



COMMISSION FOR THE ARTS STAFF REPORT

ITEM NO. 5.3

DATE: August 25, 2026

TO: Chairperson and Members of the Commission for the Arts

FROM: Allen McFarland, Management Analyst II

SUBJECT: Review of mural proposal submissions for the L Street Garage Mural Project.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Staff recommends the Commission for the Arts review the L Street Garage Mural Project proposals, receive the Ad Hoc Committee's recommendation on the proposal submissions, and make a recommendation of the top three options for the mural.

SUMMARY

The City of Livermore is planning to install a mural on the eastern elevation of the new L Street Garage. The mural will have a "Fusion Ignition" theme based on Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory's historic achievement in 2022. A request for proposals (RFP) was solicited through the Cafe Arts platform; it was open from May 15, 2026, through June 15, 2026. The proposals were received, and the Commission for the Arts established an ad hoc committee to review these submissions and develop a recommendation of the top choices. The full Commission is now being requested to review the proposals and ad hoc committee recommendations, and determine the top three choices. The top three choices of the Commission, along with other stakeholder feedback that has been received, will be used to help inform the City's decision-making process related to the mural.

DISCUSSION

Artists submitting proposals were provided with photographs and dimensions of the mural locations as shown in the attachments to this staff report. They were also provided with the following criteria and information:

- Visual elements to consider in a proposal are:
 - 192 laser beams, housed in a building the size of a football stadium, converging on a target the size of a pencil eraser
 - Immense light and pressure at a cosmic scale: the reaction was hotter than the center of the sun and denser than the core of Jupiter
 - Overcoming atomic obstacles: a diagram of the fusion reaction at the atomic level
 - A symbolic representation of more fusion energy being produced by the reaction than the

laser energy needed to start it - the building block of an abundant energy future

- The proposed mural must aesthetically enhance the surrounding environment, be contemporary in style and design, be a representation of the project theme (Fusion Ignition), reflect the local identity when possible, and represent items and ideas that reflect Livermore's culture and unique sense of place.
- The artwork shall not name specific people or politicians or endorse a political party, have religious references, or be otherwise obscene to the average person; applying contemporary community standards and shall not contain commercial messages or symbols. The artist must account for traffic patterns in the area; avoids use of paint colors that will cause unsafe driving conditions (reflective, neon, etc.).
- The proposed art must be an original design.
- The proposed art must not be identical to any murals already placed or to be placed in other similar public mural programs within 200 miles of Livermore.

An ad hoc committee was appointed to review the proposals during the July 28, 2026, meeting. Committee members reviewed the proposals independently and then met with staff on August 11, 2026, to discuss and determine their collective recommendation to the full Commission. The Ad Hoc Committee recommended the following three proposals in ranked order and made the following related notes:

Proposal #1 - Artist: Anna Pearson - If selected for the mural, they would like to request to have the buildings be more Livermore-centric

Proposal #9 - Artist: Trinity Rivard - The mural needs more representation of Livermore; if selected, would ask the artist to consider inclusion of Livermorium element as represented on the periodic table (Lv116)

Proposal #2 - Artist: Chris Onstad - If selected, would ask artist to review cultural representation in the artwork

ATTACHMENTS

1. Proposal #1 - Anna Pearson
2. Proposal #2 - Chris Onstad
3. Proposal #3 - Darin Balaban
4. Proposal #4 - Jesse Melanson
5. Proposal #5 - Jose Trejo Maya
6. Proposal #6 - Lauren Johnson
7. Proposal #7 - Maria-Jose & Joshua Lindo-Lawyer
8. Proposal #8 - Michael Mohammad
9. Proposal #9 - Trinity Rivard
10. Proposal #10 - Tanner Woodford
11. Proposal #11 - Seongmin Yoo
12. Proposal #12 - Sujata Tibrewala
13. Proposal #13 - Sharon Costello
14. L Street Garage Eastern Elevation

15. L Street Garage Eastern Elevation Dimensions

Prepared by: Allen McFarland
Management Analyst II