



COMMISSION FOR THE ARTS STAFF REPORT

ITEM NO. 5.2

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 Livermorium Plaza Utility Box Murals Project.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Staff recommends the Commission for the Arts review the Livermorium Plaza Utility Box Murals 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 murals on the utility boxes inside Livermorium Plaza. The sides of murals facing the Locanda Wine Bar will have a wine country theme, and the sides facing the plaza will have a science or Livermorium theme. A request for proposals (RFP) was solicited through the Cafe Arts platform; it was open from May 11, 2026, through May 29, 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 murals.

DISCUSSION

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

- The sides of the utility boxes facing Locanda Wine Bar will have a wine-country theme, while the three other sides, including that which faces the plaza, will have a science or Livermorium theme.
- The proposed mural must aesthetically enhance the surrounding environment, be contemporary in style and design, be a representation of the project theme (wine country and Livermorium), 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 February 24, 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:

Proposal #9 - Artist: Seongmin Yoo

Proposal #4 - Artist: Houman Pazouki

Proposal #1 - Artist: Zoe Caron

ATTACHMENTS

1. Proposal #1 - Zoe Caron
2. Proposal #2 - Chris Granillo
3. Proposal #3 - MaryElizabeth Olsen
4. Proposal #4 - Houman Pazouki
5. Proposal #5 - Vanessa Stafford
6. Proposal #6 - Kishan Sandekar
7. Proposal #7 - Elani Scott
8. Proposal #8 - Sujata Tibrewala
9. Proposal #9 - Seongmin Yoo
10. Livermorium Plaza Utility Boxes

Prepared by: Allen McFarland
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