



## **PUBLIC ART SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA**

**Thursday, July 9, 2026  
4:00 PM**

To attend this meeting via computer or smart device, click: <https://cityofberkeley-info.zoomgov.com/j/1616125937>. If you wish to speak during Public Comment portions of the agenda, click the Raise Hand icon, located under Reactions, and wait to be recognized by the Committee Chair. To attend this meeting via phone, dial 1-669-254-5252 and enter Meeting ID: 161 612 5937. To submit an e-mail Public Comment, email [civcart@berkeleyca.gov](mailto:civcart@berkeleyca.gov) with the Subject Line in this format: "PUBLIC COMMENT ITEM #." Please observe a 150-word limit. Time limits will apply to all Public Comments.

### **Roll Call**

Chair Eduardo Pineda (District 5)  
Vice Chair Jonathan Bachrach (District 1)  
Commissioner Devi Dutta-Choudhury (Mayor)

### **Land Acknowledgement**

The City of Berkeley recognizes that the community we live in was built on the territory of Huchiun (Hooch-yoon), the ancestral and unceded land of the Chochenyo (Cho-chen-yo) speaking Ohlone (Oh-low-nee) people, the ancestors and descendants of the sovereign Verona (Vuh-roh-nuh) Band of Alameda County. This land was and continues to be of great importance to all of the Ohlone Tribes and descendants of the Verona Band. We acknowledge and honor the original inhabitants of Berkeley, the documented 5,000-year history of a vibrant community at the West Berkeley Shellmound, and the Ohlone people who continue to reside in the East Bay. We recognize that Berkeley residents have and continue to benefit from the use and occupation of this unceded stolen land since the City of Berkeley's incorporation in 1878. As stewards of the laws regulating the City of Berkeley, it is not only vital that we recognize the history of this land, but also recognize that the Ohlone people are present members of Berkeley and other East Bay communities today. The City of Berkeley will continue to build relationships with the Lisjan (Lih-Shawn) Tribe and create meaningful actions that uphold the intention of this Land Acknowledgement

## Public Comment on Non-Agenda Matters

### Chairperson's Report

*The Commission Chair may make announcements or provide information to the Commission in the form of an oral report. The Commission will not take action on such items but may request the items be placed on a future agenda for discussion.*

### Commission Action Items

*The public may comment on each item listed on the agenda for action as the item is taken up. Following review and discussion of the items listed below, the Commission may continue an item to a future Commission meeting. **No Action can be taken on items that are not noticed on the published agenda.***

- 1. Qualification of A People's History of Telegraph Avenue Mural Preservation as On Site Publicly Accessible Art for 2455 Telegraph Avenue / 2506 Haste Street**  
**From:** Carianna Arredondo, Assistant to the City Manager  
**Recommendation:** Review, discuss, and authorize the Commission Secretary to transmit the memorandum regarding A People's History of Telegraph Avenue mural preservation at 2455 Telegraph Avenue / 2506 Haste Street to the Zoning Adjustments Board, upon approval by the full Civic Arts Commission.  
**Public Comment**
- 2. Jean LaMarr: Ohlone Park Artwork Elements**  
**From:** Carianna Arredondo, Assistant to the City Manager  
**Recommendation:** Approve the updated final design for Jean LaMarr's Ohlone Park artwork elements, including the sculptural benches and grinding stone, and authorize staff to proceed with fabrication, coordination, and installation of the artwork at Ohlone Park.  
**Public Comment**

### Presentations / Discussion Items

- 3. Background Memo: Public Art on Private Development Nexus Study**  
**From:** Carianna Arredondo, Assistant to the City Manager  
**Recommendation:** Commissioners may request additional information and reserve opportunity to review and act at a later meeting.  
**Public Comment**

### Items for Future Agendas

*These items are not scheduled for discussion or action at this meeting. The Commission may schedule these items to the Action Calendar of a future Commission meeting.*

## Commissioner Announcements

### Adjournment

### Attachments

1. Qualification of A People's History of Telegraph Avenue Mural Preservation as On Site Publicly Accessible Art for 2455 Telegraph Avenue / 2506 Haste Street
2. Jean LaMarr: Ohlone Park Artwork Elements
3. Background Memo | Public Art on Private Development Nexus Study

### Staff Contact:

Mark Salinas, Public Art Manager  
msalinas@berkeleyca.gov

### Notices

#### Notice of Public Record

Communications to Berkeley boards, commissions or committees are public record and will become part of the City's electronic records, which are accessible through the City's website. Please note: E-mail addresses, names, addresses, and other contact information are not required but, if included in any communication to a City board, commission, or committee, will become part of the public record. If you do not want your e-mail address or any other contact information to be made public, you may deliver communications via U.S. Postal Service or in person to the secretary of the relevant board, commission, or committee. If you do not want your contact information included in the public record, please do not include that information in your communication. Please contact the secretary to the relevant board, commission, or committee for further information.

Any writings or documents provided to a majority of the commission regarding any item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection at the City Manager's Office located at 2180 Milvia Street, 5<sup>th</sup> floor, Berkeley, CA 94704



Civic Arts Division

**To:** Civic Arts Commission

**From:** Carianna Arredondo, Assistant to the City Manager, Civic Arts Division

**Date:** July 1, 2026

**Subject:** Civic Arts Coordinator Determination – Qualification of *A People’s History of Telegraph Avenue* Mural Preservation as On-Site Publicly Accessible Art for 2455 Telegraph Avenue / 2506 Haste Street

## I. Civic Arts Coordinator Determination

As the City’s Assistant to the City Manager, responsible for managing the Civic Arts Division, I have determined that the proposed **retention, restoration, preservation, and long-term protection of *A People’s History of Telegraph Avenue* qualifies as On-Site Publicly Accessible Art under Section V.A of the City of Berkeley’s *Public Art in Private Development Program Guidelines and Procedures***.<sup>1</sup> Section V.A provides that the placement of pre-existing artworks, as well as the restoration or preservation of existing historic artworks and artist-designed elements on building façades and other publicly accessible areas, may be considered On-Site Publicly Accessible Art in limited circumstances if, by determination of the Civic Arts Coordinator, the artwork is appropriate to the site and integrated into the design of the development project.

This is a threshold eligibility determination. Final credit toward the project’s Public Art requirement remains subject to presentation to the Civic Arts Commission for review and feedback, submission of a complete restoration and preservation plan, documentation of eligible costs, and submission of a long-term maintenance and upkeep plan.

This determination is based on the exceptional facts of this project. The mural is an existing historic artwork; it is located on a publicly accessible building façade; it is directly tied to the cultural, political, and social history of Telegraph Avenue, People’s Park, and Berkeley; and the proposed development has been designed to retain and integrate the mural into the public-facing ground-floor condition of the project.

## II. Project Background

The proposed project is located at **2455 Telegraph Avenue and 2506 Haste Street**<sup>2</sup>, at the southwest corner of Telegraph Avenue and Haste Street within the Telegraph Avenue Commercial District. The site currently includes the one-story commercial building at 2455 Telegraph Avenue, occupied by Amoeba Music for more than 35 years, and the building at 2506 Haste Street. The project proposes to preserve and restore the historic mural at 2455 Telegraph Avenue, demolish the building at 2506 Haste

---

<sup>1</sup> <https://berkeleyca.gov/sites/default/files/2022-01/Guidelines%20Public%20Art%20in%20Private%20Development%20Program%2009-26-18.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> [https://berkeleyca.gov/sites/default/files/2026-05/2026-06-04\\_LPC\\_Item%207A\\_2455%20Telegraph\\_Staff%20Report.pdf](https://berkeleyca.gov/sites/default/files/2026-05/2026-06-04_LPC_Item%207A_2455%20Telegraph_Staff%20Report.pdf)

Street, and construct an approximately 85,000-square-foot, eight-story mixed-use building with a ground-floor record store and 68 residential units, including seven Very Low-Income units.

The project proposes to retain the west, or primary, Telegraph Avenue façade and the north Haste Street façade of the existing 2455 Telegraph Avenue building. The north façade is the location of [\*A People's History of Telegraph Avenue\*](#), also known as the Bicentennial Mural. The project would remove the remainder of the existing building while retaining the publicly visible façades and associated artwork along Haste Street and Telegraph Avenue as the base of the new development.

The Landmarks Preservation Commission staff report notes that the unreinforced masonry wall the mural is painted on and the Telegraph Avenue façade would be preserved, reinforced, and structurally incorporated into the proposed mixed-use residential building. The Haste Street design would allow the upper-story overhang and second-level relief to frame the mural and provide an opportunity for dramatic lighting.

