



**Staff Liaison**  
Will Provost | 510-215-4318  
[wprovost@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us](mailto:wprovost@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us)

## AGENDA

### REGULAR MEETING OF THE ARTS AND CULTURE COMMISSION

Monday, December 2, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

Hana Gardens Senior Center  
10870 San Pablo Avenue  
El Cerrito, CA 94530

The City encourages submission of written comments in advance to the Arts and Culture Commission via email to [wprovost@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us](mailto:wprovost@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us) prior to the meeting or by contacting the staff liaison listed above.

---

#### 6:00 p.m. CONVENE REGULAR MEETING

1. **ROLL CALL** – Chair Audrey Faine; Vice Chair Renée LeVesque  
Members: Courtney Helion, Kim Settles
2. **COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS, COUNCIL LIAISON AND STAFF LIAISON REPORTS**
3. **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**  
*Remarks are typically limited to three minutes per person and may be on anything within the subject matter jurisdiction of the body. Remarks on non-agenda items will be heard first; remarks on agenda items will be heard at the time the item is discussed.*
4. **PUBLIC ART ON PRIVATE PROJECT – 729 KEARNEY ST.**  
Hear a presentation and provide comments on proposed artwork, planned for the Little Lamb Bilingual Preschool located at 729 Kearney St. (Attachment)
5. **PAVEMENT ART PILOT PROGRAM**  
Discuss and consider possible action to approve the recommended artist submission from Pete Frankel (Option A) for the Pavement Art Pilot Program, including awarding \$1,000 for creation of the final design (Attachment).
6. **MINI GRANT REQUEST – MESSY ART DAY**  
For discussion and possible action, consider request for \$1,000 in support for the El Cerrito Preschool Cooperative (ECPC) to support Messy Art Day. (Attachment)
7. **EL CERRITO CREATIVE RE-USE (ECCRU) ARTIST IN RESIDENCY  
PROGRESS UPDATE AND POSSIBLE TERM EXTENSION**  
Hear a presentation from the current ECCRU Artists in Residence Zona Sage and Lisa Zimmer-Chu describing their accomplishments and plans for the remainder of the residency and consider possible action items, including the two options stated below. (Attachments)
  - Option 1: Consider extending the term of the ECCRU Artists in Residence for a nine-month period through September 30, 2025, with an additional stipend for each ECCRU Artist in the amount of \$1,500.
  - Option 2: Provide direction to release a Call for Artists to solicit a new ECCRU Artist to complete a term starting in 2025.

**8. 2025 REGULAR MEETING SCHEDULE FOR THE ARTS AND CULTURE COMMISSION**

Discuss and consider possible action related to approving the 2025 ACC regular meeting schedule. (Attachment)

**9. ACC CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

Hear updates, participate in discussion, and consider possible action items regarding planning, logistics, and expenditures for the ACC calendar of events, including:

- October Arts Month – Debrief
- Juneteenth Event
- Potential Night Market / Makers Fair

**10. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Consider approval of the minutes of the August 26, 2024, meeting. (Attachment)

**11. UPCOMING ITEMS**

- City Hall Gallery Space Call for Artists (CFA) (January/February)
- Utility Box Public Art CFA (May)
- Workplan and Accomplishments (May/June)
- October Arts Month Planning (August/September)
- Poet Laureate CFA (Fall 2025)

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Staff Liaison Will Provost at (510) 215-4318. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting. (28 CFR 35.102-35.104 ADA Title I).

Any writings or documents provided to a majority of the members regarding any item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection at [www.el-cerrito.org/acc](http://www.el-cerrito.org/acc).

# Little Lamb Preschool Public Art Proposal

SIJIA CHEN STUDIO



Sijia Chen is a multimedia artist specializing in sculpture, painting, installation, and public art. She holds an M.F.A. from the Tyler School of Art at Temple University and a B.F.A. from the Guangzhou Academy of Fine Arts in China. Currently based in Los Angeles, Chen has exhibited her work in numerous exhibitions and biennials across North America, Europe, and the Asia-Pacific region. Her permanent public artworks are featured in locations such as Seattle-Tacoma International Airport, Portsmouth, Wichita, North Kansas, and Claremont in the USA, as well as Chaoshan International Airport, Shantou Railway Station, Guangzhou, and Jieyang in China.

Chen's work has been acquired by prestigious institutions, including the Victoria and Albert Museum in the UK, Inside-Out Art Museum in Beijing, Guangdong Art Museum, Guangzhou Academy of Fine Arts, and Shantou University. In addition to her practice, Chen has shared her expertise through teaching and conducting workshops at several academic institutions, including Temple University, Guangzhou Academy of Fine Arts, California State University, University of Missouri, University of New Hampshire, Sichuan Academy of Fine Arts, and Guangzhou University.

