

# Memorandum

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**TO:** ARTS COMMISSION

**FROM:** Paul Krutko

**SUBJECT:** SEE BELOW

**DATE:** April 4, 2007

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**Council District: 3**

**SUBJECT: EAST SAN JOSE CARNEGIE BRANCH LIBRARY PUBLIC ART  
PROJECT DESIGN DEVELOPMENT BY JOYCE CUTLER SHAW**

## **RECOMMENDATION**

Recommend that the City Manager negotiate and execute an agreement with artist Joyce Cutler Shaw to fabricate and install an artwork at East San José Carnegie Branch Library in an amount not to exceed \$86,000.

## **BACKGROUND**

In accordance with the *Master Plan for Public Art 2000-2005*, adopted by City Council on February 20, 2001, the Public Art Program strives to develop artworks that enhance the City and make it a lively, attractive place to live, work, and visit. One area of particular study during the planning process was artworks associated with capital improvement projects for parks and community center facilities.

The City of San José is building or upgrading many municipal facilities, including community centers. A 2% public art budget has been established as part of the project budget process.

The Bond Measure recommendation for the East San José Carnegie Branch Library, located at 1102 East Santa Clara Street., calls for the remodeling and expansion of the existing historic Carnegie era library. A \$124,684 budget for public art has been identified as part of the capital project to be allocated as follows: \$18,684 for administration; \$20,000 for design; and \$86,000 for fabrication and installation.

## **ANALYSIS**

In March 2006 the Arts Commission approved a selection panel’s recommendation to add to the pool of pre-qualified artists for the bond-funded facilities, from which artists would be selected as new projects developed. This pre-qualified pool of artists is consistently updated as artists are depleted from the pool either by being chosen for a project or expiring after a period of three years.

On September 18, 2006, a panel composed of stakeholder community members met to review artists’ materials from the pre-approved pool with the purpose of recommending an artist to develop a public artwork for the East San Jose Carnegie Branch Library and selected Joyce Cutler Shaw for the commission. The Arts Commission recommended the design contract on October 11, 2006 in the amount of \$20,000.

Following meetings with the community and design team, the artist proposed *Lightlines*, a reflective light sculpture fabricated from aluminum coils, suspended from the building’s ceiling trusses in and around the main entrance and east–west hallway. Facilitated by Public Art staff, the artist worked with the community to select significant imagery to represent the neighborhood – *The East Carnegie Calligraphy*. This visual vocabulary, rendered in laser-cut iridescent acrylic, is highlighted by directed spotlights that illuminate the sculpture and cast shadows on the building’s interior. The artist’s proposal also includes two directed projector lights with “Gobos”, to cast the images of local birds on the west wall of the children’s area, bringing the natural elements of the outdoor environment – the neighborhoods’ abundant bird life – indoors. Coordination with the project architect has been ongoing to ensure proper integration into the base electrical and structural systems. The Public Art Committee reviewed and approved this concept at its March 20, 2007 meeting.

## **PUBLIC OUTREACH**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Purpose</u>
3/22/06	East SJ Carnegie Branch Library	Community Visioning
9/18/06	East SJ Carnegie Branch Library	Community Artist Selection
9/19/06	City Hall	PAC Artist Selection Review
12/11/06	East SJ Carnegie Branch Library	Community Concept Review
12/12/06	City Hall	PAC Concept Review
03/20/07	City Hall	PAC Design Level. Review

ARTS COMMISSION

April 4, 2007

Subject: Design Development East San José Carnegie Branch Library Public Art Project

Page 3 of 3

**BUDGET REFERENCE**

Fund #	Appn #	App'n Name	RC #	Total Appn	Amt. For Contract	2006-2007 Adopted Budget Page	Last Budget Action
471	5155	East San Jose Carnegie Branch	142673	\$7,901,000*	\$86,000	V-246	06-07 App. Ord. Sec. 31.02

\*Of the total \$7,901,000 appropriation, \$124,684 has been allocated to Public Art.

**CEQA**

PP05-184



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