At its June 4, 2026 meeting, the Landmarks Preservation Commission approved a Structural Alteration Permit for the project, which approves the preservation of the Telegraph and Haste Street frontages while demolishing the remaining components of the building to accommodate the associated project.

### **III. Mural Background and Significance**

*A People's History of Telegraph Avenue* is painted on the north-facing Haste Street wall of 2455 Telegraph Avenue. The building was constructed in 1933, and the mural was originally created in 1976 by the People's Wall Muralists, including Osha Neumann, Janet Kransberg, Daniel Galvez, and O'Brien Thiele. ARG's analysis describes the mural as depicting politically charged scenes from Berkeley's history in the 1960s, particularly events connected to the Free Speech Movement and the establishment of People's Park<sup>3</sup>.

The mural commemorates significant political and community events in Berkeley, including the Free Speech Movement, anti-Vietnam War activism, Third World solidarity demonstrations, the creation of People's Park, and the violent confrontation known as "Bloody Thursday." The mural was originally community-supported, with funding from community donations and labor contributed by as many as 30 people.

The mural is not limited to a flat painted surface. It incorporates architectural and functional building elements into the artwork, including door openings, a metal infill panel, shaped iron bars, a weatherhead painted as an eye, a downspout, a vent, and other façade elements. The Landmarks Preservation Commission staff report identifies character-defining features of the mural, including the long uninterrupted flat exterior façade, depictions of sociocultural and political forces in Southside Berkeley, representations of events such as the Free Speech Movement and People's Park, and the incorporation of building elements such as windows and doorways into the overall design.

On April 3, 1990, the Berkeley City Council designated *A People's History of Telegraph Avenue* as a Berkeley City Landmark. The designation recognized the mural's educational and historic value, including its depiction of Berkeley in the 1960s, the Free Speech Movement, the People's Park Riot,

---

<sup>3</sup> [https://drive.google.com/file/d/170VBuUOl3Y\\_nfKFhngtKnd0L1Ffg5Mib/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/170VBuUOl3Y_nfKFhngtKnd0L1Ffg5Mib/view?usp=sharing)

and the revolutionary movement of the 1960s. The landmark designation applies to the mural itself, rather than to the entire 2455 Telegraph Avenue building.

#### **IV. Applicable Public Art Standard**

Section V.A of the City's *Public Art in Private Development Program Guidelines and Procedures* provides that:

"The placement of pre-existing artworks and restoration or preservation of existing historic artworks and Artist-designed elements on building facades and other Publicly Accessible areas may be considered On-Site Publicly Accessible Art in limited circumstances if, by the determination of the Civic Arts Coordinator, they are appropriate to the site and integrated into the design of the Development Project."

I have determined that this project meets that limited-circumstance standard.

The mural is a pre-existing historic artwork. It is located on a publicly accessible building façade. It is appropriate to the site because its imagery, history, and meaning are inseparable from Telegraph Avenue, People's Park, and Berkeley's public memory. It is integrated into the design of the Development Project because the project has been organized around retaining the mural and façade in place as the public-facing ground-floor base of the new building.

#### **V. Staff Analysis Supporting Determination**

##### ***A. The mural is an existing historic artwork.***

The mural is a designated Berkeley City Landmark and a community-created public artwork with documented educational, cultural, and historic value. It is not a decorative feature added for the development project, nor is it a private branding element. It is an existing public artwork with a long-standing role in Berkeley's civic and cultural landscape. The artwork therefore falls directly within the category contemplated by Section V.A: restoration or preservation of an existing historic artwork on a building façade.

##### ***B. The mural is publicly accessible.***

The mural is located on the north-facing Haste Street façade and is visible from the public right-of-way. The proposed project retains the mural at the ground-floor level, where it will continue to be experienced by pedestrians, visitors, residents, and the broader public. This is central to the determination. The proposal preserves the mural as part of the public realm, not as an interior private amenity or inaccessible architectural remnant.

##### ***C. The mural is uniquely appropriate to the site.***

The mural is site-specific in the strongest sense. It depicts Berkeley's social and political history, including the Free Speech Movement, People's Park, and the cultural identity of Telegraph Avenue. The mural's significance is tied to the corridor where it is located and to the history of the Southside area. Because the artwork depicts the history of the place where it is located, preserving it in place maintains the relationship between artwork, site, and public memory. This is a key basis for my determination that the mural is appropriate to the site.

#### ***D. The mural is integrated into the design of the Development Project.***

The proposed development does not treat the mural as an afterthought. The project is designed to retain the Haste Street mural façade and the Telegraph Avenue frontage as the base of the new building. The upper residential floors are set back and visually differentiated from the retained façade. The LPC staff report notes that this approach creates a visual break between the original building base, which features the landmarked mural, and the new construction above it. It further notes that the addition's subdued palette would help ensure that the new construction does not visually compete with the mural's dense and colorful graphic character. The mural will remain a defining feature of the ground-floor public-facing elevation. The proposed massing, setback, and façade treatment support the mural's continued visibility and legibility.

#### ***E. The project provides a meaningful preservation benefit.***

The project proposes more than passive retention of an existing wall. The preservation measures identified in the LPC staff report include high-resolution photographic documentation, contractor qualification requirements, construction protection requirements, retention of the wall in place, physical barriers and protective layers, retention of existing openings, removal and reinstallation of protruding landmark features, visual and vibration monitoring, structural support for the existing brick masonry substrate, and post-construction review by a qualified historic architect or conservator. ARG's analysis concludes that the proposed project would not adversely affect *A People's History of Telegraph Avenue*, that the project does not propose direct alteration of the mural's physical elements, and that protective measures would preserve the significant visual and material character of the mural during construction and following project completion. These measures support a meaningful public art preservation outcome and justify treating the preservation effort as On-Site Publicly Accessible Art.

#### ***F. This may represent an important preservation precedent for the Public Art Program.***

The Public Art in Private Development Program is often understood as a pathway for commissioning new artwork or paying an in-lieu fee. This project presents a different and important public art outcome: the on-site preservation of an existing, historically significant, publicly accessible artwork in its original context. This may be among the first significant examples of using the On-Site Publicly Accessible Art pathway to support preservation of a landmarked public artwork as part of a private development project. For that reason, the determination should be clearly framed as project-specific and limited to the exceptional facts of this case.

### **VI. Eligible Cost Review**

This determination confirms that the preservation of *A People's History of Telegraph Avenue* qualifies as On-Site Publicly Accessible Art. The applicant shall provide a detailed public art budget identifying costs proposed for credit, including costs associated with mural restoration, conservation, artist or conservator work, construction-phase protection, structural support directly necessary to retain or secure the artwork, documentation, and public-facing interpretive materials.

The budget should clearly distinguish between:

- costs directly related to restoration, preservation, protection, and presentation of the mural;

- base construction or façade-retention costs that would be required regardless of the Public Art requirement;
- long-term maintenance, upkeep, or endowment costs;
- consultant, administrative, insurance, or other costs that may not be eligible for credit under the Guidelines.

Only costs determined to be eligible under the Public Art in Private Development Program may be credited toward the project's Public Art requirement. If the verified eligible costs do not satisfy the full required amount, the applicant will be responsible for paying any required in-lieu amount consistent with the Guidelines.

## **VII. Required Next Steps**

Before final Public Art credit is confirmed, the applicant shall present the proposal to the Civic Arts Commission for review and feedback. The presentation should provide sufficient information for the Commission and staff to understand the public art value of the proposal, the preservation methodology, the public accessibility of the mural, and the long-term stewardship commitments.

Because the project has not yet reached the demolition-permit stage, staff recommends that the Civic Arts Commission forward the five core requirements below to the Zoning Adjustments Board as recommended conditions of approval for issuance of the demolition permit. This approach would allow the project to proceed through the final entitlement hearing, give the applicant and project team time to prepare detailed preservation resources and cost estimates once a contractor is in place, and require the applicant to return to the Civic Arts Commission prior to demolition.

The applicant shall submit the following materials for Civic Arts review:

1. A complete mural restoration and preservation plan in accordance to VARA (Visual Artist Rights Act) and CAPA (California Art Preservation Art).
2. A detailed itemized budget identifying eligible and ineligible Public Art costs.
3. A long-term maintenance, conservation, and upkeep plan for the mural (conditions of approval for the ZAB, and required prior to issuance of a demolition permit (for the building).
4. Documentation of the role of qualified conservators, preservation professionals, artists, and/or original muralists.
5. Confirmation that the mural will remain publicly visible and accessible from the public right-of-way.
6. Any proposed public-facing interpretive signage, plaque, or educational material.

