

Capitol Campus Design Advisory Committee

June 6, 2016

1063 Building Artwork

Purpose: Information & Feedback

The purpose of this agenda item is to brief the Capitol Campus Design Advisory Committee on the planning for artwork and graphics for the new building under construction at 1063 Capitol Way, and seek guidance and comment.

Three distinct items related to the building's art will be addressed:

- Commission of new art using Percent for Art Funds
- Relocation of GA Building Artwork
- Graphics and Way-finding Package

Background

Commission of new work of art

Our State's Art in Public Places (AIPP) program facilitates the acquisition, placement, and stewardship of artwork in state-funded building projects throughout Washington. The State Legislature established the program in 1974 to acquire artwork for K-12 public schools, colleges, universities, and state agencies, funded by ½ of 1 percent of the state's portion of construction costs. Today, the State Art Collection includes more than 4,500 artworks that are sited where people study, work, and live.

The AIPP budget for the building at 1063 Capitol Way will be \$287,000, which by law can only be expended for newly commissioned work(s).

Relocation of GA Building Art

Public works of art in the General Administration Building include the State Seal rendered in bronze on the exterior façade of the building, and a mosaic mural by artist Jean Cory Beall, commissioned for the building by the State Capitol Committee in 1956. The future of the GA building is uncertain. Five studies completed in the last 18 years ('88, '92, '97, '06, '12) have examined the options and feasibility for building renovation or new construction on the site. The most recent (2016) budget bill directs DES to once examine whether to redevelop the GA site or rehabilitate the building. Recommendations will be made in a report scheduled for completion November 1, 2016.

At the most recent State Capitol Committee meeting held April 25 2016, the committee passed a motion directing DES to determine what is required to protect the artwork in the GA building, through temporary or permanent relocation.

Designers of the 1063 building have considered these two works of art in their design, identifying locations for optimal placement in the new building should relocation be possible within the timeline of construction, or at a later date.

Graphics and Wayfinding Package

Architects for the new building are working with graphics design firm SC Studios on graphics package to help the public to navigate the building, to lend a consistent and professional look and feel, and support a distinct style for the building. A themed framework for the graphics, that is reflective of Washington State values and culture is proposed. This is intended to add a layer of meaning and interest, making the visitor's experience of the building memorable, attractive, and friendly. The graphics package will touch all building signage and the naming of shared conference rooms, include images for large spaces at the elevator core, and reflect state-wide themes.

Status

Commission of new works of art

Under the guidance of the State Arts Commission and following their standard process, an Art Selection Committee was formed. The 7-member committee includes building tenants, a local artist, a member of the Arts Commission, and project director Jon Taylor. The group has met three times since late March.

The Art Selection Committee's role is to develop broad criteria and provide community context to a selected artist. The committee may recommend site options, selects an artist to create a concept proposal, reviews and provides comments, and ultimately is empowered to approve the concept.

The committee reviewed the full list of artists available for work of this scale on the rosters of the Arts Commission, narrowed the list in a subsequent meeting, and on April 27, selected Seattle artist Beliz Brother. Ms. Brother is an accomplished and recognized artist who has worked on several major installations of context-sensitive public art, including at Seattle City Hall and Harborview Medical Center.

Relocation of GA Building Art

DES commissioned a study, completed January 2016, on the potential and cost for relocation of the Beall mosaic mural. The study concluded that the mural can be moved, and offered cost estimates based on projects of comparable size and complexity. Methods for protection and de-installation are recommended. It is strongly preferred that the mural NOT be broken into sections, but be moved in one piece.

Another investigation completed May 9 determined methods and likely costs for removal of the State Seal.

Neither study offered re-installation costs due to the unknown factors involved.

The construction schedule for the 1063 building suggests two methods for relocation of the mural into the building: to fly in by crane before the roof is closed, or roll into the building at the ground floor level, before or after window-walls are constructed.

If the mural is flown in by crane, the ideal timing will be mid-October to mid-November, 2016. At that time a 300-ton crane will be on the construction site to lift mechanical equipment to the roof. If flown in on this timeframe, moving costs are minimized.

If the mural enters the building on wheels, the ideal timing is December 2016 - January 2017, before window-walls are installed; this installation could be delayed by two months if necessary with temporary wall closure. The next opportunity would be after June 1, 2017, and would require removal and re-installation of window-walls.

Graphics and Wayfinding Package

SC Studios developed an initial concept for building graphics based on a thematic framework reflecting "Washington Ideals" in five areas, one designated for each building level from Ground through Fourth Floors. The selected ideals or themes are Exploration, Discovery, Cultivation, Industry, and Preservation. These themes would be conveyed in the graphics and wayfinding on each floor with images, individuals, and quotes.

Preservation professional and historian Michael Sullivan has been engaged to review and support this work. Michael will bring his professional expertise in State History to the identification and interpretation of themes that are the most relevant in expressing the values of this generation, in this location, and for these tenant programs. Michael is an adjunct faculty member at the University of Washington Tacoma and serves on the grant committee for Humanities Washington and the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

Next Steps

Commission of new works of art

Artist Beliz Brother has accepted the commission, and is already familiarizing herself with the building design. She is tentatively scheduled to visit the construction site and meet with the Art Selection Committee in June. At that time the committee will discuss with her the values and context statements developed in its earlier meetings.

The committee's preference is for a single work of interior or exterior art, rather than multiple smaller selections. Working with the building's architects, the artist will develop a concept proposal for review by the Selection Committee, followed by a final proposal.

The concept proposals and final proposal will also come to the CCDAC for review and comment.

Relocation of GA Building Art

If the artwork is to be relocated into the new building within the most cost-effective a timeframe, funding must be identified immediately. If done within the most effective timeframe of October - November 2016, the relocation costs for both pieces is anticipated at \$250,000 - \$300,000 for de-installation and protection, moving, reinstallation and conservation.

If the artwork is not moved into the new building, costs to remove, protect, and store it will be similar but will include ongoing storage fees.

Graphics and Wayfinding Package

SC Graphics will collaborate with Mr. Sullivan to refine and detail the concept proposal.

A complete package will be presented to the CCDAC for review and comment before a final package is accepted.