labrynth co-creator and have participated in numerous telegraph/temescal street fairs.

Similarities and differences with existing completed work-- the project will be similar in as much as the same palette ,paint, technique and style will be used. The overall design goals of adding color, care and vivacious design to a dark underpass will remain. The flowing design theme will differ in that it will be specific to the immediate environment and incorporate other local elements such as having more variation in wave forms, more transparent overglazing and more contrast.

However the project will coordinate well with existing 52<sup>nd</sup> street project.

II. Timeline for completion of project

secure permits and approvals	november 2012 -february 2013
design refinement	nov 2012- january 2013
community meeting	january 2013
preparation of columns	february 2013
artwork creation	february- june 2013

**VI BUDGET**

<b>Expenses</b>	
materials—paint--	\$ 6000
scissors lift rental	\$ 1200
graffiti prevention coating	\$ 1000
design time 40 hoursx\$40	\$ 1600
cleaning and preparation 30hrs x \$40	\$ 1200
painting time -artist 390 hrs x \$40	\$ 15,600
collaborators time 200 hrs x \$ 20 =	\$ 4000
other costs-insurance	\$ 300
brushes , masks,rags , scrapers =	\$ 100
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES =</b>	<b>\$ 31,000</b>

**The request for funds from the Open Circle Foundation is for \$20,000**

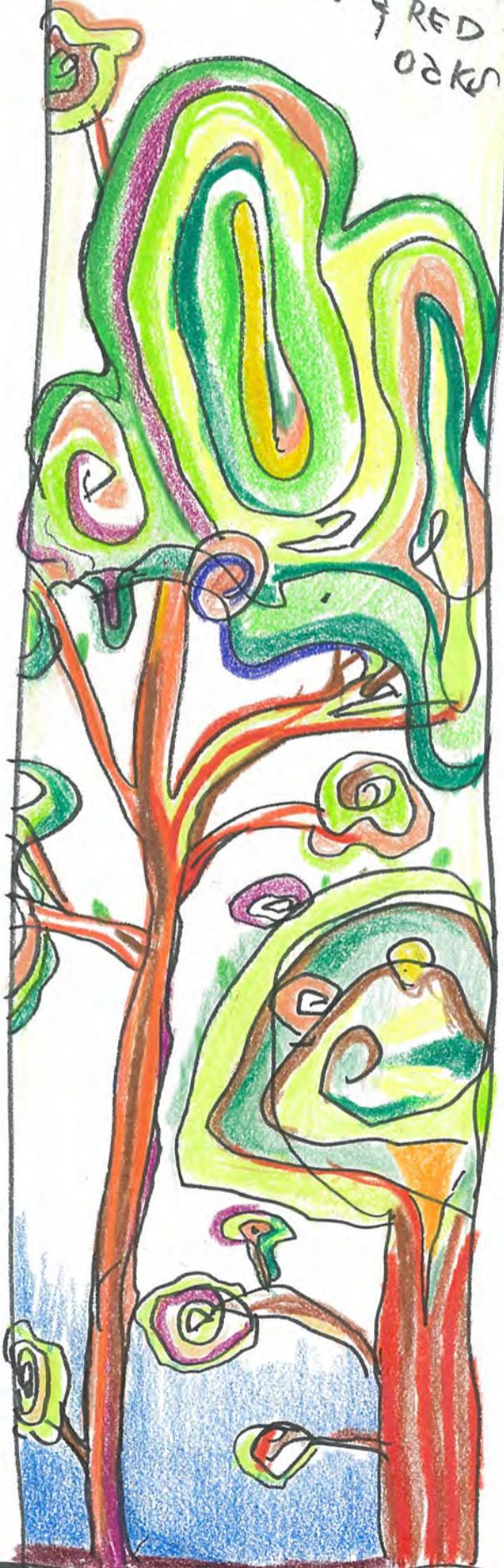
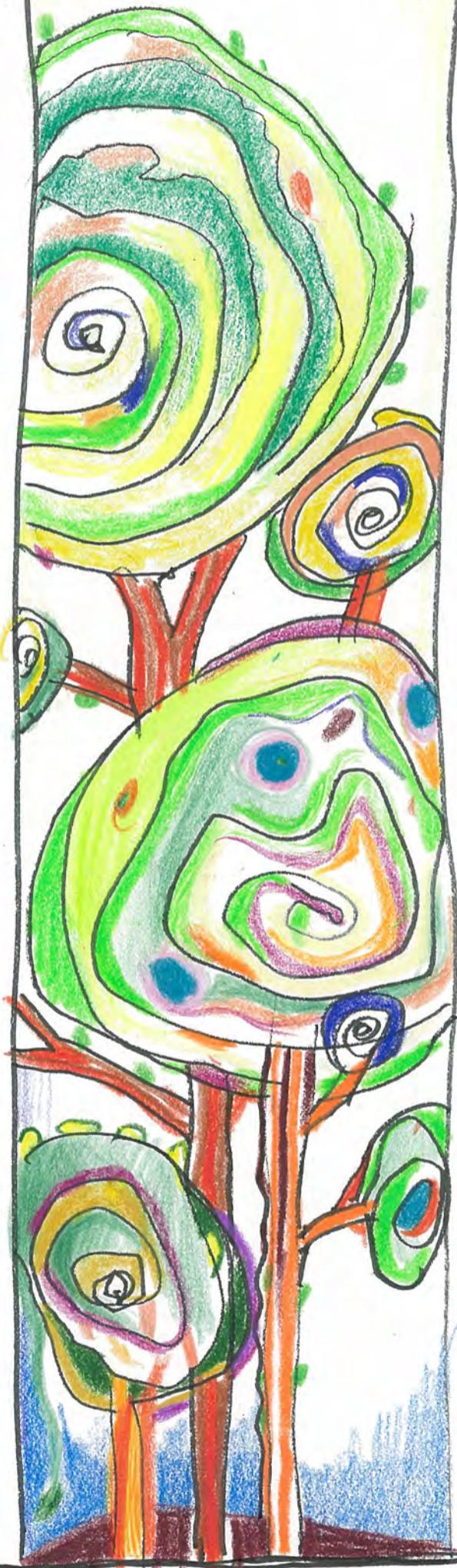
The Temescal Telegraph Business Improvement District will potentially contribute \$1000 to the project . No funds are presently allocated.