### **Attachments:**

1. Presentation | 2455 Telegraph Avenue & 2506 Haste Street Mixed Use Project



# 2455 Telegraph Avenue & 2506 Haste Street Mixed Use Project

**Civic Arts Subcommittee**

July 9, 2026

# People's Park Mural

1976: originally painted

1990: landmarked

1999: restored, enlarged

2025: water intrusion, seismic risks (brick masonry wall), preliminary restoration





# Project Data

- 85,000 sq. ft. mixed use project
- 8-stories/85 feet
- 68 units (including 7 Very Low Income)
- 7,200 sq. ft. retail (Amoeba Music)



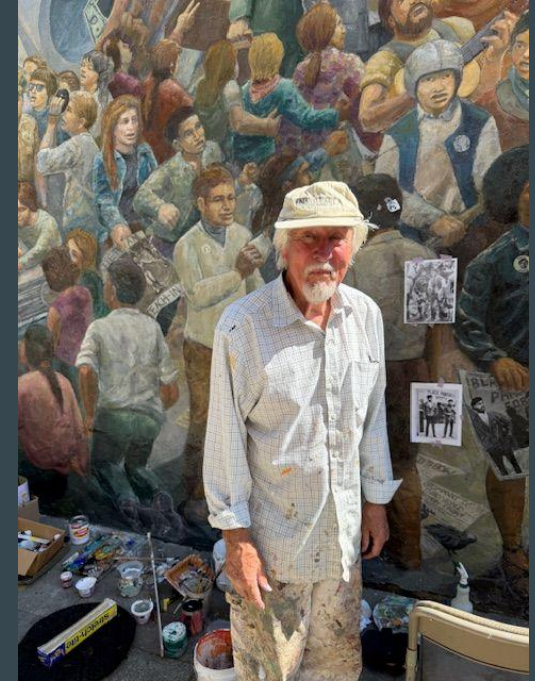
# Mural Context

- Mural forms the base of the building with 7 floors of apartments set back and above the existing structures
- Preserved facade visually separated from the above floors with a second-floor setback
- New sidewalk and lighting to improve access and visibility



# Preservation Commitment

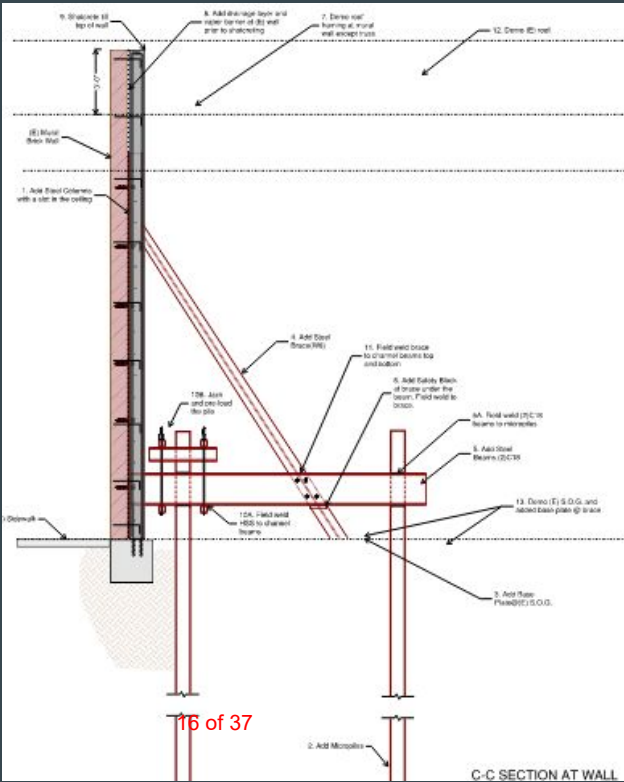
- Historic mural to be restored and protected
- Project team includes architectural conservator and original artists
- Protect in place during construction, monitor vibration
- Improve structural integrity
- Clean, inpaint, protective coating after construction
- Annual stipend for ongoing restoration



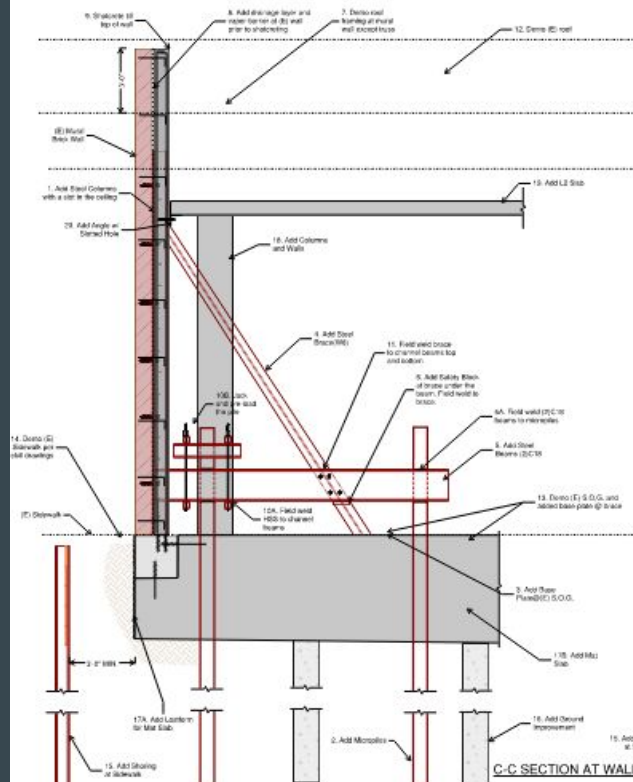


# CONCEPT SHORING OF MURAL

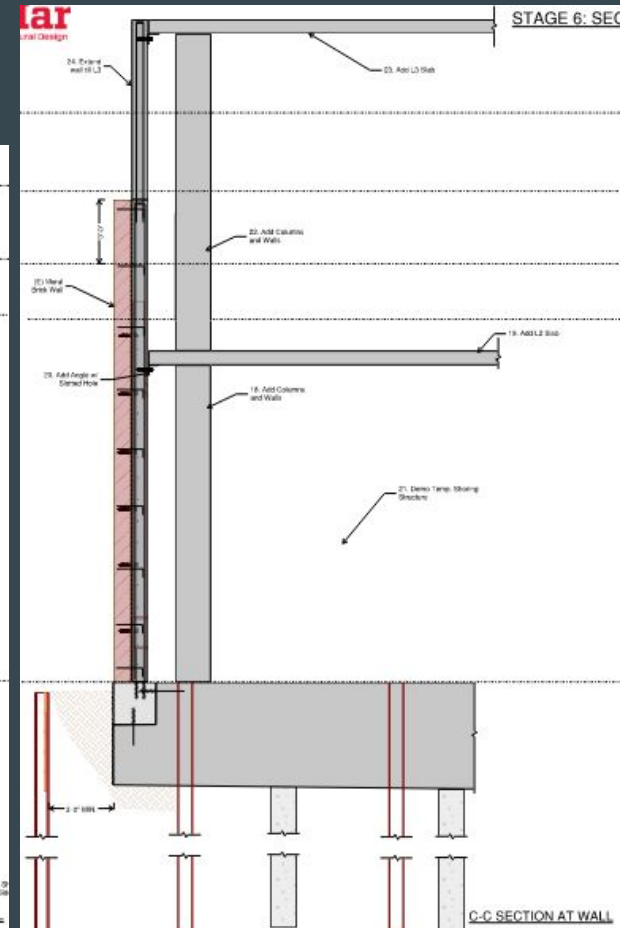
## STAGE 4



## STAGE 5



## STAGE 6



# Percentage for Public Art

- City's guidelines allow for pre-existing art to qualify toward requirement if it's deemed appropriate to the site and integrated into the design of the project
- However, only certain costs are eligible



