



CITY COUNCIL

STAFF REPORT

September 18, 2024

**ITEM TITLE: AMENDED STAFF REPORT - CONSIDERATION FOR A PROPOSED MOSAIC MURAL ON THE PUBLIC WORKS FACILITY FENCE ADJACENT TO THE BIKEWAY. (1000-10)**

**ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT:**

City Manager

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

The Imperial Beach Arts Bureau has applied to install a “Turtle & Wildlife” themed mosaic mural on a portion of fencing adjacent to the city’s Public Works building facing the Bayshore Bikeway. City Council Policy No. 618 – Murals on Public Property sets forth mural criteria and the application process for murals proposed in public areas. This Policy intends to ensure all murals proposed in public areas have been reviewed by city staff for completeness and approved by the City Council before mural execution. Murals are required to meet all the mural criteria, policies, and guidelines outlined in the policy unless otherwise approved by the City Council.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the City Council receive the report and consider approval of the proposed mural request.

**OPTIONS:**

The City Council can also:

- Discuss and consider approving the mural as proposed; or
- Request modifications of the proposed mural; or
- Continue the discussion to a future meeting with direction to the City Manager; or
- Deny the mural request.

**BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS:**

In recent years, murals in Imperial Beach have generated more interest and become more prevalent throughout the city. The City views art, including murals, as integral to the community yet also recognizes that any mural on public property is a controlled message of the City. On November 2, 2022, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 2022-84 approving City Council Policy No. 618 – Murals on Public Property. This Policy sets forth mural criteria and the application process for murals proposed in public areas including buildings and parks owned by the City. This

Policy intends to ensure all murals proposed on city facilities have been reviewed by city staff for completeness and approved by the city council during a regularly scheduled meeting before mural execution. Murals must meet all the mural criteria, policies, and guidelines outlined in Policy No. 618; however, the City Council holds the sole authority to approve or waive any of the criteria and requirements listed in the application.

The Imperial Beach Arts Bureau has submitted an application proposing to install mosaic panels on a portion of fencing adjacent to the city's Public Works building facing the Bayshore Bikeway. The proposed mural theme is "Turtle & Wildlife" and is intended to represent the beauty of the local wildlife. The artist, Robin Tobin, will develop a final design with community involvement by hosting 2-3 events where members of the community will also help attach tiles to hardback (or similar) boards. Once completed, the artist will then grout the panels and bolt them to the existing chain-link fence at the city's Public Works building. Mosaic art examples with a similar theme are shown in the images provided by the applicant below.

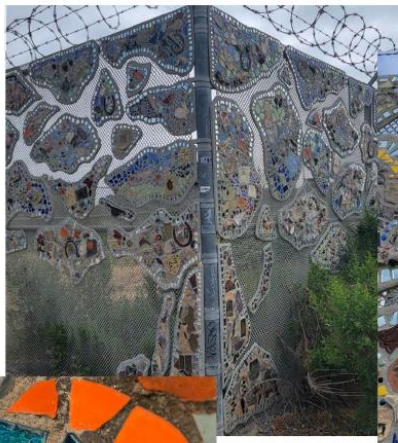




Public Works Building

Proposed Mosaic Panel Location

Bayshore Bikeway  
(view facing east)



Mosaic Art Examples





Mosaic Art Examples



The proposed mural extension would measure 7 feet in width and 8 feet in height for a total of 56 square feet and 3 inches in depth. The proposed mosaic murals would be comprised of ceramic tile with grout over thin-set cement and placed on concrete board substrate then bolted to existing chain-link fence posts facing west toward the Bayshore Bikeway.

The applicant acknowledges that it is the responsibility of the artist to create, install, fund, and maintain the mural. Additionally, the artist shall carry any required insurance coverage per City Council Policy 618.

As it exists today, the chain-link fence adjacent to the Public Works building hosts no artwork and is seen by users of Bayshore Bikeway traveling east. The applicant desires to beautify the city's Public Works facility and enhance the experience of users of the Bayshore Bikeway. Following City Mural Policy No. 618 criteria, the mural would be completed by artist Robin Tobin. The artist would be financially sponsored in part by the Imperial Beach Arts Bureau whose mission is to empower artists and create community and is based in Imperial Beach. Additional funding for the mosaic would be provided by private donors.

The artist estimates an installation timeline of two weekends of community events plus additional time for on-site installation the month following the completion of the tile artwork.

**ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION:**

Not a project as defined by CEQA.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

No direct cost to the City. Per Policy No. 618 – Murals on Public Property, the artist is responsible for the cost and material for installing and maintaining the mural and the artist shall carry any required insurance coverage.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

ATT 1 – Bikeway Mosaic Mural Request - Application

ATT 2 – Bikeway Mosaic Mural Request - Supplemental Information

ATT 3 – Resolution 2022-84 City Policy No. 618 – Murals on Public Property