Certificate of Appropriateness Case Report

HEARING DATE: MAY 15, 2019

Filing Date: MAY 8, 2019

Case No.: 2016-014964COA
Project Address: 100 LARKIN STREET

Historic Landmark: Civic Center Landmark District

Zoning: P (Public)
Block/Lot: 0354/001

Applicant: Steve Gennrich

Exploratorium

Museum: Pier 15, San Francisco, CA 94111

Shipping: 17 Pier, Suite 100, San Francisco, CA 94111

Staff Contact: Julie Flynn - (415) 575-9057

Julie.A.Flynn@sfgov.org

Reviewed By: Tim Frye – (415) 575-6822

tim.frye @sfgov.org

PROPERTY DESCRIPTION

100 LARKIN STREET, between Grove and Fulton Streets, Assessor's Block 0354, Lot 001. The project site is located outside of the 100 Larkin Street building, on the terrace and sidewalk areas adjacent to the building. The building itself is currently used as the Main Branching building for the San Francisco Public Library. It was constructed in the mid-1990s and was designed by James Ingo Freed of Pei Cobb Freed & Partners. The property falls within the Civic Center Landmark District and has been deemed a noncontributing structure within the District.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The project is for the proposed installation of a temporary interactive installation on the terrace and sidewalk areas outside of the Larkin Street side of the Main Library building. This project has been created through a partnership between the Civic Center Commons Initiative, the SF Public Library Main Branch, and the Exploratorium's Studio for Public Spaces. The project is intended to build on recent City-sponsored efforts to make the Civic Center area more welcoming, and it builds on the Exploratorium's experience with interactive exhibits in public spaces in San Francisco and beyond.

Funded by a major grant from the National Science Foundation, this new project will feature temporary exhibits on the topic of social psychology – exploring how people interact with and think about their fellow human beings. The installation consists of approximately 17 columns, each 12′ 3″ high, rising from a 3x3′ weighted base. The sizing of the base responds to the 3x3′ grid theme that is a prominent feature of the Library Building. The columns serve as stations for interactive exhibits about social psychology, inviting people to connect, confront their biases, challenge conformity, practice generosity, and share stories.

1650 Mission St. Suite 400 San Francisco, CA 94103-2479

Reception:

415.558.6378

Fax: **415.558.6409**

Planning Information: **415.558.6377** The installation is being designed in close collaboration with the Library's facilities and programming staff as well as the Mayor's Office of Disability and the Access Coordinator Section of San Francisco Public Works. The project will be built, installed, and maintained by the Exploratorium, and it is intended to remain for approximately one year on the Larkin Street side of the Main Library Building. Upon removal of the installation, Exploratorium will restore the site to original conditions in partnership with Architectural Resources Group.

The project team aims to begin installation in early July of 2019, and to host a public opening in conjunction with the 50th Anniversary of the Exploratorium Museum in August. Once the project is installed, the Exploratorium will also conduct a research process to evaluate what makes the exhibit successful. This evaluation effort will result in a well-documented case study that can inform future projects in Civic Center or other areas of the City.

OTHER ACTIONS REQUIRED

- On April 17, 2019, the applicant presented the project to the Visual Arts Committee of the San Francisco Arts Commission. Based on the approval motion obtained on this date, the project will now go before the full San Francisco Arts Commission on May 6, 2019 for final approval.
- The applicant is actively working with both the Mayors Office of Disability and the Disability
 Access Coordinator Section of San Francisco Public Works to finalize project layout.
 Collaboration with these agencies is documented in the letters attached. Final ADA approval is
 required before project installation.
- The applicant is working with the Public Works Bureau of Street-Use Mapping to obtain a permit for the project through the Places for People Program.

COMPLIANCE WITH THE PLANNING CODE PROVISIONS

The proposed project complies with all aspects of the Planning Code.

APPLICABLE PRESERVATION STANDARDS

ARTICLE 10

Pursuant to Section 1006.2 of the Planning Code, unless exempt from the Certificate of Appropriateness requirements or delegated to Planning Department Preservation staff through the Administrative Certificate Appropriateness process, the Historic Preservation Commission is required to review any applications for the construction, alteration, removal, or demolition of any designated Landmark for which a City permit is required. Section 1006.6 states that in evaluating a request for a Certificate of Appropriateness for an individual landmark or a contributing building within a historic district, the Historic Preservation Commission must find that the proposed work is in compliance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties, as well as the designating Ordinance and any applicable guidelines, local interpretations, bulletins, related appendices, or other policies.

ARTICLE 10 – Appendix J – Civic Center Landmark District

In reviewing an application for a Certificate of Appropriateness, the Historic Preservation Commission must consider whether the proposed work would be compatible with the character of the Civic Center Landmark District as described in Appendix J of Article 10 of the Planning Code and the character-defining features specifically outlined in the designating ordinance.

THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR'S STANDARDS

Rehabilitation is the act or process of making possible a compatible use for a property through repair, alterations, and additions while preserving those portions or features that convey its historical, cultural, or architectural values. The Rehabilitation Standards are provided below, in relevant part(s):

Standard 1. A property will be used as it was historically or be given a new use that requires minimal change to its distinctive materials, features, spaces, and spatial relationships.

The project would not impact the subject property's use, nor change the use of the terrace or sidewalk areas as public open space. None of the building's distinctive materials, features, spaces or spatial relationships will be affected by the proposed project. The project has been designed to minimize impact on the terrace, and bolting site will be restored with by Architectural Resources Group, using a color matched mortar patch after the exhibit is removed.

Therefore, the proposed project complies with Rehabilitation Standard 1.

Standard 2. The historic character of a property shall be retained and preserved. The removal of historic materials or alteration of features and spaces that characterize a property shall be avoided.

The historic character of the property would be retained with no distinctive materials, architectural elements, or spaces that characterize the property being altered or removed. The project features approximately 17 column structures arranged on the sidewalk and terrace area, each column hosting a different interactive exhibit. All project elements will be removed after 1 year, and the project sponsor will return the site to its original state.

Therefore, the proposed project complies with Rehabilitation Standard 2.

Standard 3. Each property will be recognized as a physical record of its time, place, and use. Changes that create a false sense of historical development, such as adding conjectural features or elements from other historic properties, will not be undertaken.

The project would not create a false sense of historical development. The column structures will clearly be a new feature, but they will be installed in a sensitive manner. Attachments to the terrace will be limited and are undertaken in a manner that ensures reversibility.

Therefore, the proposed project complies with Rehabilitation Standard 3.

Standard 4: Changes to a property that have acquired historic significance in their own right shall be retained and preserved.

The proposed project will not alter any changes to the Library Main Branch Building or Larkin Street sidewalk that have acquired historic significance – additionally, all potions of the installation are temporary.

Therefore, the proposed project complies with Rehabilitation Standard 4.

Standard 5. Distinctive materials, features, finishes, and construction techniques or examples of craftsmanship that characterize a property will be preserved.

The proposed project would preserve all distinctive materials, features, finishes and construction techniques that characterize the Public Library Building and Larkin Street sidewalk and the district, including the overall form and use of the sidewalk and the adjacent public right-of-way. This project will not alter any distinctive features, finishes, construction techniques, or examples of fine craftsmanship that characterize the district and sidewalk.

Therefore, the proposed project complies with Rehabilitation Standard 5.

Standard 9. New additions, exterior alterations, or related new construction will not destroy historic materials, features, and spatial relationships that characterize the property. The new work will be differentiated from the old and will be compatible with the historic materials, features, size, scale and proportion, and massing to protect the integrity of the property and its environment.

The exterior alterations will not destroy historic materials, features, and spatial relationships that characterize the property. The sense of the massing, size, scale and proportion, as well as the visual weight of the subject building would be clearly retained while the brightly colored columns would create a clear differentiation that achieves a relationship with the subject building and its surroundings through its use of the 3x3' grid that characterizes the Library building.

Therefore, the proposed project complies with Rehabilitation Standard 9.

Standard 10. New additions and adjacent or related new construction will be undertaken in such a manner that, if removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the historic property and its environment would be unimpaired.

The installation is being proposed as a temporary project that is in place for one year. When the project is removed, the essential form and integrity of the building terrace and sidewalk will be unimpaired. The installation is intentionally designed to be easily removable. This project will not alter the overall form and integrity of the sidewalk and will not affect the overall historic character of the Civic Center Landmark District.

Therefore, the proposed project complies with Rehabilitation Standard 10.

PUBLIC/NEIGHBORHOOD INPUT

The Installation reflects a deep collaboration between the Exploratorium and the Main Library and is based upon a robust research and community engagement process. Highlights of elements that have informed the exhibit design include the following:

- Exploratorium has worked with staff at the Community Housing Partnership (CHP) to understand the needs of low-income populations that rely on Civic Center's public spaces.
 CHP stakeholders also attended a prototyping event to view test exhibits at the Exploratorium in June 2018.
- The Exploratorium has worked with the SF Public Library and the City to "prototype" installation elements and conduct a rigorous formative evaluation process to determine the design of each exhibit. Prototyping occurred at the free Civic Center Commons Block Party event on October 7, 2018 (attended by over one thousand residents and stakeholders), at the Lava Mae Pop-up Care Village in May 2018, and at the Tenderloin Museum in June 2018. The team also prototyped exhibits within the atrium of the SF Public Library Building for approximately one week each in the months of August, September, October, and December of 2018.
- City partners have led targeted outreach to key area stakeholders including the Civic Center Community Benefit District, San Francisco Recreation & Park Department, Asian Art Museum, and Bill Graham Civic Auditorium.
- The project was presented at the most recent Civic Center Commons Partner Meeting on January 15, 2019, attended by over 65 core city and community partners. And, sample renderings were included in display boards highlighting near-term activation during the most recent Public Open House for the Civic Center Public Realm Plan on February 27, 2019.

The Department has received four (4) letters in support of this project from the following organizations: Lighthouse for the Blind, Urban Alchemy, Lava Mae, and TREE Method Psychotherapy and Consultation. One question was received by a member of the public, which was answered by staff. No opposition to this project has been received at the date of this report.

STAFF ANALYSIS

Based on Appendix J of Article 10 of the Planning Code and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards, the Department believes the proposed project is compatible with the character-defining features of the subject site and the Civic Center Landmark District. The Department finds the temporary installation will use durable materials, will be installed in a reversible manner, and will benefit from the development of a detailed maintenance plan created with project partners.