# Protection and Restoration Measures and Eligible Costs

<b>Public Art Restoration and Preservation Costs, By Type and Eligibility</b>	
<i>Phase/Task</i>	<i>Potentially Eligible?</i>
<b>Pre-Construction</b>	
Complete high resolution photographic documentation	Yes
Establish vibration monitoring protocol and take preliminary readings	Yes
Incorporate contractor qualification requirements into the contract specifications to ensure that personnel are knowledgeable, experienced, and sensitive to the mural	No
Incorporate protection requirements into the contract specifications to prevent damage to the mural	No
<b>During Construction</b>	
Remove, transport, and store metal panel, iron bars, and protruding features (e.g., painted weatherhead, downspout)	Yes
Installation of facing paper, foam, and physical barrier (e.g., plywood, plexiglass) to protect mural from physical impact while maintaining selective visibility	Yes
Excavation and installation of shoring to strengthen brick masonry substrate	Yes
Placement of new foundations	Yes
Replacement of Haste Street sidewalk	No
Periodic visual monitoring by qualified conservator	Yes
Continuous vibration monitoring throughout major structural activities	Yes
Reinstall metal panels and iron bars	Yes
Install new egress gate	Yes
<b>Post-Construction</b>	
Conduct post-construction survey to assess any damage	Yes
Prepare treatment plan (if damaged/required) to restore mural	Yes
Engage community artists to restore mural imagery	Yes
Establish endowment for the life of the project	No
Building Valuation Estimate	\$20,441,672
<b>Public Art Requirement (1.75% of hard costs/building valuation estimate)</b>	<b>\$357,729</b>

# Next Steps/Construction

- ZAB Hearing anticipated September 2026
- Demolition start date likely no earlier than December 2027
- 20-month construction timeline
- Vibration, noise and air quality mitigations
- Construction traffic plan
- Website updates and mailings
- Direct contact for construction updates and noise or other concerns





Civic Arts Division

**To:** Civic Arts Commission

**From:** Carianna Arredondo, Assistant to the City Manager, Civic Arts Division

**Date:** July 1, 2026

**Subject:** Ohlone Park Public Art Revitalization Update — Jean LaMarr Public Art Project

## Purpose

This memorandum provides an update on the Ohlone Park Public Art Revitalization project<sup>1</sup>, including conservation of Jean LaMarr's existing mural and the development of new sculptural artwork elements for the Ohlone Park Mural Garden.

## Background

Jean LaMarr's 1995 mural at Ohlone Park is a longstanding part of Berkeley's public art collection and an important cultural and community asset within the park<sup>2</sup>. Civic Arts has supported efforts to revitalize the existing mural and complete new artwork elements that complement the mural and surrounding park landscape.

The project originated through community advocacy by Friends of Ohlone Park. Beginning in 2018, Friends of Ohlone Park advanced the concept for an "Ohlone Mural Art Garden" and received a Chancellor's Community Partnership Grant to support the proposed artwork elements. In 2019 project correspondence, Stephen Most noted that Friends of Ohlone Park had received a \$5,000 Chancellor's Community Partnership Grant toward a then-estimated \$39,000 project budget and requested City/Civic Arts approval so the project could proceed in coordination with the Civic Arts Program.

The early concept included a garden setting with Indigenous plants around the existing four-sided mural, as well as sculptural seating and an acorn grinding rock element. The rendering,

---

<sup>1</sup>

[https://berkeleyca.gov/sites/default/files/documents/Ohlone%20Park%20%28East%29%20Improvements%20Program\\_0.pdf](https://berkeleyca.gov/sites/default/files/documents/Ohlone%20Park%20%28East%29%20Improvements%20Program_0.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> [https://www.artworkarchive.com/profile/civicsartscollection/artwork/ohlone-murals?\\_cf\\_chl\\_f\\_tk=VN61H89Dyq9lPwc5CNU2ljPcO5ZyBCOiXrmL\\_n0lk70-1783377865-1.0.1.1-L8NXC9DERErDWZtp2vN4JkGgClfR.Gq21qrMeLMeOEq](https://www.artworkarchive.com/profile/civicsartscollection/artwork/ohlone-murals?_cf_chl_f_tk=VN61H89Dyq9lPwc5CNU2ljPcO5ZyBCOiXrmL_n0lk70-1783377865-1.0.1.1-L8NXC9DERErDWZtp2vN4JkGgClfR.Gq21qrMeLMeOEq)

titled “Ohlone Park Mural Garden — Design by Jean LaMarr,” reflects the project’s intent to create a more integrated mural garden environment<sup>3</sup>.

## Project Development and Approvals

To support the project, the City entered into a series of agreements for project coordination, design, and implementation consultation:

Jeremy Kaplan Project Coordination Services for the Jean LaMarr Public Art Project, Contract No. **32200128**<sup>4</sup>, executed in 2022. Jean LaMarr Design of Artwork Elements for Ohlone Park, Contract No. **32300049**<sup>5</sup>, executed in 2022 and Contract No. **32600041**<sup>6</sup>, executed in 2025 (to amend the first contract and support continued) design development, fabrication coordination, installation consultation, and project closeout.

The project was reviewed by the **Public Art Subcommittee on October 19, 2023**<sup>7</sup>, during a meeting at Ohlone Park. The final design was then brought to the full **Civic Arts Commission on October 25, 2023**<sup>8</sup>, where the Commission approved the final design of the artwork elements — benches and grinding rock — by Jean LaMarr for Ohlone Park. The motion passed unanimously by the Commissioners present, with no public comment.

Following approval, Jean LaMarr continued refining the artwork elements to better complement the existing mural, respond to the park setting, and align the materials and design with the cultural intent of the project. Civic Arts staff are working with Gizmo Fabrication services for the fabrication and installation support under Contract No. **32600121**<sup>9</sup> (Purchase Order NTE: \$94,607.95).

---

<sup>3</sup> [https://berkeleyca.gov/sites/default/files/documents/Ohlone%20Park%20%28East%29%20Improvements%20Program\\_0.pdf](https://berkeleyca.gov/sites/default/files/documents/Ohlone%20Park%20%28East%29%20Improvements%20Program_0.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> [records.cityofberkeley.info/PublicAccess/api/Document/AXL9JZ8zÉÉLfeaWyÁpWRoqWJcOQaPAOdKHZj86TPwFwGcOe0U5QAxIQF7C8BHfJSTvJOH61UOgSurfHX46EUn3M%3D/](https://records.cityofberkeley.info/PublicAccess/api/Document/AXL9JZ8zÉÉLfeaWyÁpWRoqWJcOQaPAOdKHZj86TPwFwGcOe0U5QAxIQF7C8BHfJSTvJOH61UOgSurfHX46EUn3M%3D/)

<sup>5</sup> <https://records.cityofberkeley.info/PublicAccess/api/Document/AceJvNpuVNB3oit4%C3%89qPB1Xu6XsARmE2i43%C3%81WD2yJD25IlgUjyw%C3%81DiC8eNyfrSbVeJB86vDDX4nSVKQyzOdLrEks%3D/>

<sup>6</sup> <https://records.cityofberkeley.info/PublicAccess/api/Document/Ae2oh3yUONJ5Ph01j%C3%811KPQqUdTwi8fzvSmKlrwHeu%C3%81WJIKF%C3%89pIlwYi1Nsa83mnugnR2spXS0gdDXbKv22Lxgc%3D/>

<sup>7</sup> <https://berkeleyca.gov/sites/default/files/legislative-body-meeting-agendas/10.19.23%20Public%20Art%20Subcommittee%20Agenda%20Packet.pdf>

<sup>8</sup> <https://berkeleyca.gov/sites/default/files/legislative-body-meeting-minutes/10.25.2023%20Civic%20Arts%20Commission%20Meeting%20Minutes%20FINAL.pdf>

<sup>9</sup> <https://records.cityofberkeley.info/PublicAccess/api/Document/Ayi8wEjZQAsp3Im2Xyf0FDQTFLhiPnzCS6FLsJj54pKF8D%C3%89WhmVp6aH6WVtluVIIH7gGC%C3%895bFeU9sUErNbaOBGQ%3D/>

## Current Status

Civic Arts staff have been working closely with Jean LaMarr, Gizmo, Stephen Most and Friends of Ohlone Park, and project partners to move the project toward completion.

Currently, Preservation Arts is completing mural conservation and restoration work on the existing Jean LaMarr mural (July 6-15, 2026). In parallel, the project team (Gizmo and Concrete Works) is advancing fabrication and installation planning for the new sculptural artwork elements.

The goal is to complete installation of the artwork elements by **September 2026**, in time for the California Native Ways Festival.

