



CALL FOR ARTISTS

Public Art—Request for Qualifications Transit Center Grade Separation and Access Project

Applications will be accepted from:

**12:00 noon (Pacific Time), Friday, March 17, 2023, through
12:00 noon (Pacific Time), Wednesday, April 5, 2023**

*Applications will not be accepted after 12:00 noon (Pacific Time), Wednesday, April 5, 2023,
and only the first 100 applications will be accepted (whichever comes first).*

Summary

The City of Mountain View's Two Percent for Art Program requires that 2% of all major City Capital Improvement Program (CIP) projects over \$1 million be spent on public art related to the project. The [Transit Center Grade Separation and Access Project](#) will improve safety, capacity, and multi-modal access to the Transit Center and downtown Mountain View. The project is focused on the Castro Street/Moffett Boulevard/Central Expressway intersection and the Castro Street crossing of the railroad tracks. One of the main aspects of the project is the construction of an undercrossing for pedestrians and cyclists to facilitate passage between the north side of Central Expressway and the Moffett Boulevard community to both the Transit Center and downtown Mountain View. The City of Mountain View Visual Arts Committee (VAC) seeks to commission an artist, or team of artists, to design and execute original work(s) of art for the Transit Center Grade Separation and Access Project.

Applications must be submitted online on www.callforentry.org. Artists should only submit applications directly through the callforentry.org website—no other form of application will be accepted. The City intends to start construction on the project in 2024.

The expectation is for the artwork to be installed by the artist following the construction phase of the facility in early- to mid-2027.

City of Mountain View Overview

Mountain View is in the heart of Silicon Valley and at the center of the technology industry, covering 12 square miles and is home to almost 83,800 residents, many nationally and internationally known corporations, and a thriving small business base. Located 10 miles north

of San Jose and 35 miles south of San Francisco, the central location provides easy access to the entire San Francisco Bay Area and Northern California cities. Mountain View prides itself on having attractive and well-built residential communities served by neighborhood parks and playgrounds, recreational facilities, quality education, and convenient shopping.

Over the years, the City has instituted a public art program and built a collection of public art using public/private partnership, community involvement, and some public funds. A major component of this program is a City policy known as the Two Percent for Art Program, which requires that 2% of all major City capital improvement projects over \$1 million be spent on public art related to the project. This program is administered by the VAC, a seven-person, City Council-appointed advisory committee that will recommend public art to the City Council, whose decision is final.

Site Location

The project is in the downtown area of the City of Mountain View in Santa Clara County. The project is centered around the existing Mountain View Transit Center located next to the Castro Street/Moffett Boulevard/Central Expressway intersection. In Figure 1, an overview of the Transit Grade Separation and Access project along Castro Street provides a detail of the centerpiece of Mountain View's downtown. The project itself consists of a series of interrelated project components that extend from Shoreline Boulevard to the west to the Easy Street/Central Expressway intersection to the east. The Mountain View Transit Center serves as the City's key multi-modal transportation node. Currently, over 12,000 transit riders arrive at or leave the station each day, but that number is forecasted to grow as transit services increase in the future with the electrification of Caltrain.