# Inspiration

- Ocean
- Local Ecosystem
- Education





1



2



3



4



5



6



7



8



9



10



11



12



13



15



14



16



17



18



1

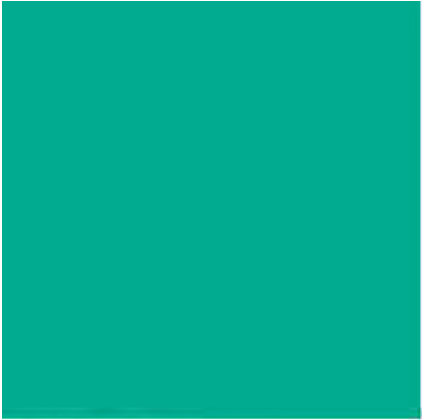


PANTONE  
2039 C

Size: 12×16 inches  
Thickness: 3mm  
Material: Stainless Steel  
All edges will be rounded for public safety



2



PANTONE  
3268 C

Size: 30×35 inches

Thickness: 3mm

Material: Stainless Steel

All edges will be rounded for public safety



3



PANTONE  
1235 C

Size: 27.5×18 inches

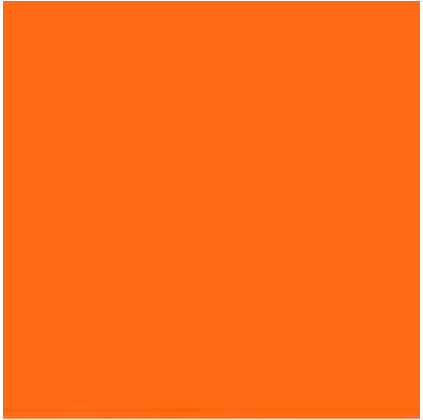
Thickness: 3mm

Material: Stainless Steel

All edges will be rounded for public safety



4



PANTONE  
1585 C

Size: 17×26.5 inches  
Thickness: 3mm  
Material: Stainless Steel  
All edges will be rounded for public safety