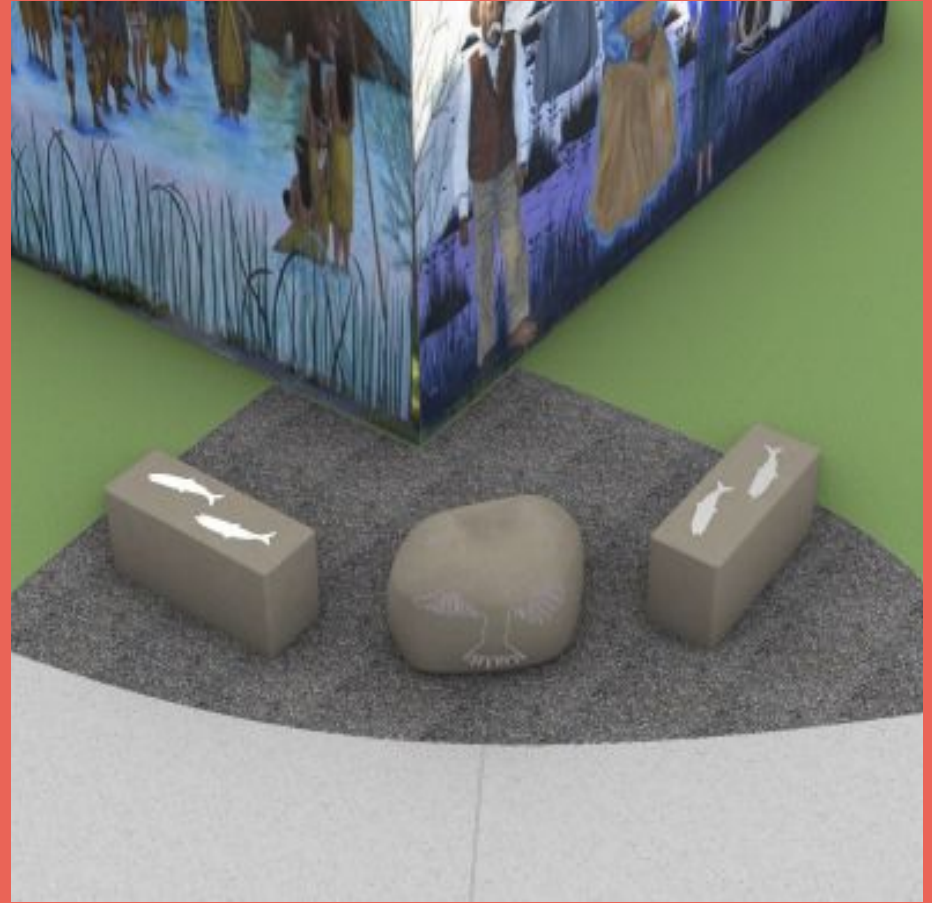
Civic Arts staff will continue coordinating with Jean LaMarr, Friends of Ohlone Park, Preservation Arts, and fabrication/installation partners (Gizmo and Concrete Works) to complete the remaining project milestones. Staff will provide additional updates to the Commission as conservation and installation work progresses.

**gizmo**

**Grinding Rock & Benches**  
Jean LaMarr

# OHLONE PARK

23 of 37



Berkeley Arts Commission

July 2026

# BACKGROUND

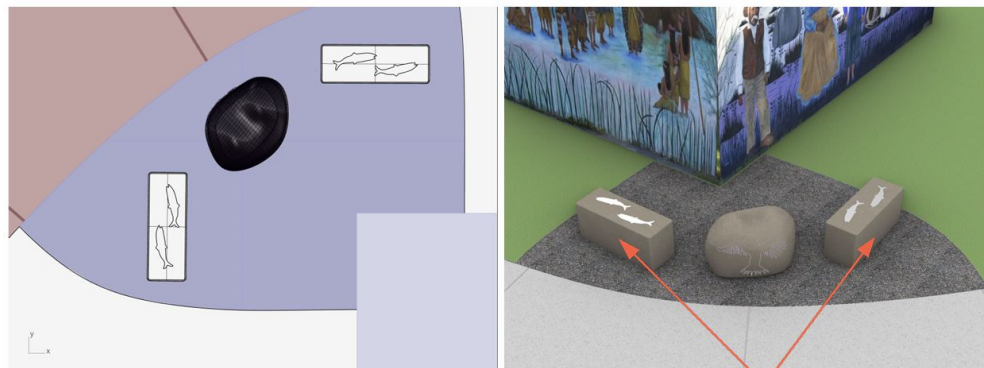
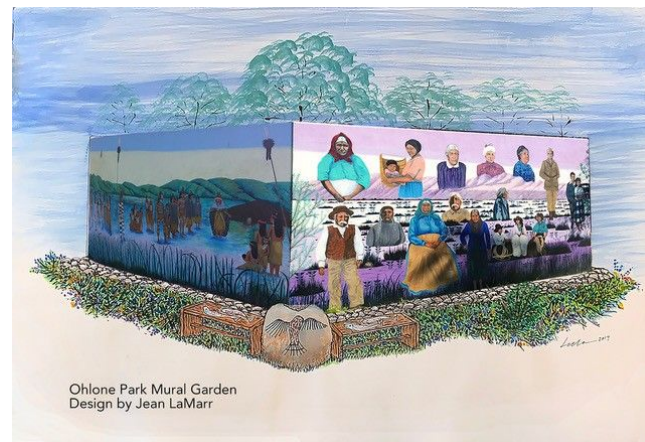
**Background:** Jean LaMarr's 1995 Ohlone Park mural, *Ohlone Journeys*, is being revitalized as part of the park's improvements.

**Approvals:** The project was reviewed by the Public Art Subcommittee on [October 19, 2023](#) and approved by the Civic Arts Commission on [October 25, 2023](#).

**Design Development:** Following approval, Jean refined the sculptural elements to better complement the mural.

**Current Status:** Civic Arts is working closely with Jean LaMarr, Gizmo, Concrete Works, Stephen Most/Friends of Ohlone Park, and Preservation Arts.

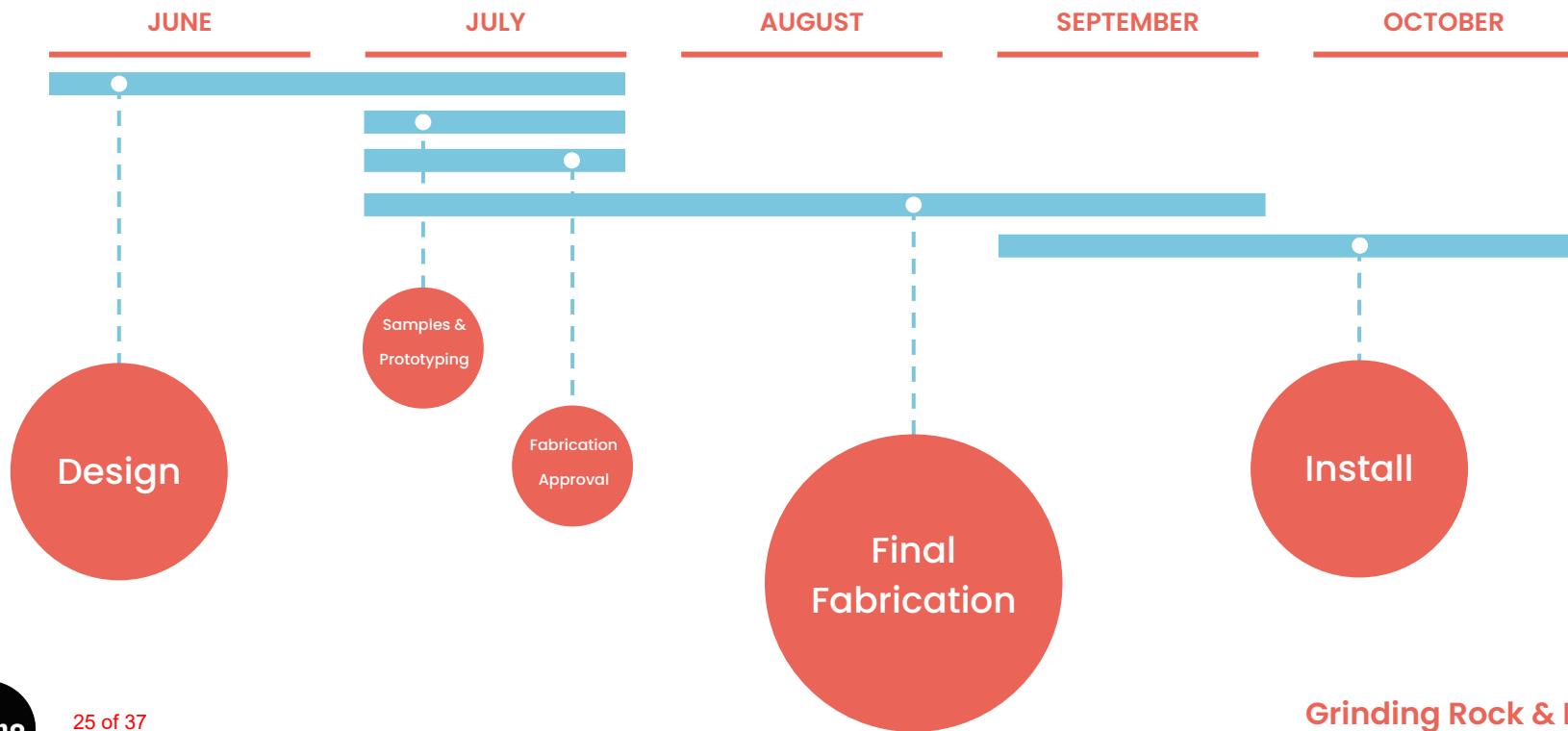
Mural conservation is underway (7/6-7/15), with artwork installation targeted for September, ahead of the California Native Ways Festival.