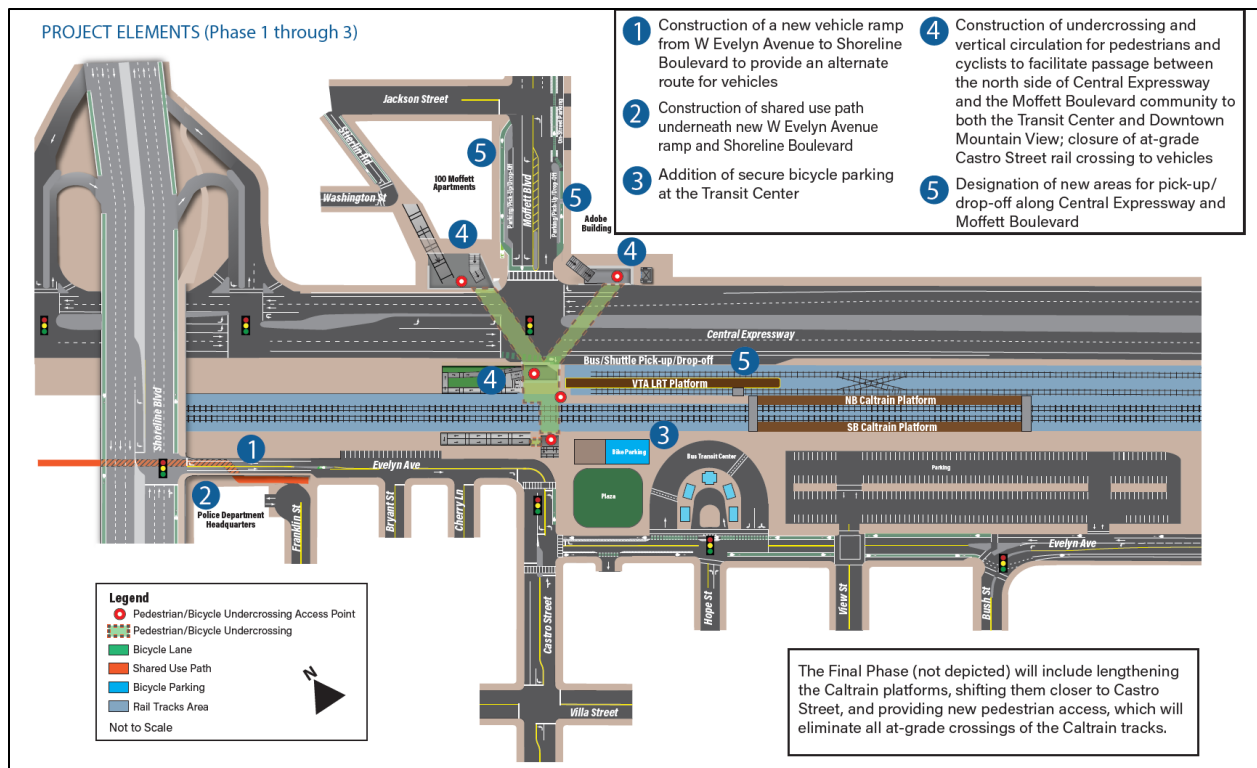


Figure 1: Overview of Transit Grade Separation and Access Project

The bicycle/pedestrian underpass will connect the Moffett neighborhood with downtown via three undercrossings (Figures 2, 3, and 4):



Figure 2: Rendering of North Side of Central Expressway



Figure 3: Rendering of South Side of Central Expressway



Figure 4: Rendering of the Evelyn Plaza

Public Art Project Budget

The total Public Art Project Budget is \$400,000 (up to two art installations). The selection process will be a two-part process where no more than six artists will be invited back to develop proposals with a semifinalist Design Honorarium of \$1,500 per artist. The VAC will then select the final artists for City Council consideration.

The project budget is all-inclusive of project costs, including artist's fees and expenses, taxes, materials, permit fees, travel, shipping and crating, insurance fees, permitting, site preparation, fabrication/installation, or execution of the artwork. The VAC seeks to complete up to two significant art installations on the site. The VAC is open to multiple artists and/or locations.

Artists may also apply individually or as a team. For example, the VAC may select two art installations from one artist and one art installation from another artist. The total budget for all installations will not exceed \$391,000.

Estimated Schedule (dates subject to change)

Item:	Due Date:
Entry Deadline	April 5, 2023
Notification of semifinalists and Invitation to submit final design proposal	April 17, 2023
Final Design Proposal Deadline (semifinalists)	May 19, 2023
Visual Arts Committee Review	June 13, 2023
City Council Review and Approval	October 2023
Contract Development	August-September 2023
Fabrication of Artwork	Mid- to -Late 2026
Installation of Artwork	Early- to Mid-2027

Artist Eligibility

This Request for Qualifications (RFQ) is open to all professional and emerging artists residing in California that are over the age of 18. Bay Area artists are encouraged to apply. Entries not meeting eligibility requirements will be withdrawn from consideration. Artists must demonstrate that they have successfully completed similar works in the past when submitting their qualifications.

Potential Artwork Locations

Project staff and the VAC have identified two possible locations for public art. Artists may choose a single location or multiple locations, and should indicate in their application which location(s) they are proposing to place their artwork (Figures 5, 6, and 7—Public Art Opportunities).

Given the total public art budget for the project is \$400,000, staff recommends the budget be divided between the two locations as follows:

- The allocation for Figure 5 is estimated to be between \$100,000 and \$150,000.
- The allocation for Figures 6 and 7 is estimated to be between \$250,000 and \$300,000.

Location 1 (Figure 5):

Upper Concourse Area—A base footing for any structure should be no larger than 5' by 5'.