5



PANTONE  
2268 C

Size: 26.5×20 inches

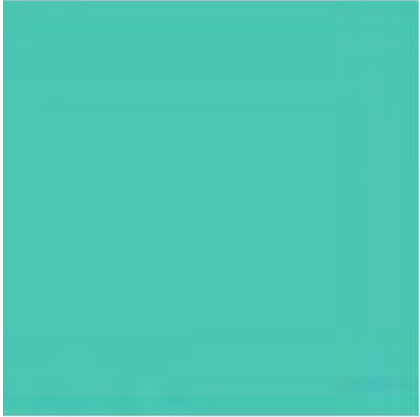
Thickness: 3mm

Material: Stainless Steel

All edges will be rounded for public safety



6



PANTONE  
3258 C

Size: 16.5×23.5 inches

Thickness: 3mm

Material: Stainless Steel

All edges will be rounded for public safety



7



PANTONE  
2039 C

Size: 23×27 inches

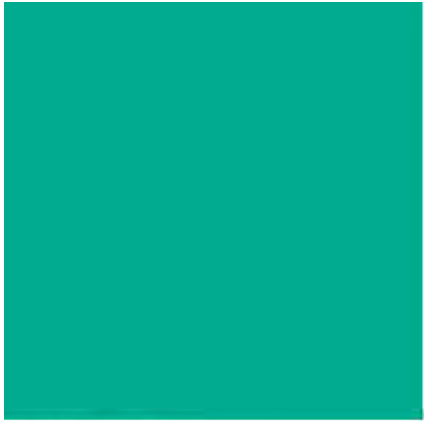
Thickness: 3mm

Material: Stainless Steel

All edges will be rounded for public safety



8



PANTONE  
3268 C

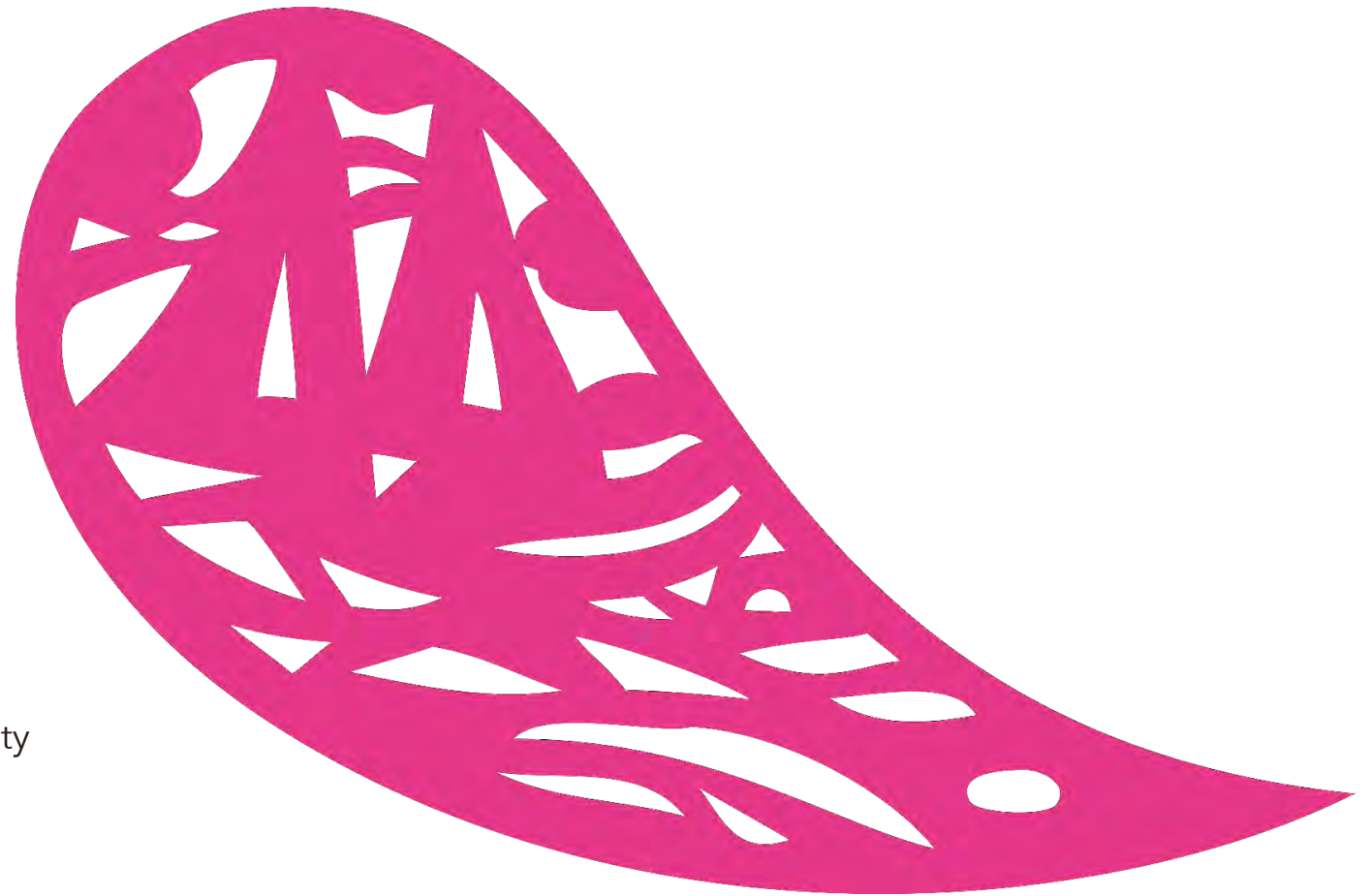
Size: 24×35 inches  
Thickness: 3mm  
Material: Stainless Steel  
All edges will be rounded for public safety



9



PANTONE  
2039 C



Size: 25.5×17 inches

Thickness: 3mm

Material: Stainless Steel

All edges will be rounded for public safety

10



PANTONE  
1235 C

Size: 10.5×19 inches

Thickness: 3mm

Material: Stainless Steel

All edges will be rounded for public safety



11



PANTONE  
2268 C

Size: 27.5×20.5 inches  
Thickness: 3mm  
Material: Stainless Steel  
All edges will be rounded for  
public safety