Benches 42" L x 15" D x 18" H

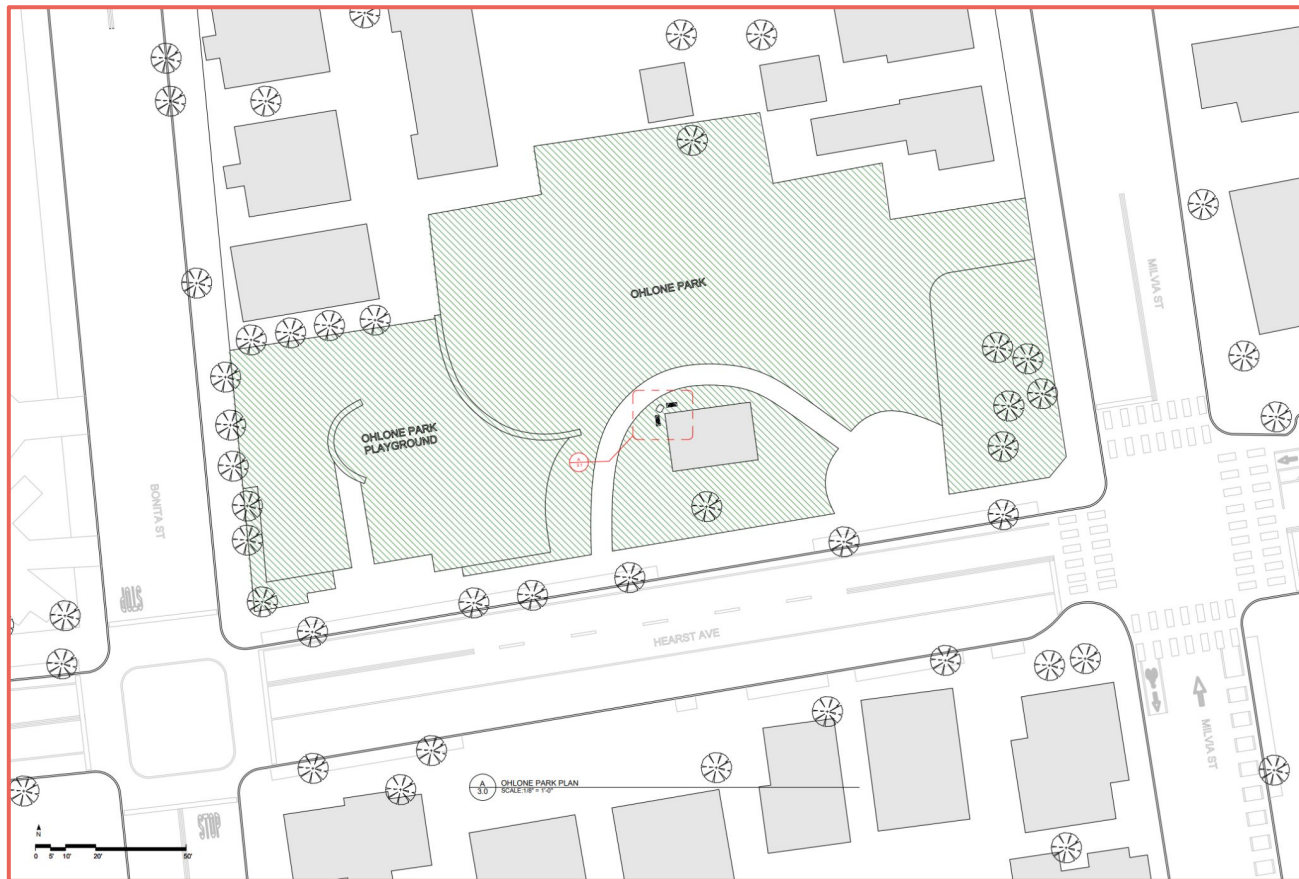
Sandblasted small triangle designs representing salmon with infill iridescent color

# TIMELINE



# PLAN

This project is designed by the artist Jean LaMarr, comprising of two custom benches with a grinding stone in the center. This will be placed in Ohlone Park, Berkeley.



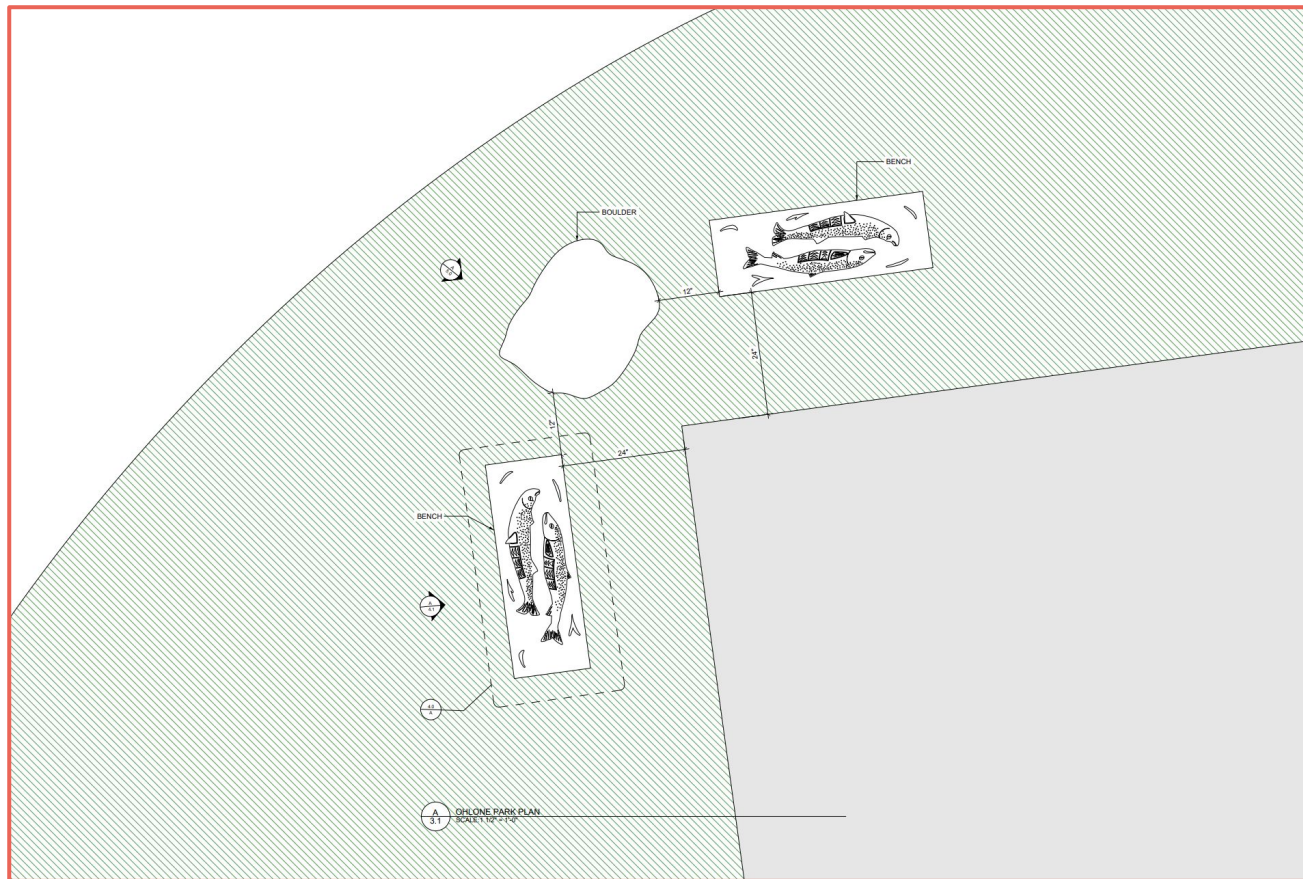
# LAYOUT

The two benches will sit on either side of the granite boulder in Ohlone Park, adjacent to the mural.