Vas Kiniris(local building owner ) will contribute \$3000 in kind donation  
4000

The remaining approximately \$7000 will be raised by a community kickstarter campaign/ sponsor a column endeavor

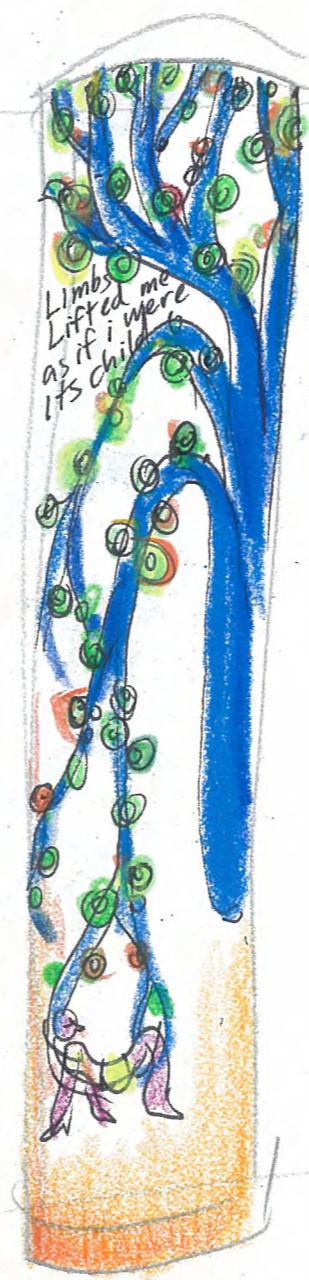
OAKLAND

LAND OF SCRUB,  
BLACK, WHITE & RED  
OAKS





WEST SIDE of SHATTUCK AVE, near 59th



Columns 10-14  
Shattuck - west side @ 54th St.



COLUMNS 7, 8 + 9  
Shattuck Ave West SIDE

**Participant List for Shattuck Avenue Gateway Community Meeting 2-5-13  
at Telegraph Avenue Public Library, Oakland facilitator-Alan Leon**

**Dennis, Elizabeth 610 291-1453 email uglyrumors576@gmail.com**  
**Don Link 510 658-8632 don-link@comcast.net**  
**Jonathan Oppenheimer 510 388-0366 jonopp@sbcglobal.net**  
**Christine Dyers 510 847-3732 idoradesign@gmail.com**  
**Vicki Van Steenberg 510 428-02130 vvancps@yahoo.com**  
**Loren Risker thescreeamingdrills@gmail.com**  
**Tina Lao 415 683-1275**  
**Tim Williams 707 562-8838 to contact about urban forestry projects**  
**Angie Williams-Van Steenberg 510 499-6661**  
**awilliams@thecollegepreparatoryschool.org**  
**to contact about community service**

