



COMMISSION FOR THE ARTS STAFF REPORT

ITEM NO. 5.3

DATE: July 28, 2026

TO: Chairperson and Members of the Commission for the Arts

FROM: Allen McFarland, Management Analyst II

SUBJECT: Appointment of an ad hoc committee to review submissions for the L Street Garage Mural Project.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Staff recommends the Commission for the Arts appoint an ad hoc committee to review submissions for the L Street Garage Mural Project and provide a recommendation on the top options to the full Commission.

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 have been received and now the Commission for the Arts is asked to establish an ad hoc committee to review these submissions and develop a recommendation on the top three choices; this recommendation will be shared with the full Commission during the August 25, 2026, regular meeting.

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.

It is anticipated that this new ad hoc committee will run from the date of establishment through June 30, 2027. The ad hoc committee will receive the proposals for individual review during the week of August 3, 2026; the ad hoc committee will then meet during the week of August 10, 2026, to develop a formal recommendation to the full Commission for the Arts. During the August 25, 2026, regular meeting, the Commission will be asked to review the ad hoc committee's recommendation and subsequently recommend the top three choices for consideration by the City.

ATTACHMENTS

1. [L Street Garage Eastern Elevation](#)
2. [L Street Garage Eastern Elevation Dimensions](#)

Prepared by: Allen McFarland
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