At the request of the Planning Department and Project Sponsor, the proposed installation was brought before the Architectural Review Committee (ARC) for review and comment on April 3, 2019.

At the ARC meeting, the Planning Department requested review and comment regarding the following aspects of the proposed art installation, and its compatibility with the Civic Center Landmark District:

- 1. The appropriateness of the proposed art installation site within the landmark district, identified on Block #0354 within the Civic Center Cultural Landscape Inventory.
- 2. The appropriateness of the design of the art installation in terms of form, scale, massing, and materials.

Planning Department Staff has prepared a summary of the ARC comments from that meeting.

- Appropriateness within the Civic Center Landmark District. The project is temporary and will be in place for only one year and has been designed to be durable, and reversible. It would not destroy or damage any contributing elements within the Civic Center Landmark District: it does not impact the use or historical character of the property at 100 Larkin Street, nor does it remove or alter historic materials. The project would not change or impact deteriorated features, would not involve any chemical treatments, and would not impact any archeological resources.
 - The Architectural Review Committee concurred with staff's assessment at the April 3, 2019, meeting that the proposed project is appropriate within the Civic Center Landmark District.
- Form, scale, massing, and color palette. The proposed project directly responds to the architectural form and scale of the Main Library Building in that each column is based on a 3x3 ft grid, echoing an architectural theme of the building and terrace. The sense of the massing, size, scale and proportion, as well as the visual weight of the subject building would be clearly retained. The uniform, bright color of the columns would create a clear differentiation between the temporary project and existing features. Finally, placement of columns is being carefully coordinated with both the Mayor's Office of Disability, internal accessibility staff at SFPL, as well as disability access coordinators at Public Works.
 - o The Architectural Review Committee concurred with staff's assessment at the April 3, 2019, meeting that the proposed temporary project is compatible with the characterdefining features of the subject site and the Civic Center Landmark District in terms of form, scale, massing, and color palette
- Materials. The proposed project is designed to be durable but reversible. The columns are created with a steel frame and will be reviewed by a structural engineer to assess any tipping risk. Further, the chairs mounted to the top of the columns are anchored firmly and will withstand wind. Columns will be anchored to the terrace with small bolts, and the project sponsor is developing a restoration plan with Architectural Resources Group the restoration plan includes close color matching, so holes are not detectable after the exhibit is removed. Proposed ground treatments are also fully removeable and designed to withstand outdoor conditions and meet ADA requirements. The project team is working on adjustments to mitigate any risk of people attempting to climb the columns, as this may be a temptation. Sensitive elements (such as screens, or loose items that could blow away or be stolen) will be closed at night.

The Architectural Review Committee concurred with staff's assessment at the April 3,
 2019 meeting that the proposed project is designed with suitably durable and reversible materials.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW STATUS

The Planning Department has determined that the proposed project is exempt/excluded from environmental review, pursuant to CEQA Guideline Section 15301 (Class One-Minor Alteration of Existing facility) because the project is a minor alteration of an existing structure and meets the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards*.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

Planning Department staff recommends APPROVAL WITH CONDITIONS of the proposed project as it appears to meet the Secretary of the Interior Standards for Rehabilitation. Staff recommends the following conditions of approval:

 As part of the permit application, the Project Sponsor shall submit all final design details to Planning Department staff for review and approval of based on final disability access and fire review.

ATTACHMENTS

- Draft Motion
- Documentation of approval by the Visual Arts Committee of the SF Arts Commission on April 17, 2019
- Project Sponsor Submittal: background information, site photographs, plans, and renderings
- Architectural Review Committee Comment Memo (4/3/2019)
- Public Correspondence
- Documentation of coordination with the Mayor's Office of Disability and the Access Coordinator Section of San Francisco Public Works
- Sanborn Map
- Assessors Map
- Civic Center Landmark District Map

Historic Preservation Commission Motion No.

HEARING DATE: MAY 15, 2019

1650 Mission St. Suite 400 San Francisco, CA 94103-2479

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ADOPTING FINDINGS FOR A CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS FOR PROPOSED WORK DETERMINED TO BE APPROPRIATE FOR AND CONSISTENT WITH THE PURPOSES OF ARTICLE 10, TO MEET THE STANDARDS OF ARTICLE 10, TO MEET THE SECRETARY OF INTERIOR'S STANDARDS FOR REHABILITATION, FOR THE PROPERTY LOCATED ON LOT 001 IN ASSESSOR'S BLOCK 0812, WITHIN A P (PUBLIC) ZONING DISTRICT AND THE CIVIC CENTER LANDMARK DISTRICT.

PREAMBLE

WHEREAS, on April 10, 2019 Steve Gennrich ("Project Sponsor") filed an application with the San Francisco Planning Department (hereinafter "Department") for a Certificate of Appropriateness for the installation of a temporary interactive installation to be located outside of the 100 Larkin Street Main Library building for 1 year.

WHEREAS, on April 3, 2019, the Project was presented to the Architectural Review Committee of the Historic Preservation Committee for review and comment.

WHEREAS, the Project Sponsor has revised designs in response to feedback from the Architectural Review Committee of the Historic Preservation Committee following a presentation on April 3, 2019.

WHEREAS, the Project was determined by the Department to be categorically exempt from environmental review. The Historic Preservation Commission ("Commission") has reviewed and concurs with said determination.

WHEREAS, on May 15, 2019, the Commission conducted a duly noticed public hearing on the current project, Case No. 2016-014964COA ("Project") for its appropriateness.

WHEREAS, in reviewing the Application, the Commission has had available for its review and consideration case reports, plans, and other materials pertaining to the Project contained in the Department's case files, has reviewed and heard testimony and received materials from interested parties during the public hearing on the Project.

MOVED, that the Commission hereby grants the Certificate of Appropriateness, in conformance with the architectural plans labeled "20190515 Middle Ground HPC_final plans-to print.pdf" on file in the docket for Case 2016-014964COA based on the following conditions and findings:

CONDITIONS

Planning Department staff recommends APPROVAL WITH CONDITIONS of the proposed project as it appears to meet the Secretary of the Interior Standards for Rehabilitation. Staff recommends the following conditions of approval:

 As part of the permit application, the Project Sponsor shall submit all final design details to Planning Department staff for review and approval of based on final disability access and fire review.

FINDINGS

Having reviewed all the materials identified in the recitals above and having heard oral testimony and arguments, this Commission finds, concludes, and determines as follows:

- 1. The above recitals are accurate and also constitute findings of the Commission.
- 2. Findings pursuant to Article 10:

The Historic Preservation Commission has determined that the proposed work is compatible with the character of the landmark as described in the designation report.

- The project will retain the existing use and historic character of the building and landmark district.
- The project is temporary and is designed to be durable and reversable.
- Columns will be anchored to the terrace with small bolts, and the project sponsor is developing a restoration plan with Architectural Resources Group - the restoration plan includes close color matching, so holes are not detectable after the exhibit is removed.
- The proposed project meets the requirements of Article 10, Appendix J of the Planning Code.
- The proposed project meets the following Secretary of Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation:

Standard 1.

A property shall be used for its historic purpose or be placed in a new use that requires minimal change to the defining characteristics of the building and its site and environment.

Standard 2.

The historic character of a property shall be retained and preserved. The removal of historic materials or alteration of features and spaces that characterize a property shall be avoided.

Standard 3.

Each property will be recognized as a physical record of its time, place, and use. Changes that create a false sense of historical development, such as adding conjectural features or elements from other historic properties, will not be undertaken.

Standard 4.

Changes to a property that have acquired historic significance in their own right shall be retained and preserved.

Standard 5.

Distinctive features, finishes, and construction techniques or examples of craftsmanship that characterize a property shall be preserved.

Standard 9.

New additions, exterior alterations, or related new construction will not destroy historic materials, features, and spatial relationships that characterize the property. The new work will be differentiated from the old and will be compatible with the historic materials, features, size, scale and proportion, and massing to protect the integrity of the property and its environment.

Standard 10.

New additions and adjacent or related new construction shall be undertaken in such a manner that if removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the historic property and its environment would be unimpaired.

3. **General Plan Compliance.** The proposed Certificate of Appropriateness is, on balance, consistent with the following Objectives and Policies of the General Plan:

I. URBAN DESIGN ELEMENT

THE URBAN DESIGN ELEMENT CONCERNS THE PHYSICAL CHARACTER AND ORDER OF THE CITY, AND THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PEOPLE AND THEIR ENVIRONMENT.

GOALS

The Urban Design Element is concerned both with development and with preservation. It is a concerted effort to recognize the positive attributes of the city, to enhance and conserve those attributes, and to improve the living environment where it is less than satisfactory. The Plan is a definition of quality, a definition based upon human needs.

OBJECTIVE 1

EMPHASIS OF THE CHARACTERISTIC PATTERN WHICH GIVES TO THE CITY AND ITS NEIGHBORHOODS AN IMAGE, A SENSE OF PURPOSE, AND A MEANS OF ORIENTATION.

POLICY 1.3

Recognize that buildings, when seen together, produce a total effect that characterizes the city and its districts.

OBJECTIVE 2

CONSERVATION OF RESOURCES WHICH PROVIDE A SENSE OF NATURE, CONTINUITY WITH THE PAST, AND FREEDOM FROM OVERCROWDING.

POLICY 2.4

Preserve notable landmarks and areas of historic, architectural or aesthetic value, and promote the preservation of other buildings and features that provide continuity with past development.

POLICY 2.5

Use care in remodeling of older buildings, in order to enhance rather than weaken the original character of such buildings.

POLICY 2.7

Recognize and protect outstanding and unique areas that contribute in an extraordinary degree to San Francisco's visual form and character.

The goal of a Certificate of Appropriateness is to provide additional oversight for buildings and districts that are architecturally or culturally significant to the City in order to protect the qualities that are associated with that significance.

The proposed project qualifies for a Certificate of Appropriateness and therefore furthers these policies and objectives by maintaining and preserving the character-defining features of the landmark for the future enjoyment and education of San Francisco residents and visitors.

- 4. The proposed project is generally consistent with the eight General Plan priority policies set forth in Section 101.1 in that:
 - A) The existing neighborhood-serving retail uses will be preserved and enhanced and future opportunities for resident employment in and ownership of such businesses will be enhanced:

The proposed project will have no effect on existing neighborhood-serving retail uses.

B) The existing housing and neighborhood character will be conserved and protected in order to preserve the cultural and economic diversity of our neighborhoods:

The proposed project will strengthen neighborhood character by respecting the character-defining features of the site and landmark district in conformance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards.