**notes of meeting**

- presented 50+ tree quotations to evaluate-simple expressions preferred-most effective quotes were selected and noted**
- idea of using trees of certain historical epochs and localities**
- discussion of small plaque-like captions versus integrated graphics**
- possible use of neighborhood crime prevention council mailing list to help raise needed \$ 5000 for project**
- use of Novacolor acrylic paint vs. Keim mineral coatings if there is greater adhesion to metal-clad columns**
- great deal of support and appreciation expressed for project as a way to lighten and animate dark underpass area**
- 2 minute video filmed about the meeting and project for OaklandLocal.com**
- use of Oakland History room and Tim Williams as resources for more tree information**
- prefer representational tree images vs more abstract images**

# [Temescal flows into the Shattuck Avenue Gateway Project](#)

Published on Thursday, February 07, 2013

Last updated on 01:00PM, Friday, February 8, 2013

*Alan Leon, Temescal mural, <http://www.alanleon.org/images/00-2011-mural2.jpg>*

Alan Leon, the mural artist from Oakland who transformed the hulking Highway 24 overpass into a vibrant, colorful passageway flowing between the Temescal business district and the Children's Hospital Oakland, is planning a second installation for the fourteen columns at the underpass at 54th Street and Shattuck. Alan hosted his second community meeting at the [Temescal Branch of the Oakland Public Library](#) this week to solicit comments, ideas, and resources for the "Shattuck Avenue Gateway Project."

"People seem to be excited by the idea of trees," said Alan as he recited inspirational quotes from John Muir to Woody Allen. "Just as long as there's no more Gertrude Stein!" chuckled a community member with a background in art history. "There's "[THERE](#)" everywhere in Oakland."

The "[Temescal Flows](#)" murals at 52nd and Shattuck were completed in June 2011 after two months of painting and two years of planning with support from Caltrans and the [Temescal Telegraph Business Improvement District](#), which sponsored the mural project along with [Oakland's Cultural Funding Program](#).

Alan has already received a \$20,000 grant for the Shattuck Avenue Gateway Project but the projected budget is \$31,000. "There's a lot to do behind the scenes with equipment rental, paints, labor." Alan says he may do a KickStarter for the project to raise the additional funds needed. But he's very optimistic this will go through because of the warm reception to "Temescal Flows."

Caltrans has said this "raises the bar" in artwork on columns and underpasses and related walls. The [Oakland Children's Hospital](#) issued a referral saying, "The project will brighten the community and also helps to keep graffiti at bay. In fact, there has been no vandalizing of his work done on [53rd Street](#) and it is a beautiful gateway to our campus."

The timeframe to start painting is May/June 2013, until then he's refining the design. "At least there's a nice precedent with my work with them over the last 2 years," says Alan with a smile, "just to give a little relief to people walking, driving, bicycling in this dark overpass with 10 tons of concrete above." To support this project please contact Alan directly at [alangoat2002@yahoo.com](mailto:alangoat2002@yahoo.com) or [alanleon.org](http://alanleon.org) for more information.

About [Tina Liao](#)

## **Tree Quotations**

**column 1      Oakland; Land of Blue, Valley , Live & Scrub Oaks**

**column 2      Among Trees, You are Home**

**column 3      An Infinity of Forest Lies Dormant within the Dreams of One  
Acorn**

**column 4      Best Time to Plant a Tree was 20 Years Ago..The Next Best Time  
is Now**

**column 5      Trees are the Earths Endless Effort to Speak to the Listening  
Heavens**

**column 6      Plant Trees under whose Shade You do not Expect Sit**

**column 7      May it be my Custom to go Outdoors Each day among the  
Trees and all Growing things..There may I Be Alone and Enter into Prayer**

**column 8      Us Sing and Dance, Make Faces and Give Flower Bouquets,  
Trying to be Loved..You Ever notice That Trees do Everything to git Attention  
we do , except Walk?--alice walker-the color purple**

**column 9      Trees are Happy for No Reason**

**column 10     May The Forest Be with You: May the Spiral be with You**

**column 11     The Limbs of the Tree Reached Down and Lifted me, Thinking  
I was its Child**

**column 12     Trees' Songs Never Cease; Every Hidden Cell is throbbing  
with Music and Life—John Muir**

**column 13     They took all the trees and put 'em in a tree museum and they  
charged all the people a dollar and a half to see them - joni mitchel**

**column 14     Trees are poems the earth writes upon the sky—Kahil Gibran**

**alternate quotes-**

**-No man manages his affairs as well as a Tree does**

**-Inhale an O2 gift from all plant Life; Exhale a CO2 gift back to the Trees**

- Trees are Loving Air Releasers; Staircases for Squirrel --martin , age 6**
- To Know Strength and Patience , Welcome the Company of Trees**
- The Tree is a Slow , Enduring Force Straining to Win the Sky**
- Trees Hold Space, Give Support to Animals and Bring Together Worlds**
- The Best Part of Happiness is the Pines- Terri Guillemets**
- Between Every Two Pines is a Doorway to a New World- John Muir**