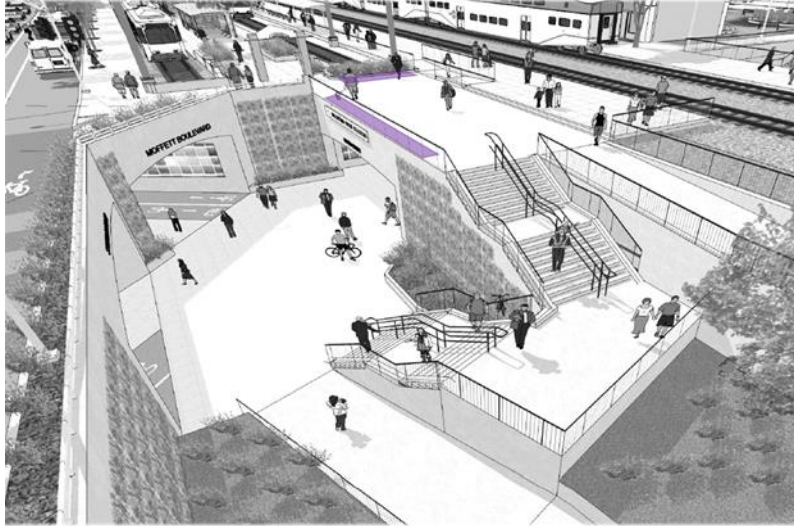


Figure 5: Upper Concourse for Caltrain/VTA

Location 2 (Figures 6 and 7):

Castro Street Main Undercrossing—Available wall space, up to 10 segments, of 8' by 14' (the tunnel ceiling will not be usable for artwork).



Figure 6: Castro Street—Main Undercrossing Wall Space

Castro Street Stairway (Figure 7)—Width of staircase is 24'.



Figure 7: Castro Street Grand Staircase Leading to Downtown

Selection Process

The VAC will review the submitted applications and select the semifinalists.

The VAC will evaluate applications on the following criteria:

- Originality of artistic style (past work);
- Type of artwork proposed;
- Ability of the artwork to withstand outdoor conditions;
- Maintenance requirements;
- Artist's experience with public art commissions and working within the public process; and
- Artist's experience with art projects of a similar size and scope.

Up to six artists will be selected by the VAC, and these artists will be asked to develop a design proposal. A Design Honorarium of \$1,500 will be paid to each of the semi-finalists upon completion of the design proposal.

The final design proposals will be presented to the VAC for review. The VAC will rank the design proposals, and a recommendation will be made for consideration by the City Council for final selection of the public art design/artist.

The City Council may require additional drawings or information for their respective review. The VAC is willing to work with an artist or artists on the design proposal to ensure suitability and sustainability. The City and VAC reserve the right to reject any or all proposals.

Submission Requirements

All applications must be submitted online via CaFÉ at www.callforentry.org, an online application system for calls for entry. There is no charge for artists to apply or use CaFÉ. Applications that are mailed, faxed, or hand-delivered will not be considered as this is an online system.

All applications should include the following:

- **Artist Resumé;**
- **Signed Application Checklist (see RFQ, Attachment 1);**
- **Five (5) to seven (7) images** of artwork completed within the past five (5) years. All artwork images must be examples demonstrating the artist is capable of creating and commissioning durable artwork adequate for the outdoor elements (i.e., sun, rain) in a public setting. Images of current artwork must include annotated descriptions. Please include: art title, date the art was created, dimensions, type of media, and location of the installation (address, city, state). For team applications, please indicate the lead artist for each project;
- **Professional references** (minimum of 2);
- **Letter of interest** (1 to 2 pages), including an outline of your qualifications and relevant experience, interest in this project and a general approach to this project; and
- **Optional:** A rough sketch of a proposed design can be included but is not required. Artists will not be held to, nor reimbursed for, any preliminary sketches.

All applicants should allow adequate time to submit their applications. To get additional assistance using CaFé, please contact WESTAF by calling 303-629-1166 or via email at cafe@westaf.org.

NOTE: If your application is not completed in its entirety, it will not be honored as an official submittal and will not be reviewed. Applications must be submitted online on www.callforentry.org. Artists should only submit applications directly through the callforentry.org website: no other form of application will be accepted. Late or incomplete applications cannot be considered. **ALL SUBMITTALS WILL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CITY OF MOUNTAIN VIEW.** The City of Mountain View is not responsible for loss of or damage to any materials.