C) The City's supply of affordable housing will be preserved and enhanced:

The project will not reduce the affordable housing supply as the existing units will be retained.

D) The commuter traffic will not impede MUNI transit service or overburden our streets or neighborhood parking:

The proposed project will not result in commuter traffic impeding MUNI transit service or overburdening the streets or neighborhood parking.

E) A diverse economic base will be maintained by protecting our industrial and service sectors from displacement due to commercial office development. And future opportunities for resident employment and ownership in these sectors will be enhanced:

The proposed project will not have any impact on industrial and service sector jobs.

F) The City will achieve the greatest possible preparedness to protect against injury and loss of life in an earthquake.

The project will have no effect on preparedness against injury and loss of life in an earthquake. The work will be executed in compliance with all applicable construction and safety measures.

G) That landmark and historic buildings will be preserved:

The proposed project is in conformance with Article 10 of the Planning Code and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards.

H) Parks and open space and their access to sunlight and vistas will be protected from development:

The proposed project will not impact the access to sunlight or vistas for the parks and open space.

5. For these reasons, the proposal overall, is appropriate for and consistent with the purposes of Article 10, meets the standards of Article 10, and the Secretary of Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation, General Plan and Prop M findings of the Planning Code.

DECISION

That based upon the Record, the submissions by the Applicant, the staff of the Department and other interested parties, the oral testimony presented to this Commission at the public hearings, and all other written materials submitted by all parties, the Commission hereby **GRANTS WITH CONDITIONS a Certificate of Appropriateness** for the property located at Lot 001 in Assessor's Block 0354 for proposed work in conformance with the renderings and architectural sketches labeled "20190515 Middle Ground HPC final plans-to print.pdf" on file in the docket for Case No. 2016-014964COA.

APPEAL AND EFFECTIVE DATE OF MOTION: The Commission's decision on a Certificate of Appropriateness shall be final unless appealed within thirty (30) days. Any appeal shall be made to the Board of Appeals, unless the proposed project requires Board of Supervisors approval or is appealed to the Board of Supervisors as a conditional use, in which case any appeal shall be made to the Board of Supervisors (see Charter Section 4.135).

Duration of this Certificate of Appropriateness: This Certificate of Appropriateness is issued pursuant to Article 10 of the Planning Code and is valid for a period of three (3) years from the effective date of approval by the Historic Preservation Commission. The authorization and right vested by virtue of this action shall be deemed void and canceled if, within 3 years of the date of this Motion, a site permit or building permit for the Project has not been secured by Project Sponsor.

THIS IS NOT A PERMIT TO COMMENCE ANY WORK OR CHANGE OF OCCUPANCY UNLESS NO BUILDING PERMIT IS REQUIRED. PERMITS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF BUILDING INSPECTION (and any other appropriate agencies) MUST BE SECURED BEFORE WORK IS STARTED OR OCCUPANCY IS CHANGED.

I hereby certify that the Historical Preservation Commission ADOPTED the foregoing Motion on May 15, 2019.

Commission Secretary
AYES:
NAYS:
ABSENT:

Ionas P. Ionin

ADOPTED:

San Francisco Arts Commission

Visual Arts Committee - April 17, 2019 - Minutes

Meeting Date:

April 17, 2019 - 3:00pm

Location:

401 Van Ness Avenue, Suite 325 San Francisco, CA 94102 **Related Meeting Content:**

Agenda

SAN FRANCISCO ARTS COMMISSION VISUAL ARTS COMMITTEE Wednesday, April 17, 2019 3 p.m. 401 Van Ness Avenue, Room 125

San Francisco, CA 94102

Minutes

Visual Arts Committee Members:

JD Beltran Dorka Keehn, Chair Nabiel Musleh Abby Sadin Schnair Janine Shiota Barbara Sklar

1. Call to Order, Roll Call, and Agenda Changes

Commissioners Present:

Commisioner Beltran

Commissioner Keehn

Commissioner Musleh

Commissioner Schnair

Commissioner Shiota

Commissioner Sklar

The meeting commenced at 3:02 p.m.

2. General Public Comment

Discussion

Commissioner Keehn recognized the service of former Commissioner Jessica Silverman. Commissioner Silverman was appointed by Gavin Newsom in May 2010 was an instrumental member of the Arts Commission and the Visual Arts Committee. She served on three committees: "Visual Arts," "Street Artists" and "Community Arts, Education and Grants." Her contemporary art gallery, located in the Tenderloin, is known internationally for building the careers of a diverse range of living artists.

Commissioner Keehn announced the revised motions for Item #5 and Item #9F.

The revised motion of Item #5 is: Motion to approve the design of the proposed mural installation by artist JR on designated exterior wall of the Orpheum Theatre for a duration of a year, pending approval of the project by SHN (Orpheum Theatre) and the Historic Preservation Commission and pending procurement of outside funds from OEWD, SHN, and private sources.

The revised motion for Item #9F is: Motion to approve the purchase of the following artworks for display at the San Francisco International Airport: Grand Hyatt Hotel:

Natalya Burd, So much more than this, 2018, acrylic, mirror, Plexiglas, 47 in. by 94 in., \$9,000.

John Chiara, *Cabrillo Highway at Pescadero Creek Road, Variation 4*, 2017, Camera Obscura Ilfochrome photograph, 58 in. by 71 in. framed, \$27,000.

Klea McKenna, Born in 1717, 2017, gelatin silver photogram, 43 in. by 50 in. framed, \$9,800.

Crystal Liu, *underground, 'stuck in between'*, 2016, collage, gouache, ink and watercolor on paper, 47 in. by 104 in., \$24,000.

Motion to approve the reinstallation of the following artworks for display at the San Francisco International Airport Grand Hyatt Hotel:

Michael Dvortcsak, Sublimens, 1986, oil and wax on canvas, 87 ½ in. by 72 ½ in. by 1 ¾ in.

Commissioner Keehn called for public comment. There was no public comment.

3. Consent Calendar

Action

- Motion to authorize the Director of Cultural Affairs to enter into agreement with A. Zahner Company for an
 amount not to exceed \$1,100,000 for the completion of design, fabrication, transportation and consultation on
 installation of an artwork by Norie Sato for the Headworks Facility at the Southeast Wastewater Treatment
 Plant.
- 2. Motion to approve the Construction Document Phase deliverables for Sarah Sze's 49 South Van Ness suspended lobby sculpture.
- 3. Motion to authorize the Director of Cultural Affairs to increase the agreement with Ellen Harvey Studio LLC from \$360,000 to an amount not to exceed \$400,000 (an increase of \$40,000) for additional fabrication and installation costs for an artwork at the San Francisco International Airport: Grand Hyatt Hotel.

- 4. Motion to approve the Phase II and Phase III Construction Documents for *Terra Techne* by Liz Glynn, designed for San Francisco International Airport: Terminal One.
- 5. Motion to approve the extension of Knitted Tree Project by Knits for Life, sponsored by the Office of Economic and Work Force Development. The fiber-based work will be installed on select trees in Civic Center in the beginning the first week of May 2019 and remaining for six months to one years, depending on the aging process of the materials.

Commissioner Keehn called for public comment. There was no public comment.

Motion: Motion to approve consent calendar items.

Moved: Beltran/ Sklar

The motion was unanimously approved

4. San Francisco Public Library: Middleground

Jill Manton, Julie Flynn, Project Manager

Action

Jill Manton introduced Project Manager Julie Flynn from the Department of City Planning and Senior Artist and Curator at the Exploratorium Shawn Lani. Ms. Flynn stated that the temporary installation Middleground is part of the Civic Center Commons initiative, which is focused the activation of Civic Center spaces. Ms. Flynn then introduced Mr. Lani, who presented an overview of the project to be sited at the main entrance to the San Francisco Public Library. Working with Civic Center Commons and the San Francisco Public Library, Middleground is temporary interactive installation focused on social psychology and designed to engage people in conversations around biases and stereotypes. The design consists of approximately 17 columns, each 12 ft. 3 in. high, rising from a base measuring 3 ft. by 3 ft. each with a chair on top meant to evoke the presence of others. Each column will have a unique interactive experience that will address many issues, some will be quick experiences and some last longer.

Commissioner Beltran inquired about durability of the materials in an outdoor installation and the columns ability to be climbed. Mr. Lani noted the that columns are composed of modular piece and it would be a quick fix to change out parts if damaged or tagged and that they will fabricate the objects to prevent scaling.

Civic Center Collection and Public Art Program Director Susan Pontious asked if the Mayor's Office of Disability (MOD) about the placement of the works. Ms. Flynn stated that they have been working with both MOD and the disability team at Department of Public Works.

Commissioner Keehn inquired about the art component of the installation and urged Mr. Lani to enhance the art component in the future.

Commissioner Keehn called for public comment. There was no public comment.

Motion: Motion to approve Middleground, a temporary interactive installation focused on social psychology developed in partnership by the Civic Center Commons Initiative, the SF Public Library Main Branch, and the Exploratorium's Studio for Public Spaces and funded by the National Science Foundation. The installation will be placed on the Larkin Street plaza in front of the main entry to the Library. The design consists of approximately 17 columns, each 12 ft. 3 in. high, rising from a base measuring 3 ft. by 3 ft. which serve as individual stations for interactive exhibits and shall be up from July 2019 to July 2020 pending approval from Public Works and the Historic Preservation Commission.