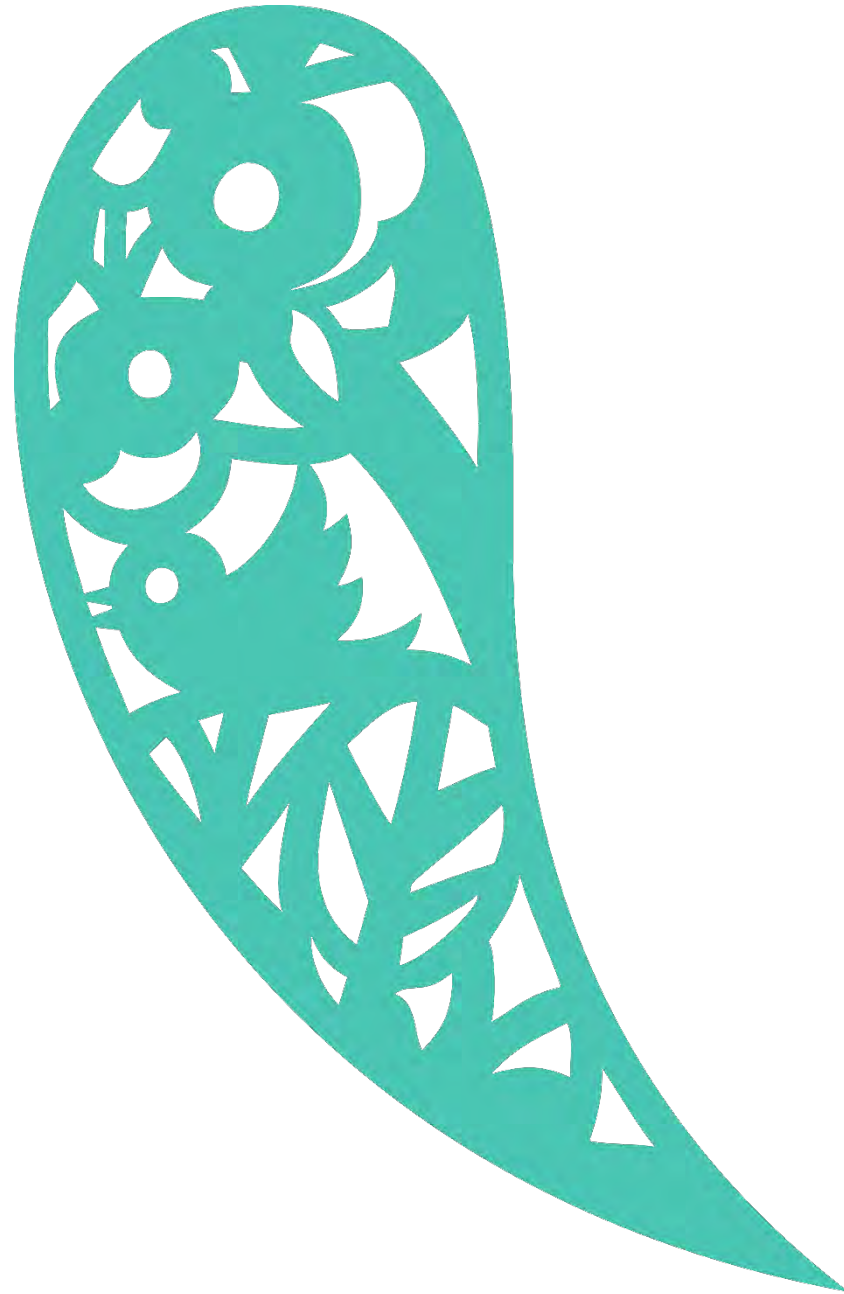


12



PANTONE  
3258 C

Size: 19x29 inches  
Thickness: 3mm  
Material: Stainless Steel  
All edges will be rounded for public safety



13



PANTONE  
1585 C

Size: 19×15 inches  
Thickness: 3mm  
Material: Stainless Steel  
All edges will be rounded for  
public safety