Award of Contract

The City of Mountain View reserves the right to accept or reject any submittals and to alter or extend the selection process as needed. This RFQ and the selection process shall in no way be deemed as a binding contract or agreement of any kind between the City and the artist. Award of a contract is contingent upon approval of the Visual Arts Committee (VAC) and City Council. The artists and artist teams selected and approved will contract with the City for the entire duration of the project.

The selected artist will be required to secure and maintain various types of insurance, including Automobile Liability, General Liability, and other insurance as needed. The finalist(s) will be contacted regarding next steps, including an agreement with the City of Mountain View (see Attachment 2, Sample Agreement). Finalist(s) will also be required to obtain a business license and insurance (requirements are noted in the Sample Agreement, Sections 18 and 19, respectively). Selected artwork is to be installed in 2027.

The artwork commissioned for this project shall become the property of the City of Mountain View. The artwork will be maintained as part of the City's permanent art collection. The City shall have no obligation to display the artwork for any particular period or in perpetuity.

Artist Responsibilities

The selected artist or artistic team will be expected to work with City staff to develop the specific parameters of the public art component as well as implement all aspects of the project.

These specifics will include:

- Developing the final design proposal;
- Selecting appropriate artistic materials for the design;
- Developing a final project timeline;
- Attending meetings with city staff as necessary;
- Obtaining all required permits;
- Complying with Federal, State, and local rules and regulations related to prevailing wage;
- Obtaining appropriate insurance for the artwork until City has accepted the artwork;
- Fabrication/installation or execution of the artwork;
- Delivery of the artwork;

- Providing detailed instructions for the preservation of the artwork;
- Providing detailed documentation on the engineering, execution, or installation of the artwork;
- Abiding by all requirements of the artist's contract with the City;
- Depending on the artwork type, a building permit may be required, and the artist is responsible for obtaining the building permit; and
- Depending on the artwork type, a structural engineer may be required to provide plans and calculations for the building permit, and the artist is responsible for obtaining services of a licensed structural engineer—cost for services of a structural engineer shall be borne by the artist and included in the cost of the proposed art.

Contact Information

All questions or requests for additional information regarding this RFQ should be emailed to vac@mountainview.gov. Any questions regarding the CaFE (Call for Entry) website should be directed to WESTAF at 303-629-1166 or www.callforentry.org/.



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIVISION
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TRANSIT GRADE SEPARATION AND ACCESS PROJECT CALL FOR ARTISTS APPLICATION CHECKLIST

Instructions: This Application Checklist must be initialed, signed, and submitted online as an attachment with the CaFE Application.

Item	Include the following with your application:	Initial
1	Artist Resumé	
2	Five (5) to seven (7) images of artworks completed within the past five (5) years. All artwork images must be examples demonstrating the artist is capable of creating and commissioning durable artwork adequate for the outdoor elements (i.e., sun, rain) in a public setting. Images of artwork must include annotated descriptions. Please include: art title, date the art was created, dimensions, type of media, and location of the installation (address, city, state). For team applications, please indicate the lead artist for each project.	
3	Professional References (minimum of two)	
4	Letter of Interest (1-2 pages): Include an outline of your qualifications and relevant experience, interest in the project, and general approach to the project.	
5	CaFE Application: All applications must be submitted online via CaFE at www.callforentry.org , an online application system for calls for entry.	
6	I acknowledge that if selected as a finalist, I will be required to enter into a contract with the City of Mountain View. The City of Mountain View has provided me with a Sample Agreement.	
7	I acknowledge that if selected as a finalist, I will be required to obtain a business license and insurance. The City of Mountain View has provided me with a Sample Agreement. Requirements are noted in the Sample Agreement.	

8	I acknowledge that if selected as a finalist, I acknowledge that I am familiar with the City's insurance requirements within the Sample Agreement (Section 19), and I may be required to secure additional insurance to meet the requirements.	
9	I acknowledge that depending on the artwork type, a building permit may be required, and the artist will be responsible for obtaining the building permit.	
10	I acknowledge that depending on the artwork type, a structural engineer may be required to provide plans and calculations for the building permit. The artist is responsible for obtaining services of a licensed structural engineer. Cost for services of a structural engineer shall be borne by the artist and included in the cost of the proposed artwork.	
11	<p>Print Name: _____</p> <p>Signature: _____</p> <p>Date: _____</p>	N/A