Moved: Schnair/ Beltran

The motion was unanimously approved





CIVIC CENTER COMMONS TEMPORARY INSTALLATION

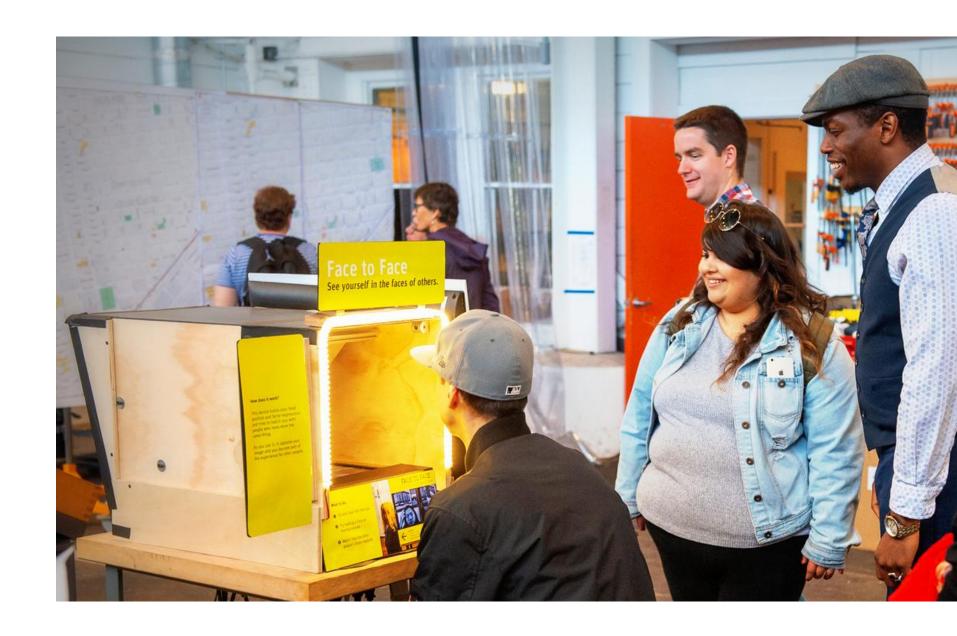


National Science Foundation : Award #1713638 Experiments in Urban Social Science MIDDLE GROUND