Benches will be made of 3 main components:

- Inlaid stainless steel fish
- Terrazzo bench top
- Concrete legs

Granite Grinding Stone will have a sandblasted condor design



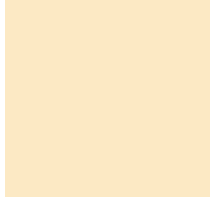
# FISH

## Concept:

- Salmon swimming upstream
- Dots along the top ridge of fish
- Triangular pattern along the belly, significant to Ohlone people
- Blue waves represent water
- Clear marbles represent terrazzo

## Finish:

- Stainless steel fish with painted gradient of green to tan to red
- Details to be a reddish-brown colored epoxy
- Stainless steel waves painted blue
- All exterior grade paint with clear coat
- Add studs to back of fish and insert into drilled holes in terrazzo and epoxy to secure.



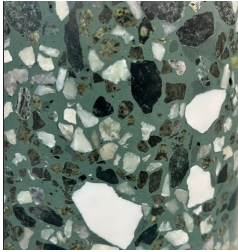


# TERRAZZO

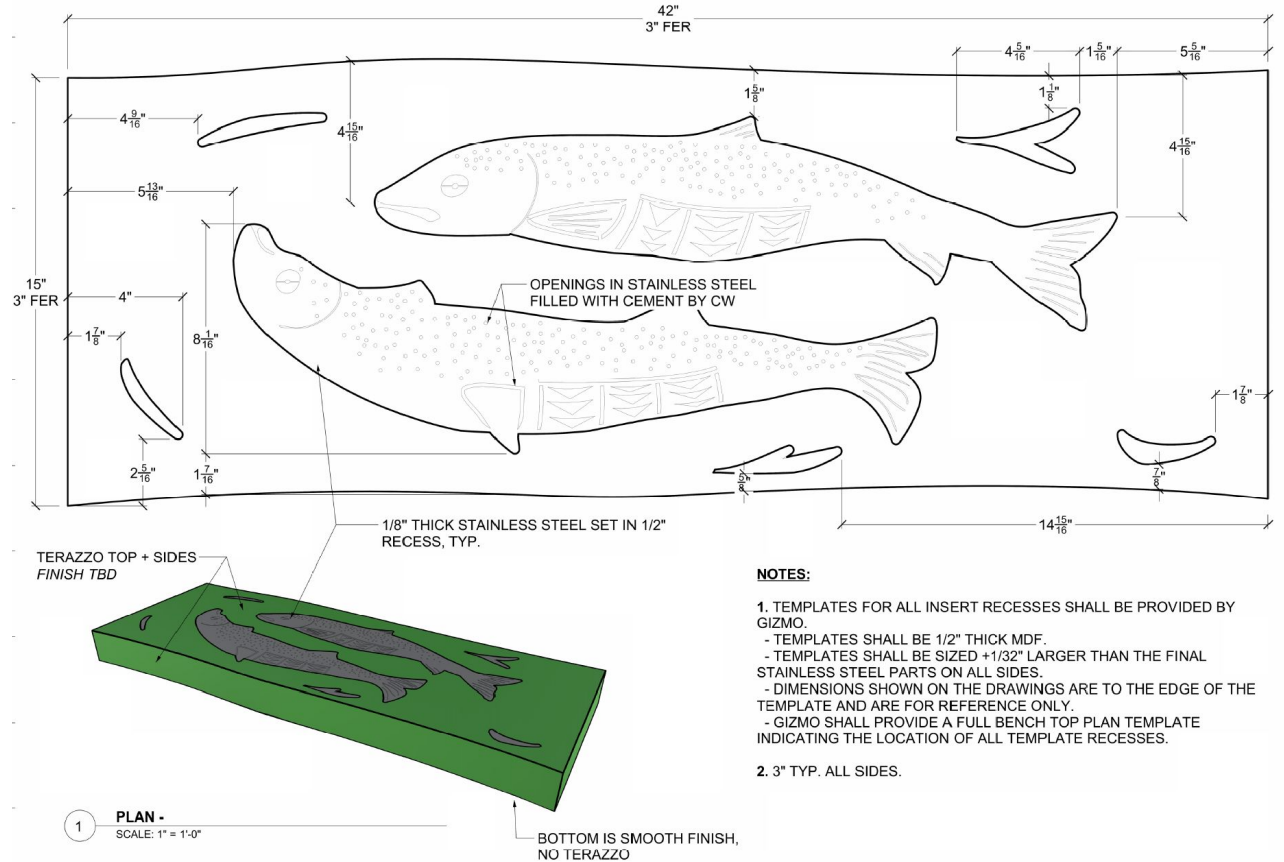
Custom terrazzo by Concreteworks

Finish:

- Galaxy Mix:



- Fish & water outlines recessed for Gizmo to install stainless steel pieces
- "Live" edge on bench top on long sides



# LEGS

## Concept:

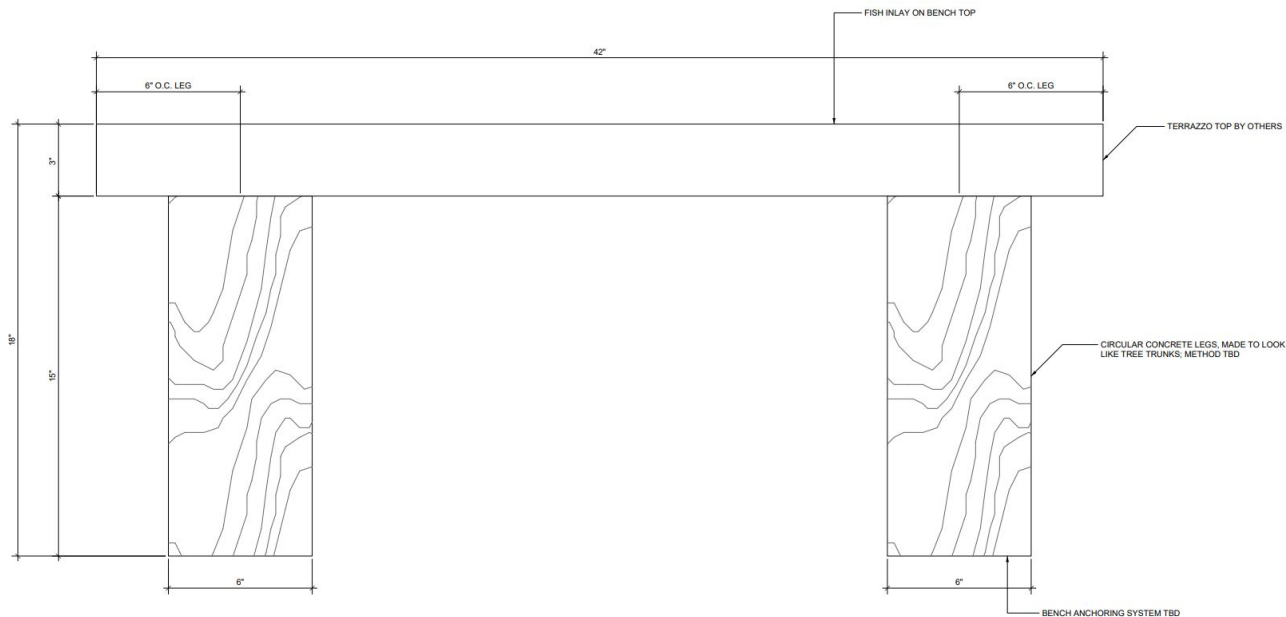
- Cylindrical legs to look like tree trunks
- 2 legs per bench

## Finish:

- To be made of either an epoxy mix or concrete:



- Anchoring to ground TBD



A  
4.1 BENCH ELEVATION  
SCALE: 6" = 1'-0"