14



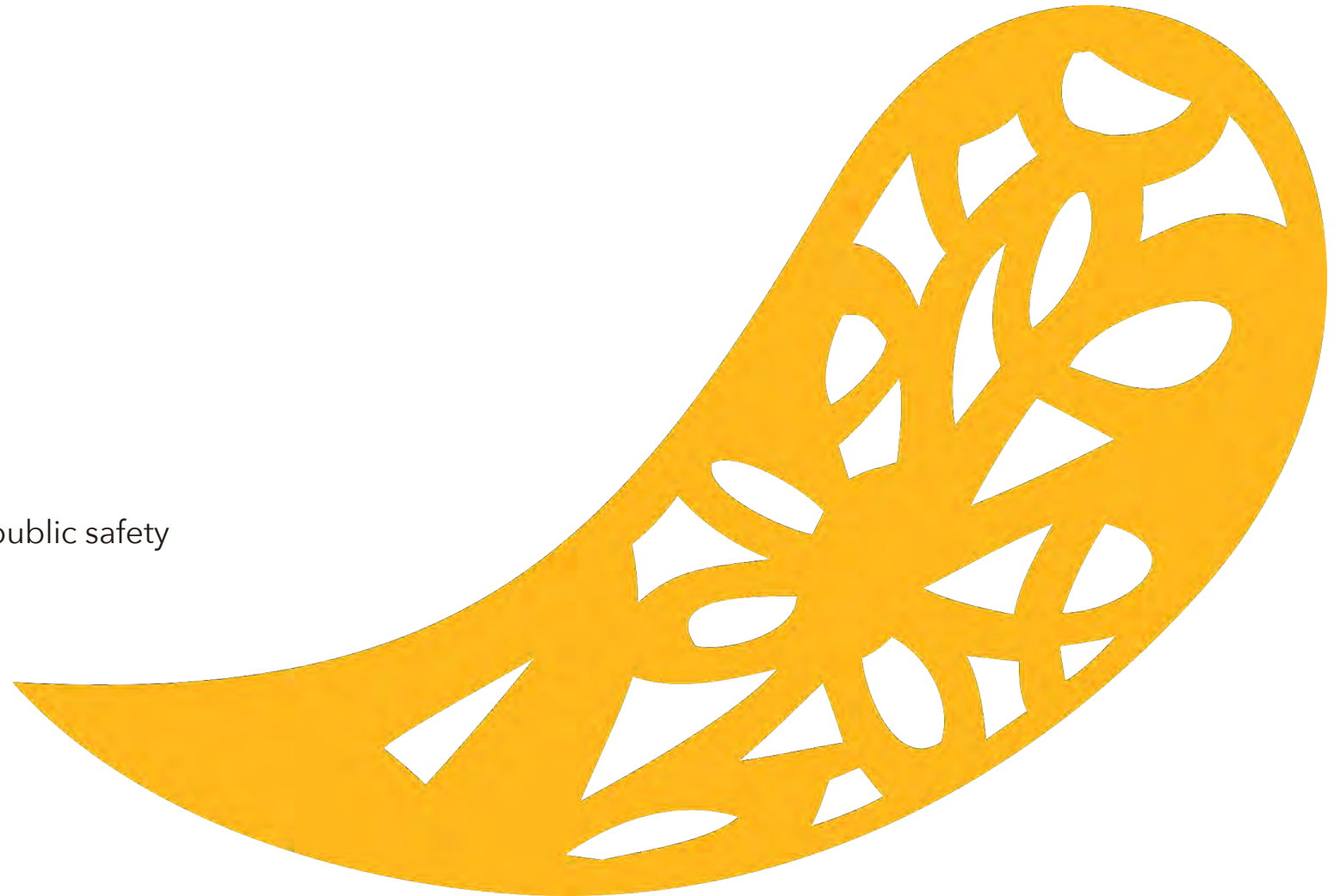
PANTONE  
1235 C

Size: 25.5×17.5 inches

Thickness: 3mm

Material: Stainless Steel

All edges will be rounded for public safety



15



PANTONE  
3258 C

Size: 14×21 inches

Thickness: 3mm

Material: Stainless Steel

All edges will be rounded for public safety



16



PANTONE  
2039 C

Size: 18.5×38.5 inches

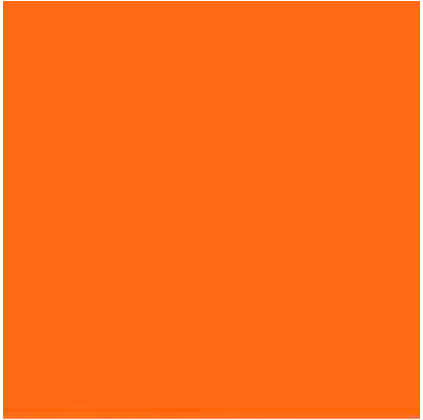
Thickness: 3mm

Material: Stainless Steel

All edges will be rounded for public safety



17

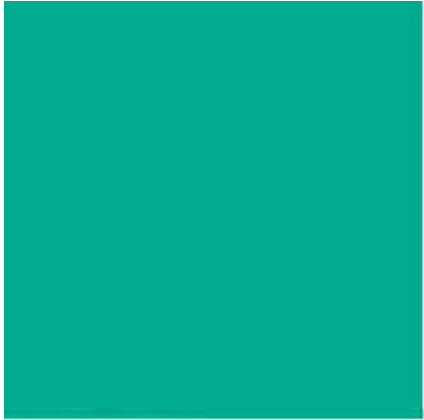


PANTONE  
1585 C

Size: 18×16 inches  
Thickness: 3mm  
Material: Stainless Steel  
All edges will be rounded for  
public safety



18



PANTONE  
3268 C

Size: 26×26 inches

Thickness: 3mm

Material: Stainless Steel

All edges will be rounded for public safety



**From:** [noreply@civicplus.com](mailto:noreply@civicplus.com)  
**To:** [Lina Huang](#); [Will H. Provost](#)  
**Subject:** Online Form Submittal: Pavement Art Pilot Program Application  
**Date:** Friday, November 1, 2024 2:58:42 PM

This sender is trusted.

## Pavement Art Pilot Program Application

### PAVEMENT ART PILOT PROGRAM - CALL FOR ARTISTS

*Application Deadline: The application is due 4 p.m. on Friday, November 1, 2024.  
The online application will be inaccessible after the deadline.*

***Please download and read the [Call for Artist document](#) carefully in its entirety before applying. It entails eligibility, program and design requirements, compensation, selection process, and other essential information.***

*For questions, contact Lina Huang at (510) 215-4371 or [lhuang@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us](mailto:lhuang@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us).*

---

#### THEME

Please refer to [Call for Artist document](#).

---

#### APPLICATION

---

Lead Artist First Name and Last Name	Pete Frankel
--------------------------------------	--------------

---

Home Address (Street #, Street Name)	██████████
--------------------------------------	------------

---

City	Richmond
------	----------

---

Zip	94805
-----	-------

---

Contact Email:	██████████
----------------	------------

---

Phone:	██████████
--------	------------

---

Assistant Artist(s)	<i>Field not completed.</i>
---------------------	-----------------------------

---

Title of Artwork(s)	Shades of the Little Hill
---------------------	---------------------------