May 15, 2019

Middle Ground

Bringing social science research to public urban environments



Partners







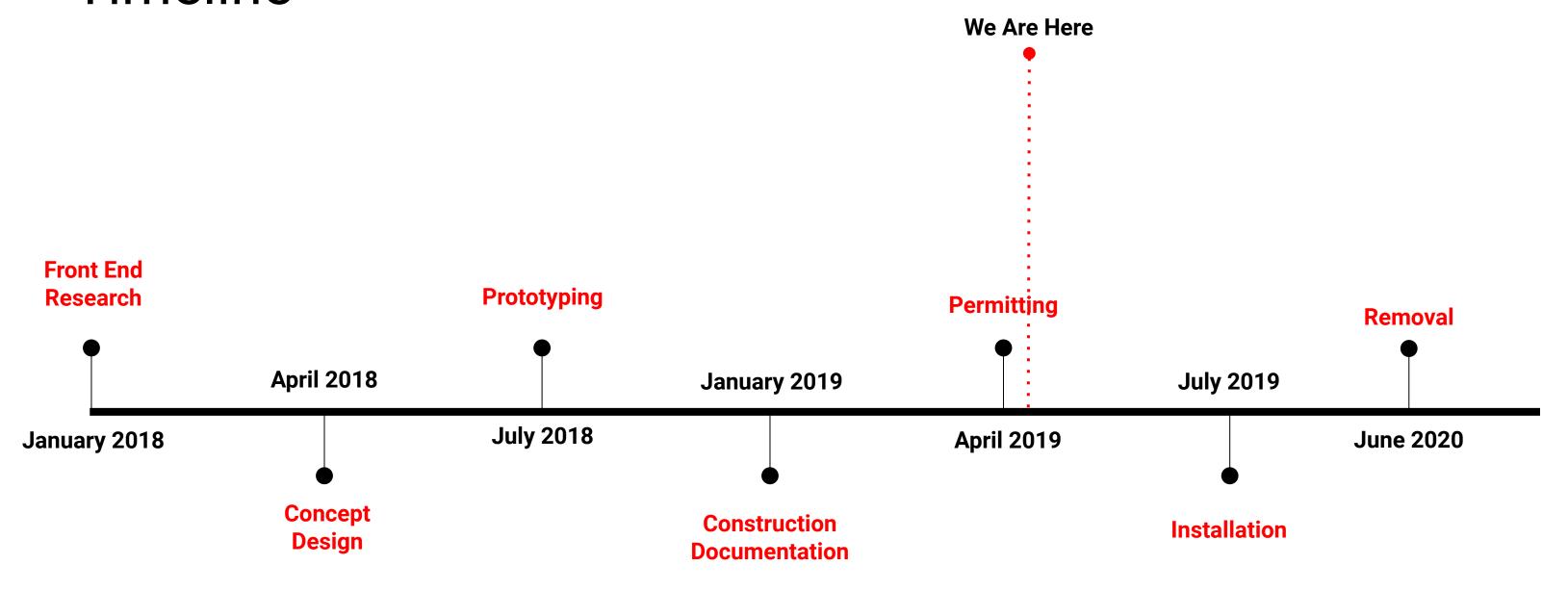








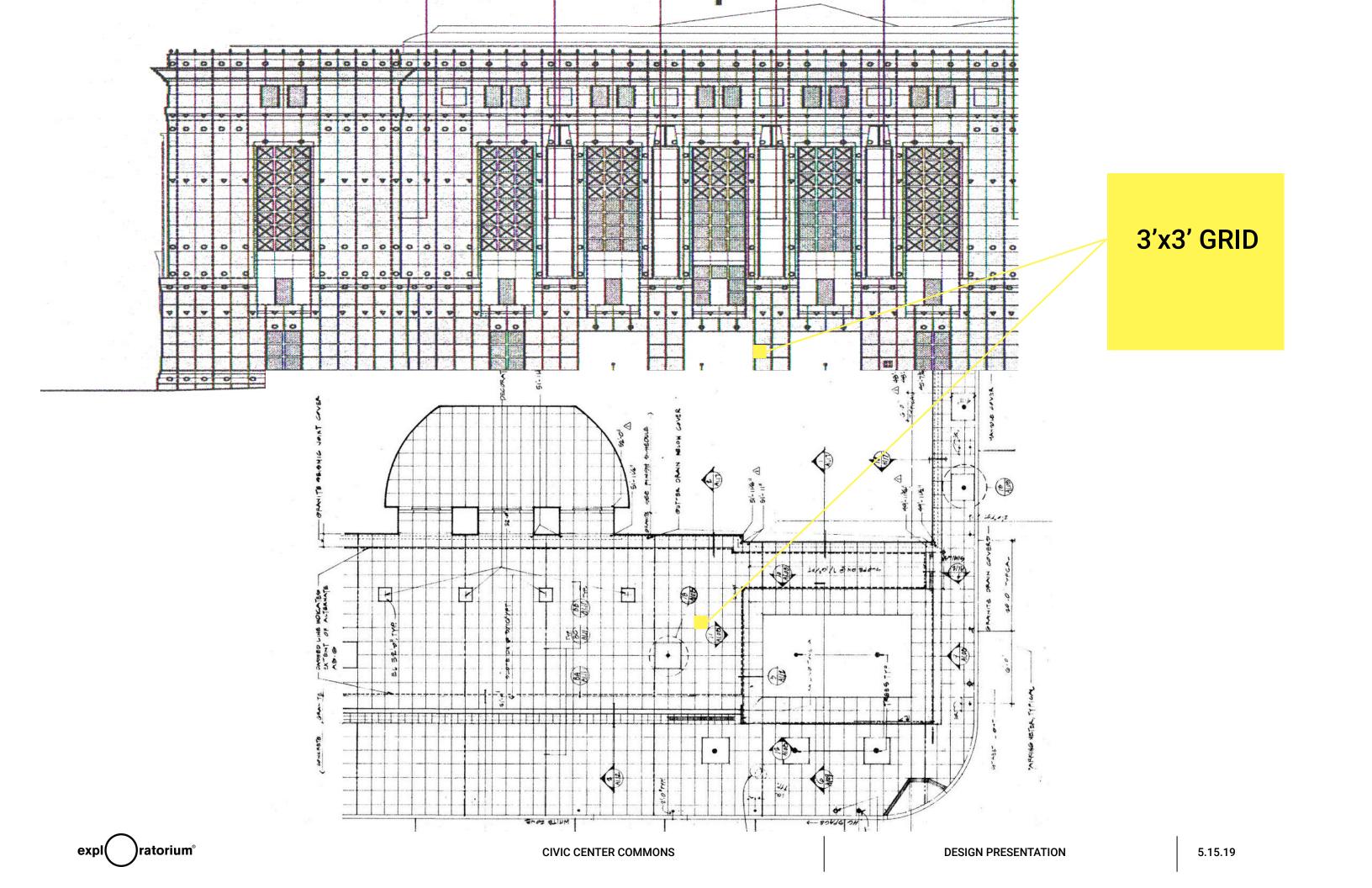
Timeline

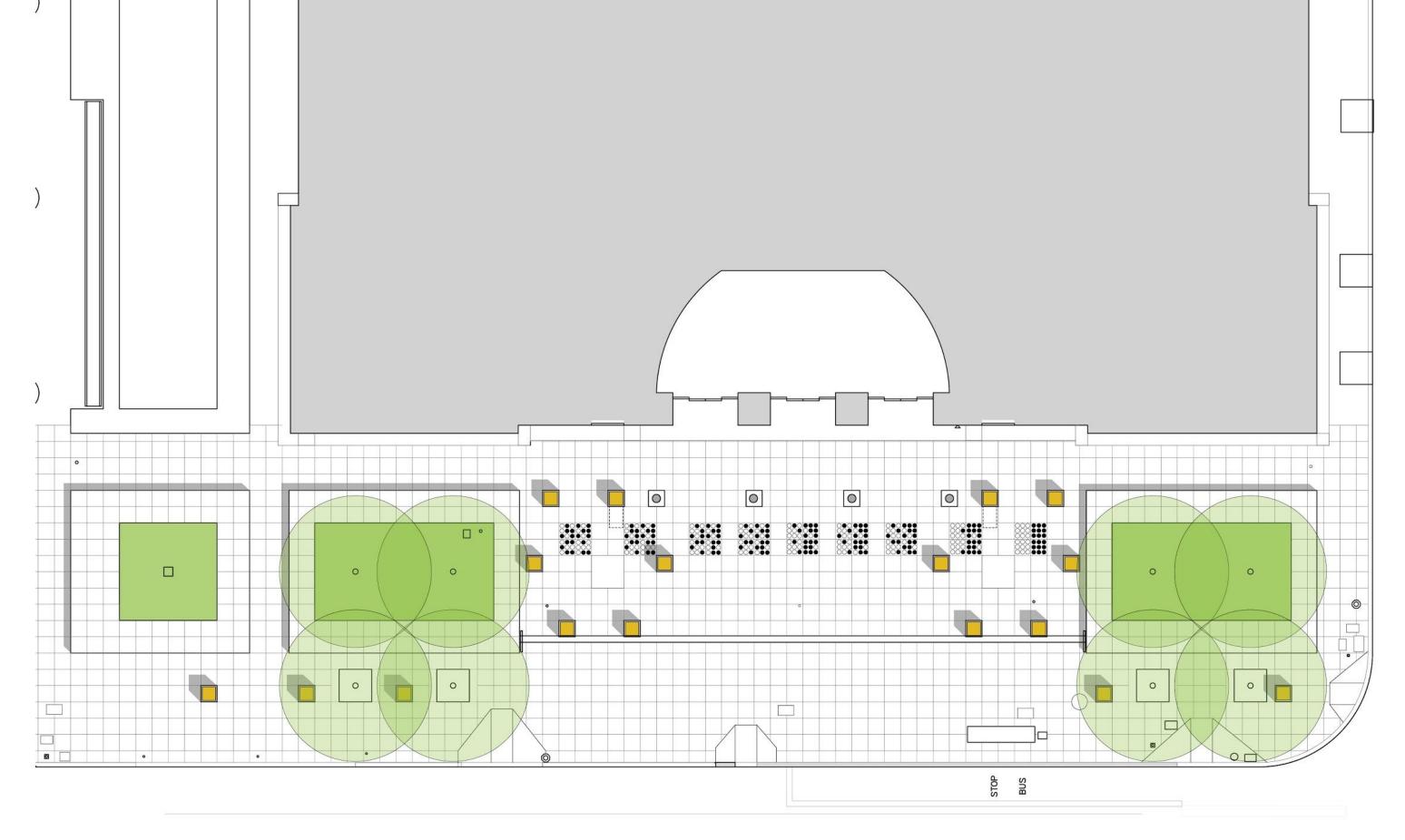




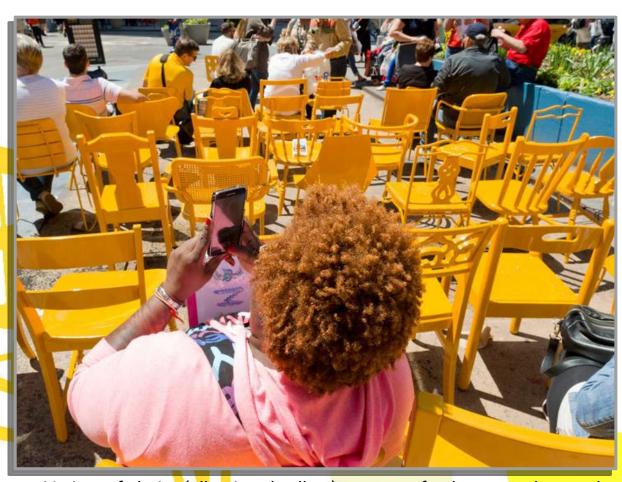




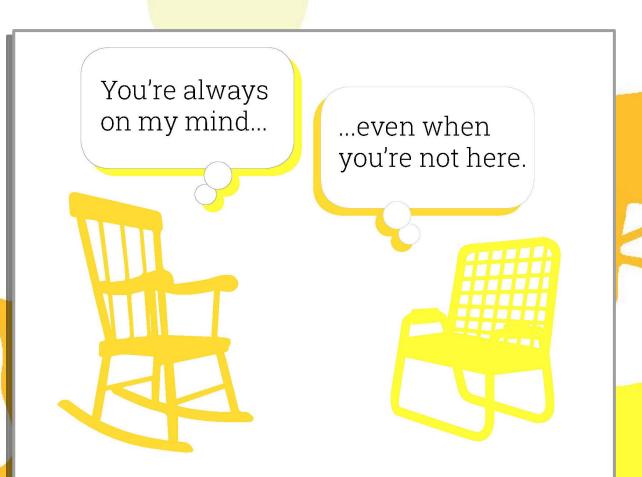




Site Plan showing proposed temporary installation NTS



Variety of chairs (all painted yellow) on tops of columns and at grade (image: Bade Stageberg Cox "Urban Ballet")



Chairs stand in for humans in exhibit graphics



Aerial view of design concept





View of Design Concept from across Larkin

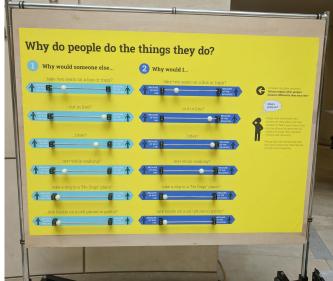




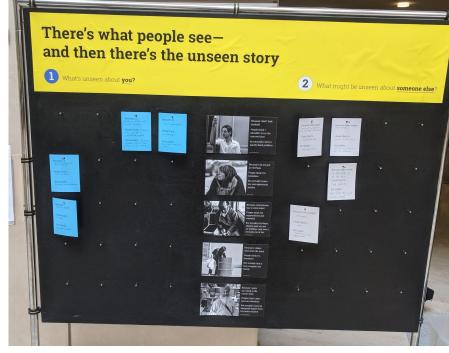
New graphic: temporary ground plane treatment







