



## Board Report

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File #: 2015-1167, File Type: Informational Report

Agenda Number: 33.

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### CONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE SEPTEMBER 17, 2015

**SUBJECT: MAINTENANCE OF WAY BUILDING ART PROGRAM**

**ACTION: RECEIVE AND FILE**

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

RECEIVE AND FILE the **Maintenance of Way Building Art Program Outreach and Community Engagement Report** in response to the July 23, 2015 Board directive (Attachment A).

#### **ISSUE**

With the approval of the Design/Build contract for the Maintenance of Way Building, the Metro Board directed staff to report on the outreach and engagement process for incorporation of art into the facility including the following elements: (1) forming a selection panel including Downtown-based art professionals to select the artist to work on the Maintenance of Way Facility; (2) soliciting larger Arts District and community feedback for consideration in artist selection from the existing Metro prequalified pool; and (3) coordination with the project's Design Advisory Group. This report responds to the Board directive.

#### **DISCUSSION**

##### **Background**

The Metro Art program was established to improve the customer experience, enhance the visual quality of the transit system and contribute to a sense of community identity. The program seeks to commission a diverse range of contemporary artists to create high quality, site-specific contemporary artworks that connect people, sites, and neighborhoods. Outreach and community engagement are a hallmark of the program.

##### **Selection Panel**

Metro Art has assembled an Artist Selection Panel consisting of highly regarded local arts professionals with demonstrated knowledge of contemporary visual art and strong familiarity with the Arts District. The panel includes highly respected visual artists, art curators and art educators that live and/or work downtown in the Arts District. All Metro procurements, including Artist selections, adhere to Metro and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) requirements.

### Soliciting larger Arts District and community feedback

Metro Art has a strong track record of working with artists and communities. In keeping with this practice, staff will solicit information on the community including cultural context, historical events, archival images, etc. from community representatives. This information will be shared with the panelists and will also be provided to the selected artist for creative inspiration during artwork concept development. Additional community engagement will occur once the artwork has been commissioned and during the fabrication and installation process. Past examples have included artist talks, presentations, workshops, exhibitions, and VIP Behind the Scenes tours. Metro Art will contact Arts District community organizations and educational institutions that may be interested in helping host an event.

### Coordination with Project Design Advisory Group

Metro Art staff will work with the Maintenance of Way Project Team and Design Builder to explore how an art opportunity can be integrated into the most impactful exterior areas facing Santa Fe Avenue and the 6<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge, while taking into account the Arts District stakeholder suggestions for activation of the south and west facades. Metro Art staff will share the feasibility and development of this opportunity with the Design Advisory Group as the project evolves through the Design-Build process.

## NEXT STEPS

The art program will be coordinated with building's design and construction so as not to impact the project schedule and budget. The art program milestones and schedule will align with those of the overall project design team and staff will meet with the project architect as soon as the Design Builder receives notice to proceed, which is currently scheduled for September 30. The Artist Selection Panel will convene this Fall to identify the project artist from the prequalified artist pool. Metro Art will solicit information from the arts community which will inform the Maintenance of Way Building art program and will participate as a member of the Design Advisory Group.

## ATTACHMENT

Attachment A - July 2015 Board Motion

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## Metro

Los Angeles County  
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## Board Report

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File #:2015-1148, File Type:Motion / Motion  
Response

Agenda Number:40.1

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**REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
JULY 23, 2015**

**Motion by:**

**Director Jacquelyn Dupont-Walker and Director Hilda Solis**

July 23, 2015

**Related to Item 40: Arts District Maintenance of Way Facility**

MTA is undergoing one of the largest public works programs in the country and it is important that MTA continue to improve on the way it delivers its projects and works with community stakeholders to mitigate development impacts.

Since October 2014, MTA staff has worked with community stakeholders to consider design alternatives to the proposed Maintenance of Way (MOW) Facility. Should the board move forward with the existing timeline and select a design-build team, then it should ensure that the design-build team and metro staff continue to work with community stakeholders to provide the best project possible.

In addition, MTA's current art policy requires that one half percent of the total construction cost of a project be set aside for the development and incorporation of art elements into the project; federal guidelines govern the way the arts funding is spent.

Furthermore, MTA has a recent track record of developing facilities, such as Division 13 Bus Maintenance Facility that demonstrate good design and incorporate art features.

**CONSIDER Motion by Directors Dupont-Walker and Solis that the Board instruct the CEO to:**

- A. direct staff to establish a design advisory working group that includes representatives from the following entities:
  1. Metro Operations
  2. Metro Construction

3. **Metro Arts**
  4. **Metro Planning**
  5. **MOW Design-Build Team**
  6. **City of Los Angeles 6<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge Design-Build Team**
  7. **Arts District Community**
- B. direct staff to report back to the board on a monthly basis on progress that is made with the advisory group to explore the following objectives:**
1. **Site placement of the MOW Facility is placed the farthest distance from Santa Fe as allowed by operational functionality and applicable building codes.**
  2. **Parking on the site is optimized**
  3. **Adoption of architectural design that reflects Metro's most recent efforts**
- C. direct staff to report back in 60 days with a detailed outreach and engagement process for incorporating art into the Maintenance of Way Facility including the following elements:**
1. **Forming a selection panel including Downtown-based art professionals to select the artist to work on the Maintenance of Way Facility.**
  2. **Soliciting larger arts district and community feedback for consideration in artist selection from the existing MTA pre-approved artist pool.**
  3. **Coordination with the aforementioned design advisory group.**