Name of community group or organization - if applicable	n/a
Lead Artist Biography/Qualifications (up to 300 words):	<p>Pete Frankel is a licensed Landscape Architect who studied Landscape Architecture and City Planning at UC Berkeley. For the last decade Pete has worked at Bionic, a San Francisco based Landscape Architecture and Urban Design firm where he is currently an Associate Principal. Pete's work at Bionic includes leading the design and management of a wide range of projects, including the recently completed Redwood Square in downtown Sunnyvale, the new Founders Tower at Adobe's Headquarters in San Jose, the LinkedIn Middlefield Campus in Mountain View, and the Third Street Flashlight parklet at the Museum of Craft and Design in San Francisco. Pete's expertise is in the conception and implementation of innovative approaches to public realm and urban infrastructure for open spaces, campuses and workplaces. His experience spans from master planning through construction administration and he has played a key role in projects ranging from the size of a few parking spaces to an urban district.</p> <p>When he isn't working, Pete spends his free time exploring the parks, playgrounds, and restaurants of El Cerrito and Richmond with his 4-year-old daughter Ayla and his wife Brianna.</p>
<p>Design Rendering(s)</p> <p>Provide color renderings of your proposed design(s) for the pavement surface areas, showing all 3 surfaces of pavement as shown in Attachment A of CFA. Artists may submit up to two designs. However, each proposed design must have its own design rendering. Label each rendering with your name and title of artwork. Electronic files should be at a resolution appropriate for viewing.</p>	
#1 - Design Rendering	<a href="#">EC.PAVE ART APPLICATION_PF.pdf</a> (attached)
#2 - Design Rendering	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Design 1 Description(s) - up to 300 words for each design:	<p>Taken as a whole, the swaths of color that compose Shades of the Little Hill capture the natural and cultural diversity that makes our community so special. The individual colors represent some of the different aspects that contribute to this unique geographical place while the bold geometry reflects the meeting of the East Bay hills and the San Francisco Bay. The eye-catching design will be executed at a large scale that can be appreciated from multiple vantage points and passing speeds for different modes of travel.</p> <p>The alternate design (Option B) simplifies the geometry and</p>

does not use official traffic colors.

Note that the color schemes can be swapped if preferred, for example the Option A design geometry could be executed with the color scheme for Option B and vice versa.

---

Design 2 Description(s) *Field not completed.*  
- up to 300 words for  
each design:

---

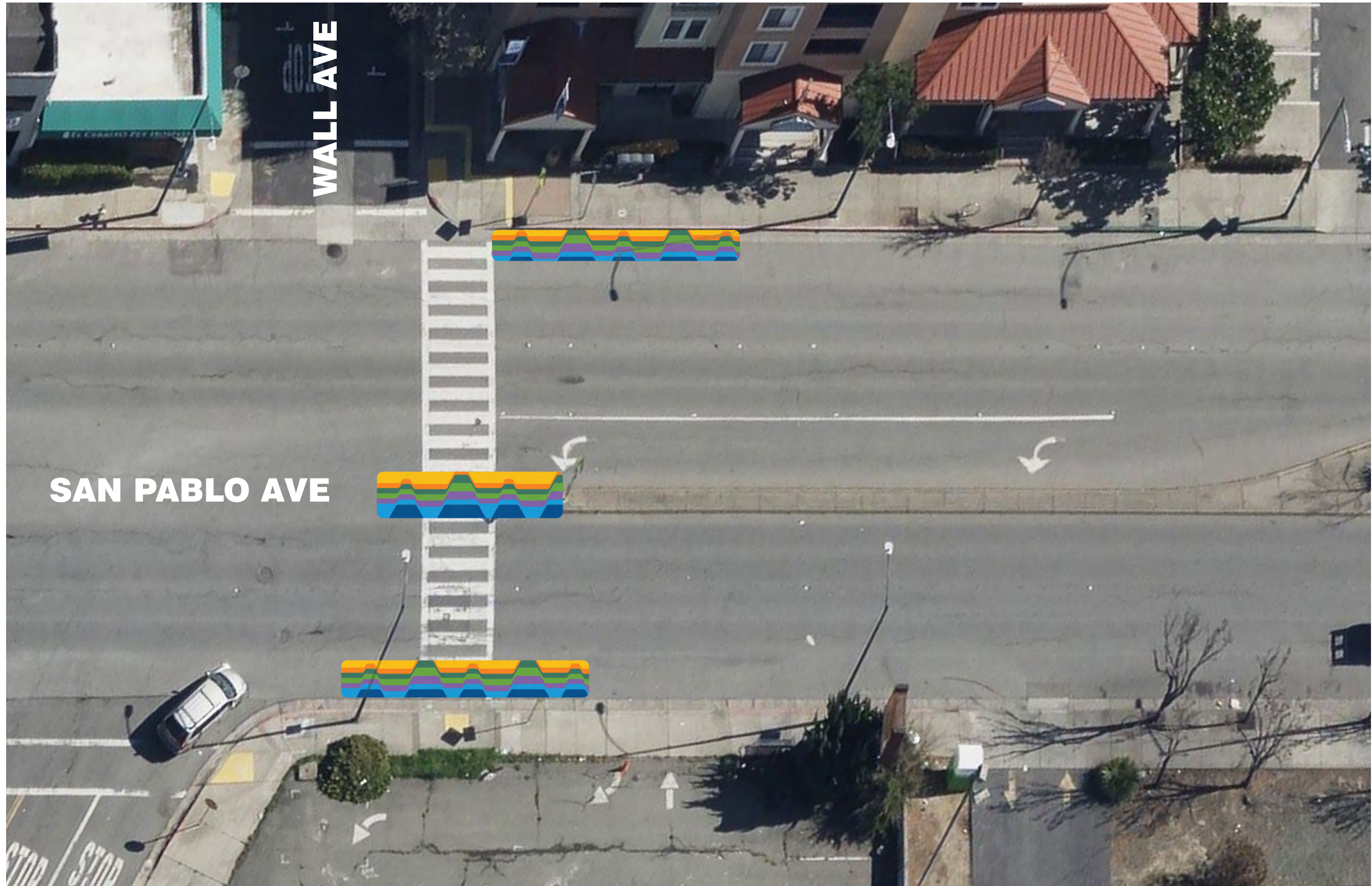
Email not displaying correctly? [View it in your browser.](#)