HEAR A JOK







Social Psychology Exhibit Prototypes



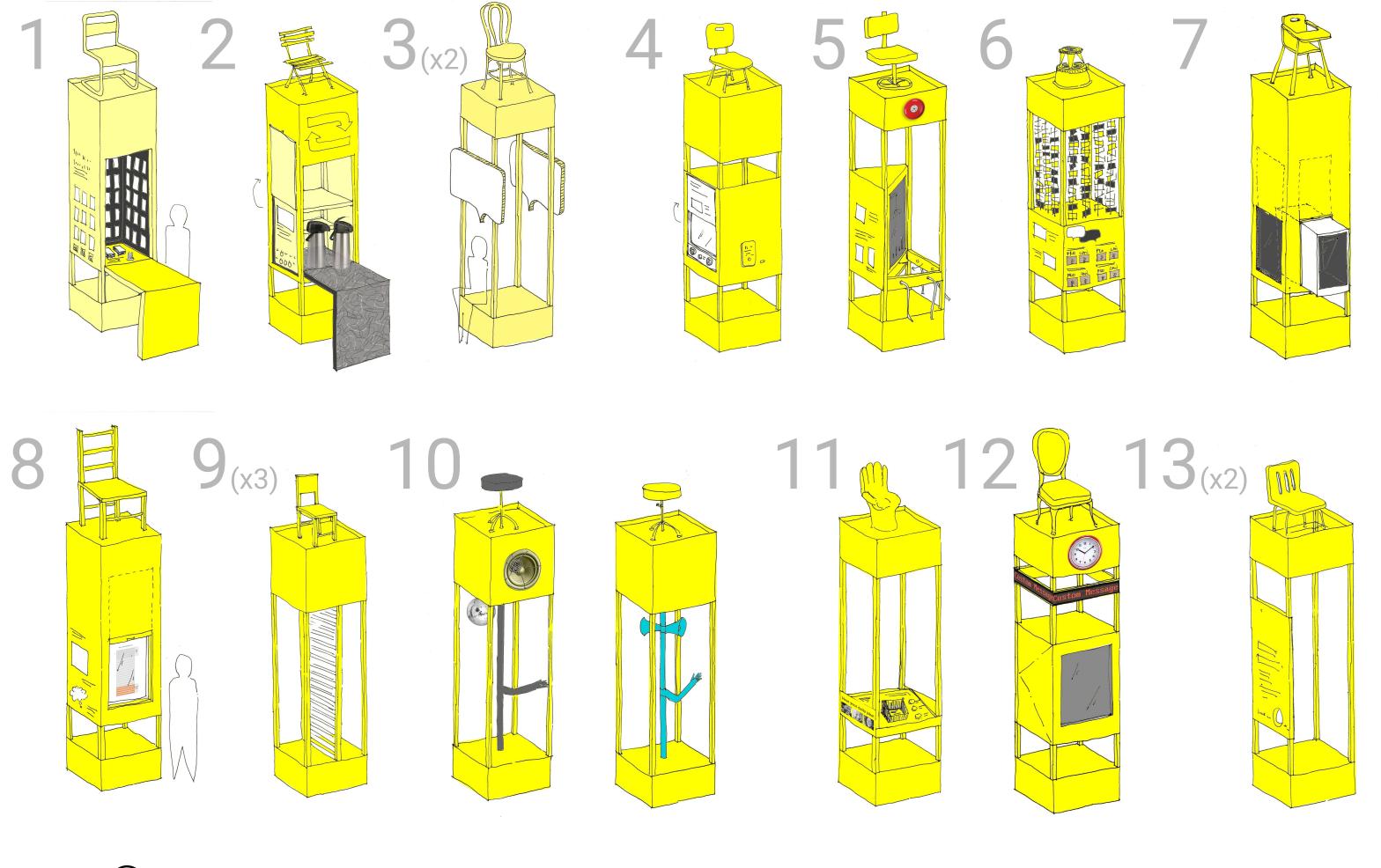




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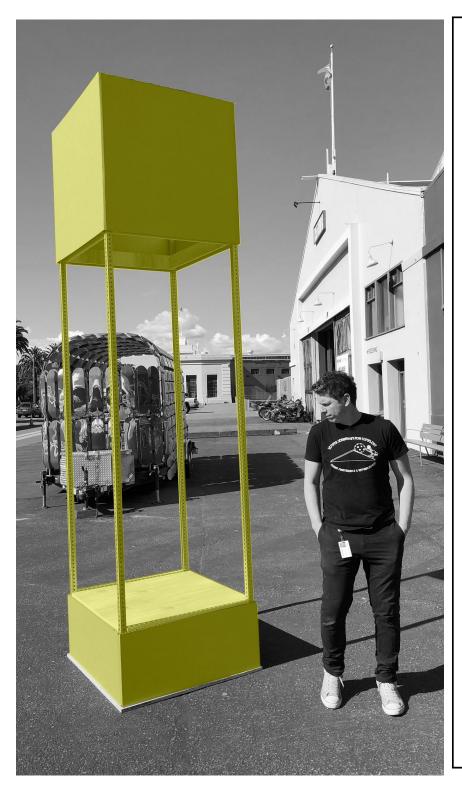
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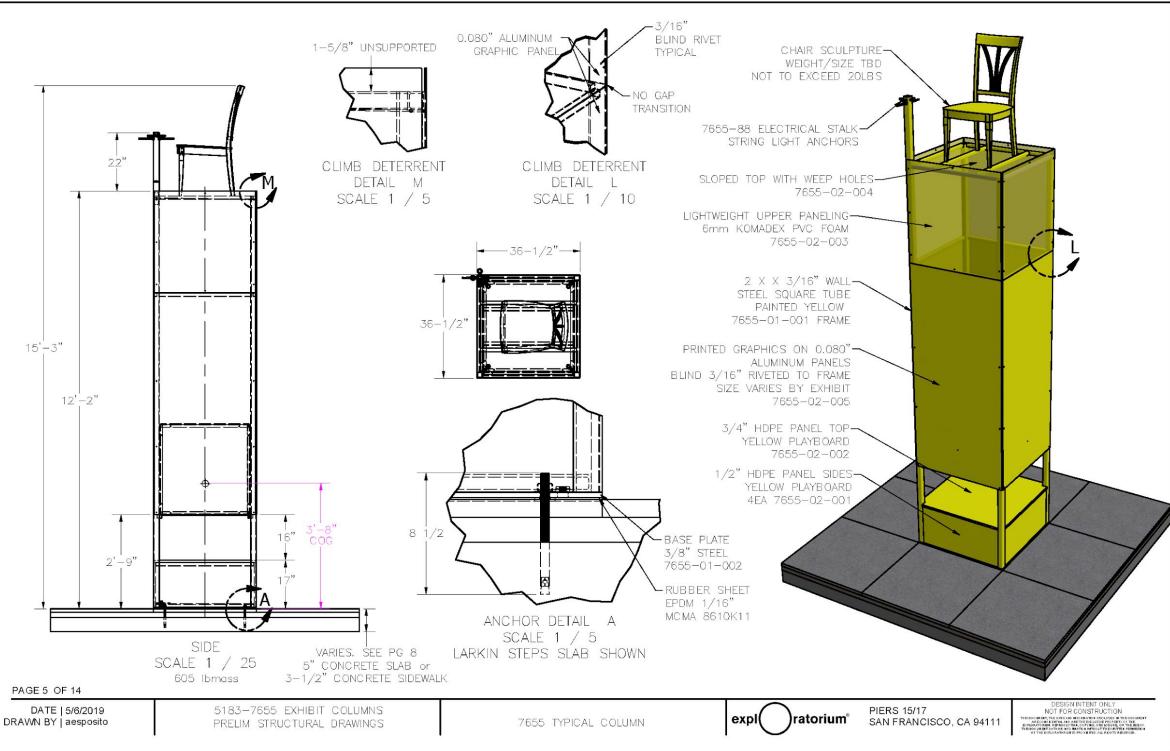


CIVIC CENTER COMMONS

expl ratorium°

DESIGN PRESENTATION





18

Granite Restoration Plan

The Architectural Resources Group and Thameside Masonry are advising the following restoration plan for the granite surface.

- Set up temporary barriers around restoration site.
- Mask sensitive areas.
- Fill all holes with a color matched mortar patch.
- Wait for mortar patch to cure.
- Remove barriers.







Planners & Conservators

THAMESIDE MASONRY





CIVIC CENTER COMMONS

Ground Treatment Removal Plan



Temporary Ground Plane Treatment Description

The proposed ground plane treatment represents data generated by models that show how people are influenced by people around them. This often leads to social and political polarization. Graphics on the exhibition columns will explain the science behind this behavior. We would like to use Alumigraphics material, an aluminum foil ground treatment that adheres to the granite.

Alumigraphics installation and deinstallation process

- No heat source to install or remove
- The foil based media has no memory; it easily conforms and holds the shape to the applied surface.
- 3. The foil based media is not affected by temperature or moisture and will not shrink
- 4. Removal process leaves no residue
- Power washing approved at 36" from surface.
- Life expectancy varies with use and UV exposure. Average life expectancy for outdoor installation is 1 year.









MEMO

1650 Mission St. Suite 400

San Francisco,

DATE: May 6, 2019

TO:

Architectural Review Committee (ARC) of the Historic

Preservation Commission

Reception: **415.558.6378**

CC: Historic Preservation Commission

Fax: **415.558.6409**

FROM: Julie Flynn, Project Manager, Civic Center Commons Initiative

julie.a.flynn@sfgov.org (415) 575-9057

Planning Information: **415.558.6377**

RE: Meeting notes from Review and Comment at the April 3, 2019 ARC

Meeting regarding a temporary installation outside of 100 Larkin

Street.

At the request of the Planning Department, the design for a proposal to construct a temporary interactive installation on the Larkin Street side of the San Francisco Public Library Main Branch Building at 100 Larkin Street within the Civic Center Landmark District was brought to the Architectural Review Committee (ARC) on April 3, 2019. The project is part of a collaborative effort to make Civic Center's public spaces more welcoming in the near-term through improved stewardship, programming, and new attractions. The temporary installation will be in place for one year beginning July 2019.

At the ARC meeting, the Planning Department requested review and comment regarding the following aspects of the proposed art installation:

- The appropriateness of the proposed art installation site within the landmark district, identified on Block #0354 within the Civic Center Cultural Landscape Inventory.
- The appropriateness of the design of the art installation in terms of form, scale, massing, materials, and color palette.
- Any additional information that should be provided in advance of the Certificate of Appropriateness hearing.

The Planning Department Preservation Staff has prepared a summary of the ARC comments from that meeting.

ARC COMMENTS

Appropriateness within the Civic Center Landmark District. The project is temporary and will
be in place for only one year and has been designed to be durable, and reversible. It would not
destroy or damage any contributing elements within the Civic Center Landmark District: it does
not impact the use or historical character of the property at 100 Larkin Street, nor does it remove

or alter historic materials. The project would not change or impact deteriorated features, would not involve any chemical treatments, and would not impact any archeological resources.

- The Architectural Review Committee concurred with staff's assessment at the April 3, 2019, meeting that the proposed project is appropriate within the Civic Center Landmark District.
- 1. **Form, scale, massing, and color palette.** The proposed project directly responds to the architectural form and scale of the Main Library Building in that each column is based on a 3x3 ft grid, echoing an architectural theme of the building and terrace. The sense of the massing, size, scale and proportion, as well as the visual weight of the subject building would be clearly retained. The uniform, bright color of the columns would create a clear differentiation between the temporary project and existing features. Finally, placement of columns is being carefully coordinated with both the Mayor's Office of Disability, internal accessibility staff at SFPL, as well as disability access coordinators at Public Works.
 - The Architectural Review Committee concurred with staff's assessment at the April 3, 2019, meeting that the proposed temporary project is compatible with the characterdefining features of the subject site and the Civic Center Landmark District in terms of form, scale, massing, and color palette
- 2. Materials. The proposed project is designed to be durable but reversible. The columns are created with a steel frame and will be reviewed by a structural engineer to assess any tipping risk. Further, the chairs mounted to the top of the columns are anchored firmly and will withstand wind. Columns will be anchored to the terrace with small bolts, and the project sponsor is developing a restoration plan with Architectural Resources Group the restoration plan includes close color matching, so holes are not detectable after the exhibit is removed. Proposed ground treatments are also fully removeable and designed to withstand outdoor conditions and meet ADA requirements. The project team is working on adjustments to mitigate any risk of people attempting to climb the columns, as this may be a temptation. Sensitive elements (such as screens, or loose items that could blow away or be stolen) will be closed at night.
 - The Architectural Review Committee concurred with staff's assessment at the April 3,
 2019 meeting that the proposed project is designed with suitably durable and reversible materials.

From: Bryan Bashin
To: Flynn, Julie (CPC)

Subject:Support for the Middle Ground ProjectDate:Sunday, May 5, 2019 7:43:52 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear ms. Flynn,

This is just a short note of support for the 'Middle Ground' project being proposed by the Exploratorium and to be located near the Public Library Larkin side.

We at the Lighthouse for the Blind know the Exploratorium's work and find it of great value for its inclusiveness and sensitivity. As the Lighthouse for the Blind is located just steps away from the future exhibit, we'd love it to grace our front yard with enticements to social understandings.

Let us know if there is anything we can do to help bring about this inclusive project.

Sincerely,

Bryan Bashin

Are you new to blindness or having low vision? Are you ready to actively participate in a week-long immersive training to learn essential life skills? Our Changing Vision Changing Life Immersion might be just the thing for you. Learn more about CVCL and join us from June 2 through 7 at Enchanted Hills Camp in Napa, CA.

From: Steve Gennrich
To: Steve Gennrich
Flynn, Julie (CPC)

Subject: Fwd: Timely - support for the Exploratorium Middle Ground Project

Date: Saturday, May 4, 2019 4:14:54 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Here's Lena's HPC quote...

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Lena Miller < lenam.urbanalchemy@gmail.com>

Date: Fri, May 3, 2019 at 1:23 PM

Subject: Re: Timely - support for the Exploratorium Middle Ground Project

To: Steve Gennrich < sgennrich@exploratorium.edu >

Steve, Thank you for including me on this. Here is my quote:

"The Exploratorium has been an integral in educating, enlightening, and entertaining the Bay Area since I was a child growing up in San Francisco. As the Executive Director of Urban Alchemy, an organization that specializes in creating and maintaining safety and cleanliness in urban spaces, and a doctoral candidate in psychology, I am especially excited about the Exploratorium's Middle Ground project in helping us to examine and understand modern, social dynamics in shared spaces. Our urban centers are evolving faster than our ability to understand the changes that are manifesting. Once again, the innovation and curiosity that the Exploratorium embodies will change the way we engage with our social systems."

Please cut, paste and rearrange as you see fit. This was quick and dirty.

lena Lena Miller Chief Executive Officer of Urban Alchemy 72 6th St., San Francisco CA 94103 415.757.0896

--

Steve Gennrich
Project Director
Studio for Public Spaces
The Exploratorium
415.948.1590 cell

Museum: Pier 15, San Francisco, CA 94111

Shipping: 17 Pier, Suite 100, San Francisco, CA 94111

 From:
 Jamie Ramirez

 To:
 Flynn, Julie (CPC)

 Cc:
 Steve Gennrich

Subject: Lava Mae Supports The Exploratorium"s Middle Ground Project!

Date: Friday, May 3, 2019 1:42:56 PM

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Hi Julie,

It's my pleasure to send words of support for The Exploratorium's proposed public project, the Middle Ground. Steve and his dedicated team have attended a PUCV in the past to bring a protoype to our grateful, if intrigued guests! It was an enjoyable experience for all event participants; a very productive activation of public space. I know that the Library and its many patrons, including our unsheltered program guests would enjoy and directly benefit from this experience. Urban Alchemy, working with us as a PUCV vendor have proveided outstanding support to our guests and would definitely rise to the task of working with The Exploratorium in this unique exhibition.