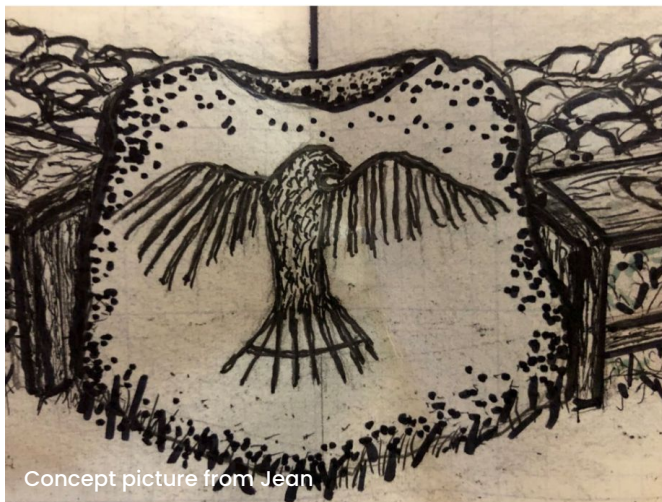
# GRINDING STONE

## Concept:

- Etching of a condor into rock face

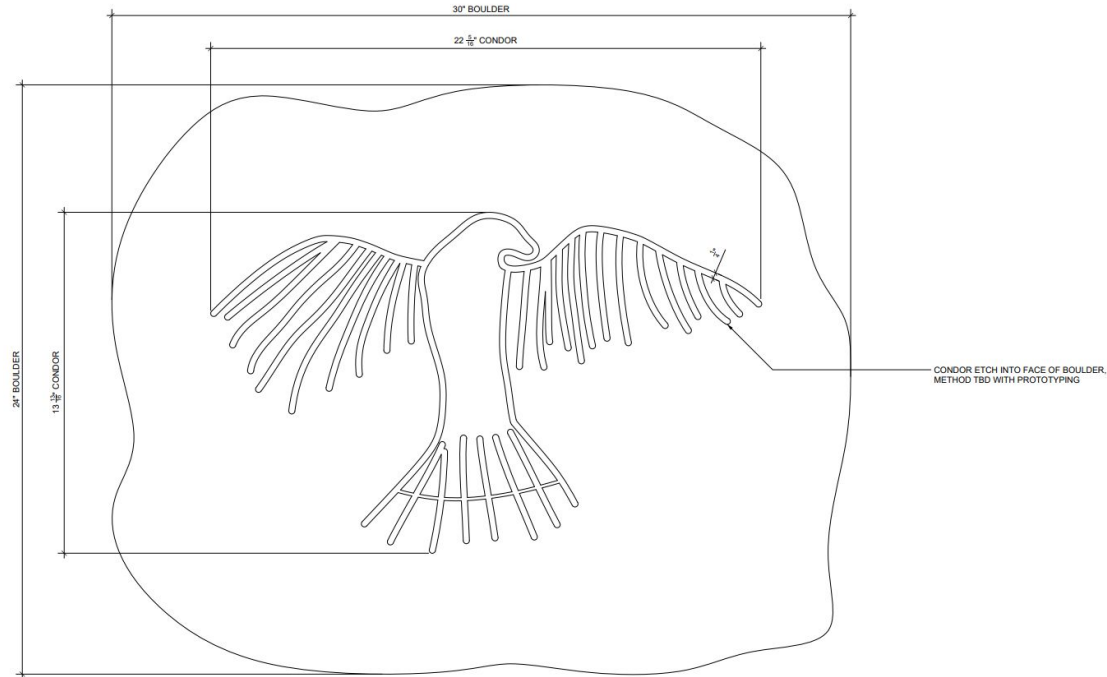
## Finish:

- Sand-blasted line art
- Reddish brown epoxy paint to emphasize design and provide longevity against erosion



# CONDOR

## Technical Drawing:



\*ALL DIMS OF ROCK & CONDOR ARE ROUGH,  
TBD WITH PROTOTYPING\*



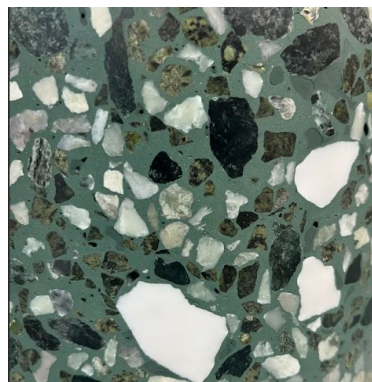
# MAINTENANCE

## Stainless Steel Fish & Paint Touch-Up:

- For spot cleaning use mild soap and water and/or Sheila Shine Cleaner/Polish
- Remove stubborn stains/vandalism with Motsenbocker's Lift-Off cleaner
- Avoid abrasive cleaners and coarse scrubbers
- Clear coat applied over artwork
- Paint product specs to be provided by Gizmo to match

## Terrazzo Top, Bench Legs & Granite Grinding Rock:

- Use a pH-neutral stone cleaner & warm water
- Apply an outdoor-rated penetrating sealer every 1-3 years? (ask concreteworks)





Civic Arts Division

**To:** Civic Arts Commission, Public Art Subcommittee

**From:** Carianna Arredondo, Assistant to the City Manager, Civic Arts Division

**Date:** July 1, 2026

**Subject:** Background Memo | Public Art on Private Development Nexus Study

### **Purpose**

This memo provides high-level background on the City's **Public Art on Private Development Requirement** and the purpose of the upcoming nexus study. The nexus study is a necessary step before the City can responsibly evaluate potential updates to the ordinance.

### **Background**

The City's **Public Art on Private Development Requirement** was established by ordinance in **2017** and is codified in **Berkeley Municipal Code Chapter 23.316**<sup>1</sup>. The requirement was created to ensure that qualifying private development contributes to Berkeley's public arts realm, cultural identity, and long-term public art infrastructure.

At a high level, the ordinance requires eligible private development projects to either:

- **Provide on-site publicly accessible art** valued at **1.75% of construction cost**;
- **Pay an in-lieu fee** equal to **0.80% of construction cost**; or
- Use a combination of on-site art and an in-lieu fee when the on-site art value is less than the full requirement.

The program generally applies to larger private development projects, including new multifamily residential projects, new commercial and industrial structures, and large building additions. Certain project types, including qualifying affordable housing, religious assembly, nonprofit arts/cultural uses, and transitional housing, are exempt. See more details here:

---

<sup>1</sup> <https://berkeley.municipal.codes/BMC/23.316>

<https://berkeleyca.gov/construction-development/permits-design-parameters/design-parameters/public-art-private-development>

Since the ordinance was established, the City's development environment has changed. State housing laws, Density Bonus provisions, and local zoning regulations have evolved, and staff and the Civic Arts Commission have identified areas where the current ordinance may need clarification or modernization.

The Civic Arts Commission previously identified several policy questions for future review<sup>2</sup>, including:

- **Clarifying applicability** where certain project types may not be clearly addressed in the current ordinance;
- **Aligning thresholds** with other zoning and development fee methodologies;
- **Evaluating whether additional compliance options** should be considered, such as arts/cultural space or other public-facing cultural infrastructure;
- **Understanding the impact of Density Bonus concessions** on the City's ability to collect fees or secure on-site public art;
- **Ensuring the program continues to support public art acquisition, installation, administration, maintenance, and conservation.**

### What the Nexus Study Is Intended to Support

The nexus study, led by Willdan Financial Services<sup>3</sup> and project managed by the City of Berkeley's Planning Department, will provide the legal, financial, and policy foundation needed to evaluate potential updates to the Public Art on Private Development Requirement.

Specifically, the study is intended to help the City:

- **Confirm the relationship between new development and public art needs;**
- **Evaluate whether the current fee structure remains appropriate;**
- **Identify a range of fee options;**
- **Compare Berkeley's approach with similar fees in neighboring jurisdictions;**
- **Support future ordinance amendments, if pursued;**
- **Help ensure continued compliance with State law requirements for development impact fees.**

---

<sup>2</sup> <https://berkeleyca.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2024-09-24%20Item%2007%20Civic%20Arts%20Commission%20Fund%20Request.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> <https://berkeleyca.gov/sites/default/files/2026-06/2026-07-07%20Item%2003%20Contract%20Willdan%20Financial%20Services.pdf>

The July 7, 2026 Council item proposes a contract with **Willdan Financial Services** to update five City nexus studies, including the Public Art on Private Development nexus study. The scope includes background research, review of existing fee justifications, comparison to neighboring jurisdictions, updated nexus analysis, recommended fee ranges, and a final report.