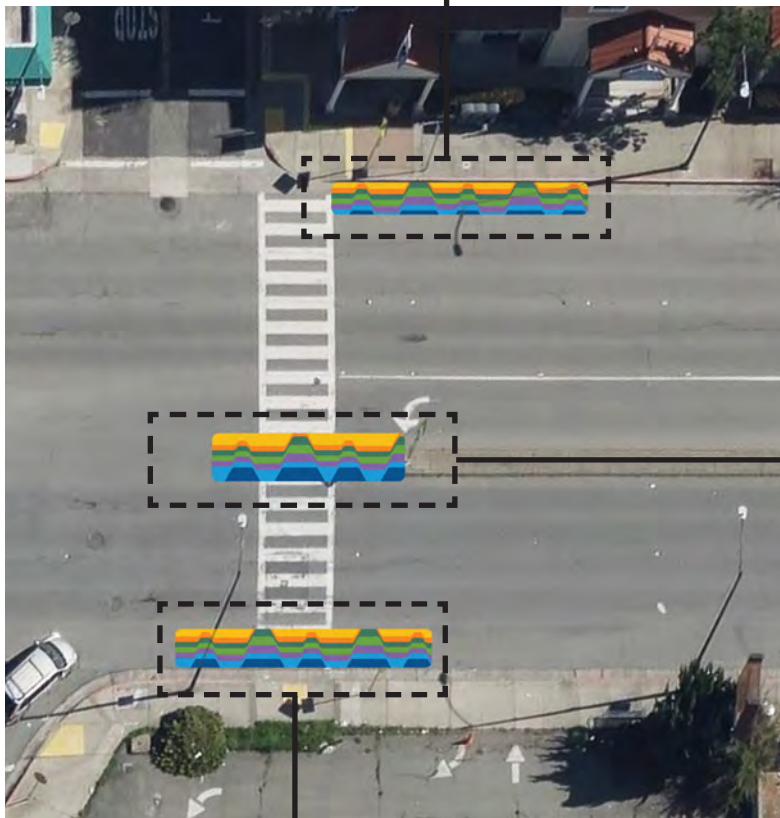
**CITY OF EL CERRITO  
PAVEMENT ART PILOT PROGRAM APPLICATION // PETE FRANKEL**

**SHADES OF THE LITTLE HILL**

# **OPTION A**



**OPTION A // SITE PLAN** 1"=16'-0"



**ZONE A**

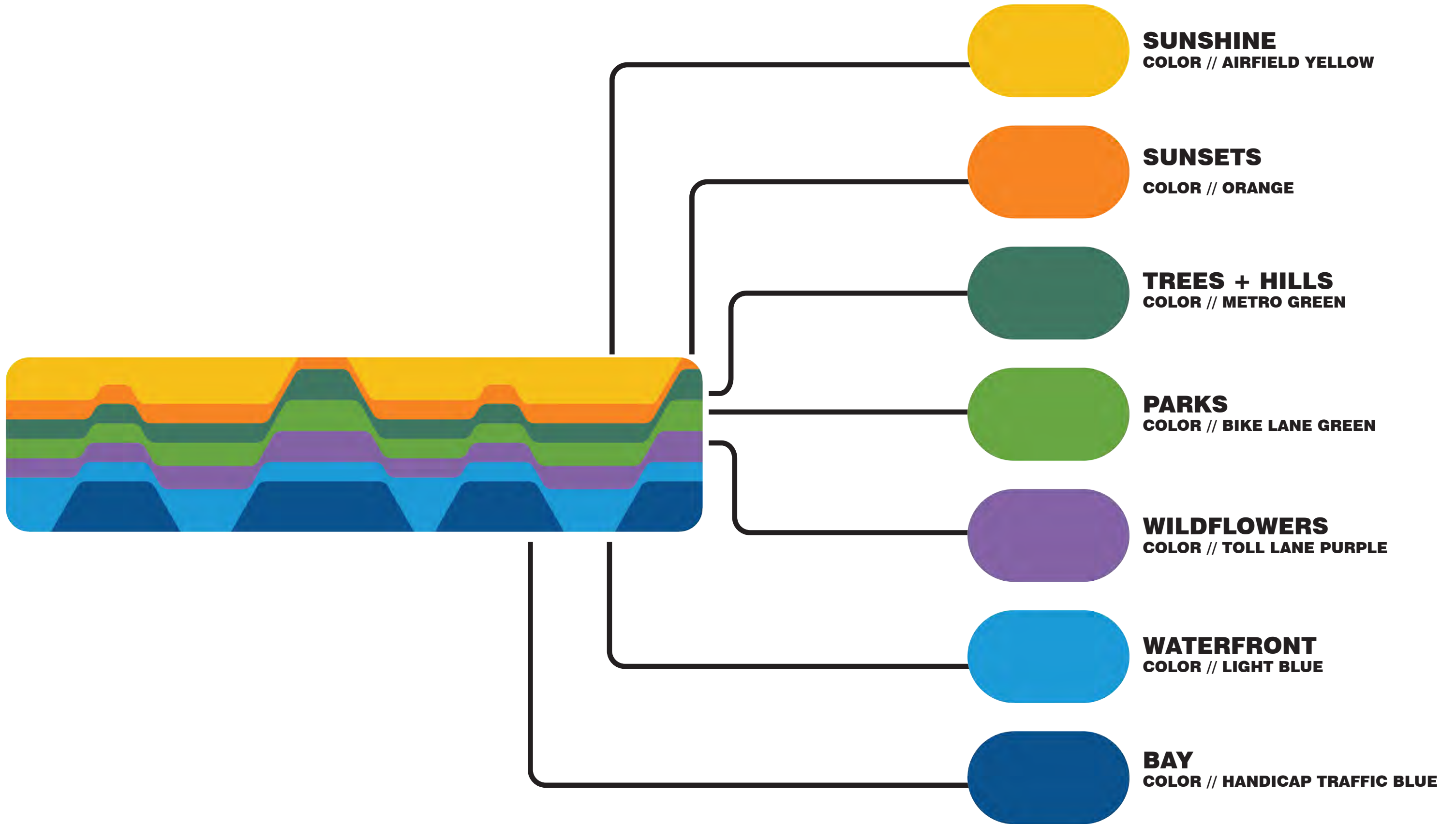


**ZONE B**



**ZONE C**

**OPTION A // ENLARGEMENT