Cheers to our beautiful commons in the heart of SF! Jamie

Watch Lava Mae Founder Doniece Sandoval's TEDx Talk!



From: Romie Landry
To: Flynn, Julie (CPC)

Cc:Steve Gennrich; Gregory NottageSubject:Middle Ground CommentsDate:Saturday, May 4, 2019 3:18:48 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Hi Julie,

Steve Genrich, Project Director for "Middle Ground" from the Exploratorium reached out to me to send you a few comments supporting their project. My husband and I were contracted to work with the team in the preliminary stages to work on a more clinical level with the team to support them in assimilating themselves, and their own personal frameworks to the projects to further inform them of their cultural messages, bias, and unconscious thoughts before exhibit development.

- Working with the Middle Ground team was an inspirational experience. It is clear that through this project the Exploratorium is dedicated and invested in understanding how they can utilize their platform to bridge gaps within social settings through the art or curiosity and inclusion.
- The work of Middle Ground can support the on-going need to engage all communities, and increase accessibility to interactive education to everyone.

Please let me know if you need anything else or have further questions for me!

Best,

Romie Nottage, MA, MFTi #93934

T.R.E.E. Method ©

Psychotherapy and Consultation 640 14th Street

San Francisco, CA, 94114

E: TREEmethod@gmail.com

P: (707) 337-9451

S: www.linkedin.com/in/romie-landry-ma-mfti-504a3526

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Phone Call Comment Record

Julie Flynn spoke with Ellen Delora on 5/6/19 at 10:30am.

Ellen is involved with tours in the Library area and wanted to know if any elements of the installation would be placed in the street or would impact parking around the Library.

Julie explained that no installation elements will be placed in the street, and that parking will not be impacted. Further, Julie explained that the project team has worked with Public Works Accessibility Coordinators to be sure that exhibit elements on the sidewalk are placed to allow adequate space for unloading and circulation for people walking, using a wheelchair, etc.

From: Khambatta, Arfaraz (ADM)
To: Flynn, Julie (CPC)

Subject: RE: Documentation of Collaboration for HPC Hearing

Date: Wednesday, April 24, 2019 3:10:01 PM

Attachments: image001.png

Yes Julie — By this email, I can confirm that I was invited to 2 meetings within the last couple of months, wherein conceptual designs for the Exploratorium installation project on the Larkin St. side of the Library, were presented by the design team. Feedback on accessibility requirements were conveyed in this setting and the design team was made aware of the obligation to comply with applicable State and Federal accessibility requirements. Final construction documents will need to be submitted to MOD for approval and inspections will be carried out to verify compliance of the installations with respect to the approved drawings and applicable standards.

Best,

Arfaraz Khambatta, CASp

Deputy Director

Mayor's Office on Disability

1155 Market Street, 1st Floor San Francisco, CA 94103 415.554.6786 Direct 415.554.6789 Office 415.554.6159 Fax www.sfgov.org/mod



From: Flynn, Julie (CPC) < julie.a.flynn@sfgov.org>

Sent: Monday, April 22, 2019 8:23 PM

To: Khambatta, Arfaraz (ADM) <arfaraz.khambatta@sfgov.org> **Subject:** FW: Documentation of Collaboration for HPC Hearing

Greetings Arfaraz,

Hope you had a nice weekend. I'm writing just to check in on my note below. Do you think you'd be able to provide a note by email stating that we've been working together on the Exploratorium project, and that we'll seek MOD approval before the project moves forward? Attached is an update letter from Karina – also pasted below in case this text is useful!

Best,

Julie

Sample language

Hello Julie:

Per your request, this e-mail verifies that I have been working with you and the project team for the

 From:
 Lairet, Karina (DPW)

 To:
 Flynn, Julie (CPC)

 Cc:
 Jensen, Kevin (DPW)

Subject: Exploratorium Exhibit at SFPL - Historic Preservation Commission Documentation

Date: Wednesday, April 17, 2019 3:33:14 PM

Hello Julie:

Per your request, this e-mail verifies that I have been working with you and the project team for the Exploratorium Project at the San Francisco Public Library building (100 Larkin Street). We have met several times to discuss accessibility requirements in the public right-of-way for the exhibit. Based on our discussions, the project team is aware of the accessibility requirements and understands that the exhibit layout must obtain approval from the Public Works Disability Access Coordinator Section prior to filing for a permit. The project team is in the process of updating the exhibit layout based on my feedback and we will work together in the coming months to ensure that comments related to accessibility are addressed.

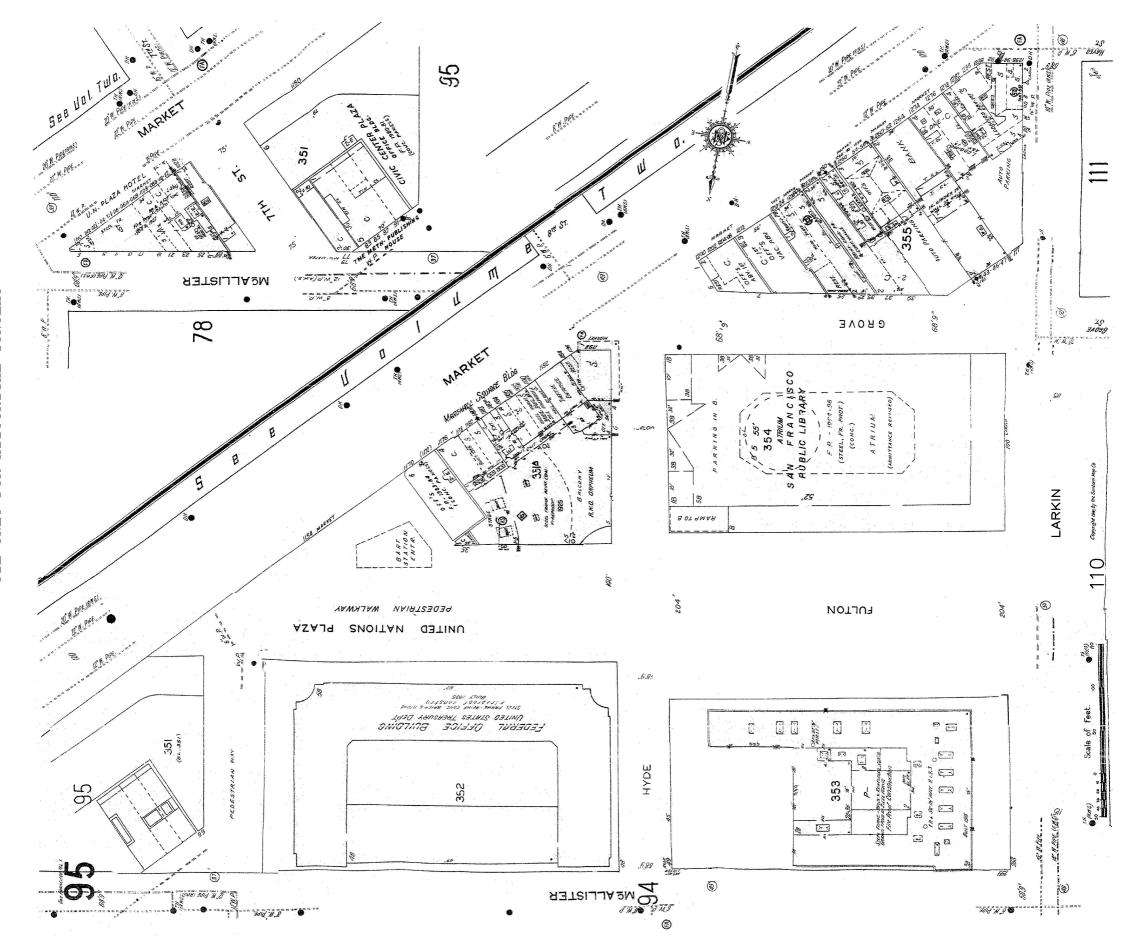
Let me know if this e-mail meets your needs.

Regards,

Karina Lairet, PE, LEED AP BD+C

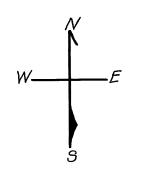
Associate Engineer

Disability Access Coordinator Section | San Francisco Public Works | City and County of San Francisco 30 Van Ness Ave., 5th Floor | San Francisco, CA 94102 | (415) 558-4599 | sfpublicworks.org · twitter.com/sfpublicworks

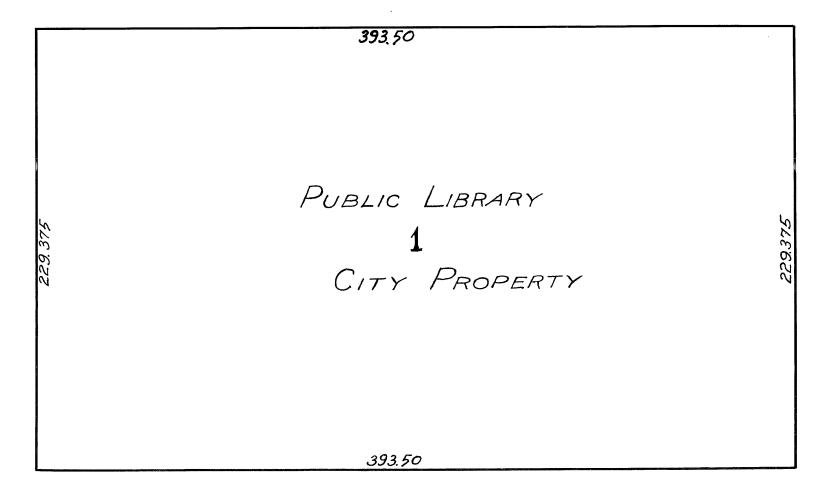


353 AND 354 W. A. BLK.

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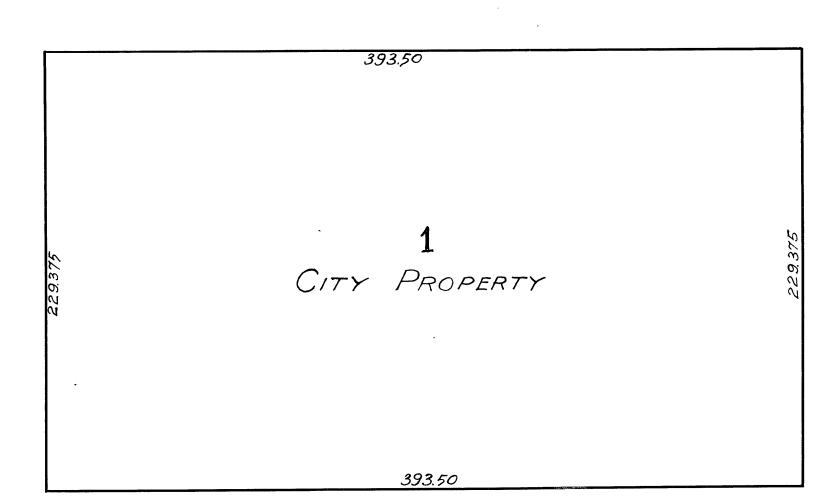


Mc ALLISTER



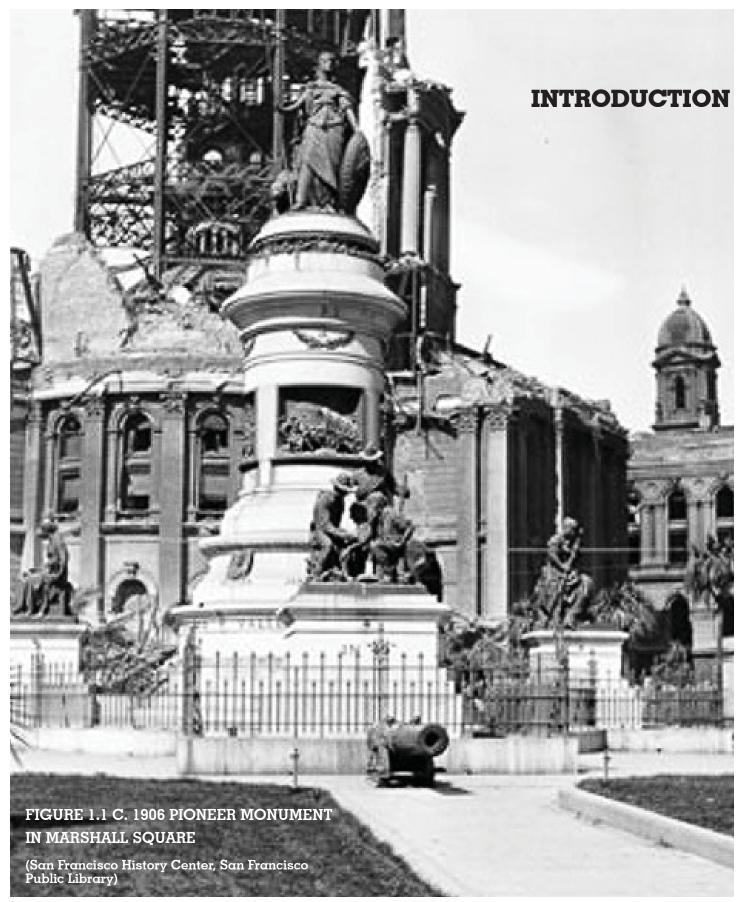
ARKIN

FULTON



GROVE

YDE



INTRODUCTION

The Civic Center Historic District comprises a roughly 58-acre and 15-block part of San Francisco that has multiple historic designations. It was designated locally as a San Francisco Landmark District in December 1994 (1994 SFLD), which followed a listing in the National Register of Historic Places on October 10, 1978 (1978 NR) for state and national levels of significance and a designation as a National Historic Landmark on February 27, 1987 (1987 NHL), which is the highest designation for a historic property in the United States. Both the National Register listing and National Historic Landmark designation comprise a smaller area boundary than the San Francisco Landmark District. The national listings include nearly an 8-block area just over 25 acres.

The historic district is located in the City and County of San Francisco, California, in downtown just north of Market Street between Franklin Street and 7th Street. It extends north to McAllister Street and Golden Gate Avenue. It is surrounded by several neighborhoods including South of Market (SOMA), Western Addition, Tenderloin, Nob Hill and the Financial District. Properties in the Civic Center are primarily public in nature, but owned and managed by several different city, state and federal agencies.

Most of the city's major government and cultural institutions are located in the Civic Center Historic District including City Hall, San Francisco Public Library, War Memorial Complex including the Veterans Building and Opera House, Exposition (Civic) Auditorium, United Nations Plaza, Asian Art Museum, Civic Center Plaza, San Francisco Superior Court, Supreme Court of California, Louise M. Davies Symphony Hall, Federal Building at United Nations Plaza, Edmund G. Brown State Office Building, Hiram W. Johnson State Office Building, the







Platanus x acerifolia/London Plane trees in square tree wells filled with square tiles along Fulton Mall

Platanus x acerifolia/London Plane trees in turf planting area along Fulton Mall





Ornate metal light poles at SF Public Library's Larkin





Single cobra street light along Larkin St





MUNI bus shelter with domed glass roof along





Elevated planting area and seat wall with skateboard deterrent clips at Larkin St

On street bike parking at library's Grove St entrance





Sculpture in planting area - Double L Excentric Gyratory

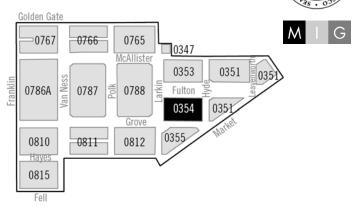


US Postal Service mail boxes along Larkin St



San Francisco Civic Center Historic District

BLOCK #0354



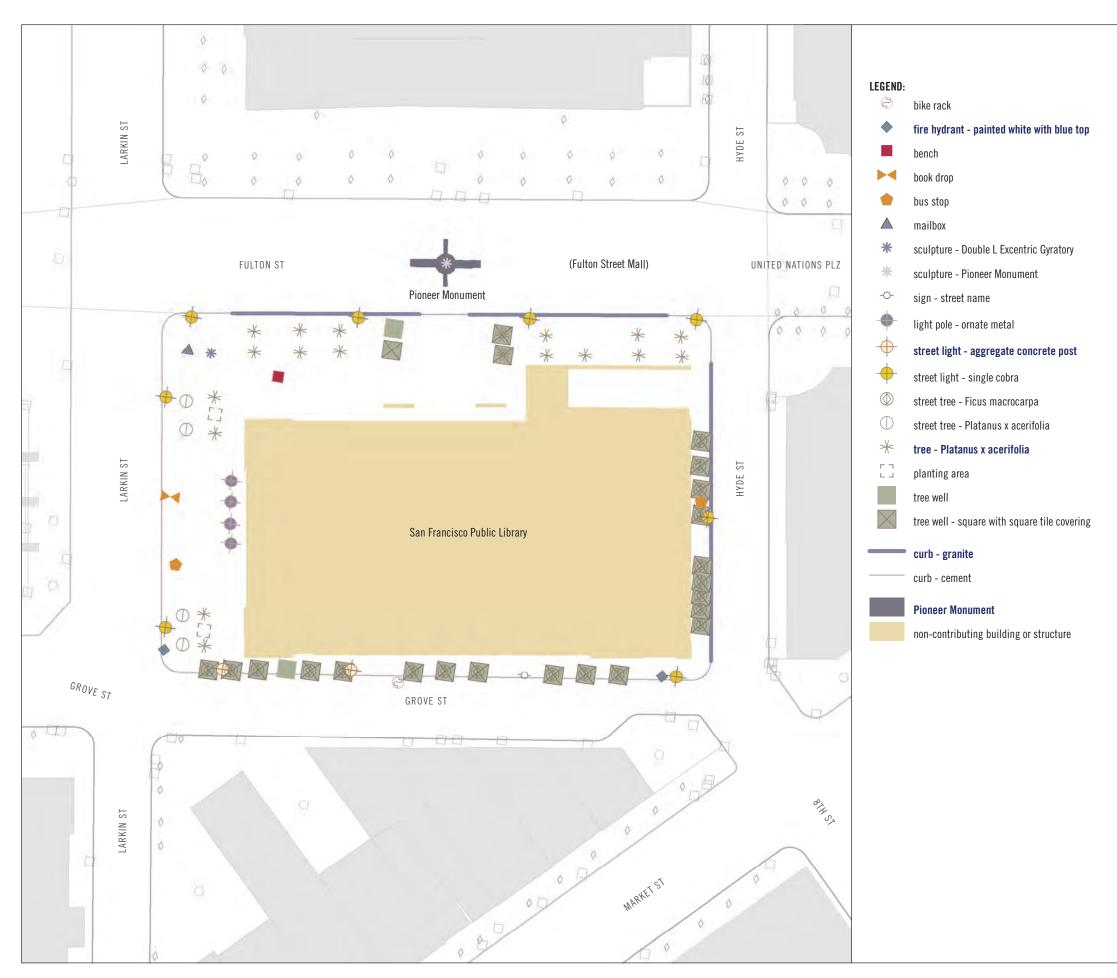
Block #0354, bounded by Fulton, Hyde, Grove and Larkin Streets, is home to the San Francisco Public Library, completed in 1995 and opened in April 1996.

North of the Fulton Street façade is the location of an historic sculpture that has been part of the Civic Center since 1894, the Pioneer Monument (James Lick Memorial). Today, the sculpture functions as a median in the Fulton Street/Fulton Mall rightof-way that slows through-traffic between Larkin and Hyde Streets. The sculpture was relocated from the corner of Hyde and Grove Streets to this location in 1993 when construction for the new library commenced.

There are few landscape elements from Block #0354 that date to the period of significance. These features include London Plane trees planted in turf beds at the building's north side, the Pioneer Monument, fire utilities and granite curb remnants.

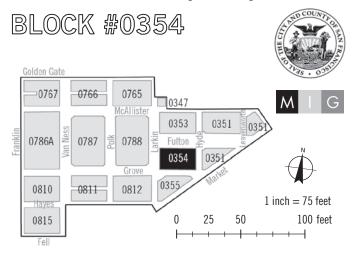


Ficus microcarpa/Ficus trees along Grove St



San Francisco Civic Center Historic District Planning Department, San Francisco, California

Cultural Landscape Report



SOURCES:

- 1. MIG field work, September 10-14, 2012
- 2. Hand drawn inventory field maps, September 2012
- 3. Bing aerial imagery online for ArcGIS, 2012
- 4. San Francisco Utility Commission light pole data, 2012
- 5. San Francisco publicly available GIS city lot, block and curb data, 2012

DRAWN BY:

MIG: Rachel Edmonds, Steve Leathers and Heather Buczek using Arc GIS 10.

DRAWN DATE:

March 2013, updated September 2013

LEGEND FOR SURROUNDING LANDSCAPE FEATURES:

- vegetation
- small scale feature
- circulation
- circulation curb
- building or structure