PLANS** 1/4" = 1'-0"



**OPTION A // DESIGN CONCEPT + STANDARD COLORS**



Shades of the Little Hill Pete Frankel

**OPTION A**  
VIEW 1



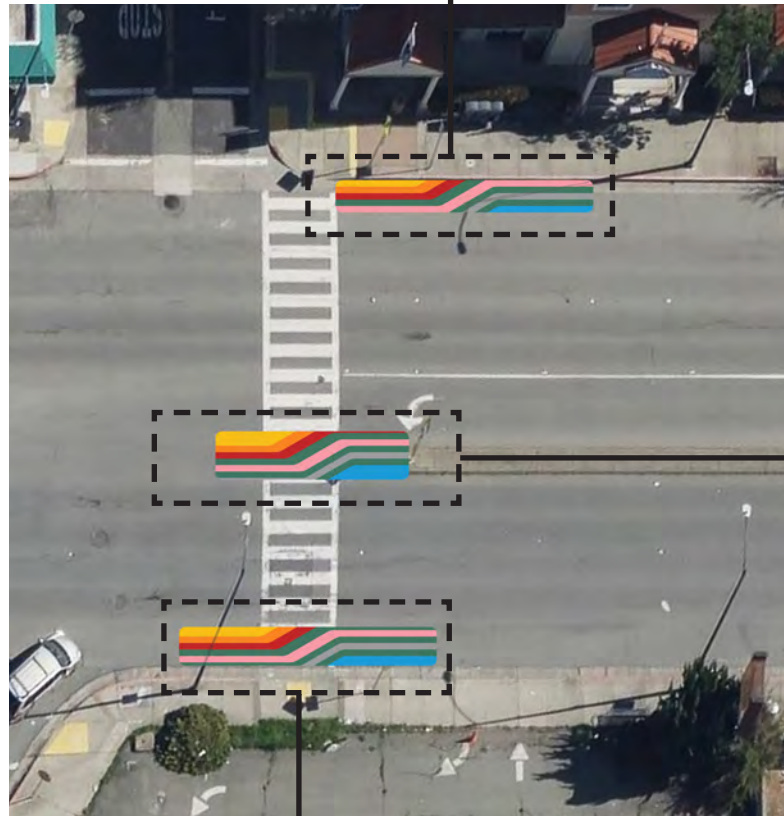
Shades of the Little Hill Pete Frankel

**OPTION A**  
VIEW 2

# **OPTION B**



**OPTION B // SITE PLAN 1"=16'-0"**



**ZONE A**

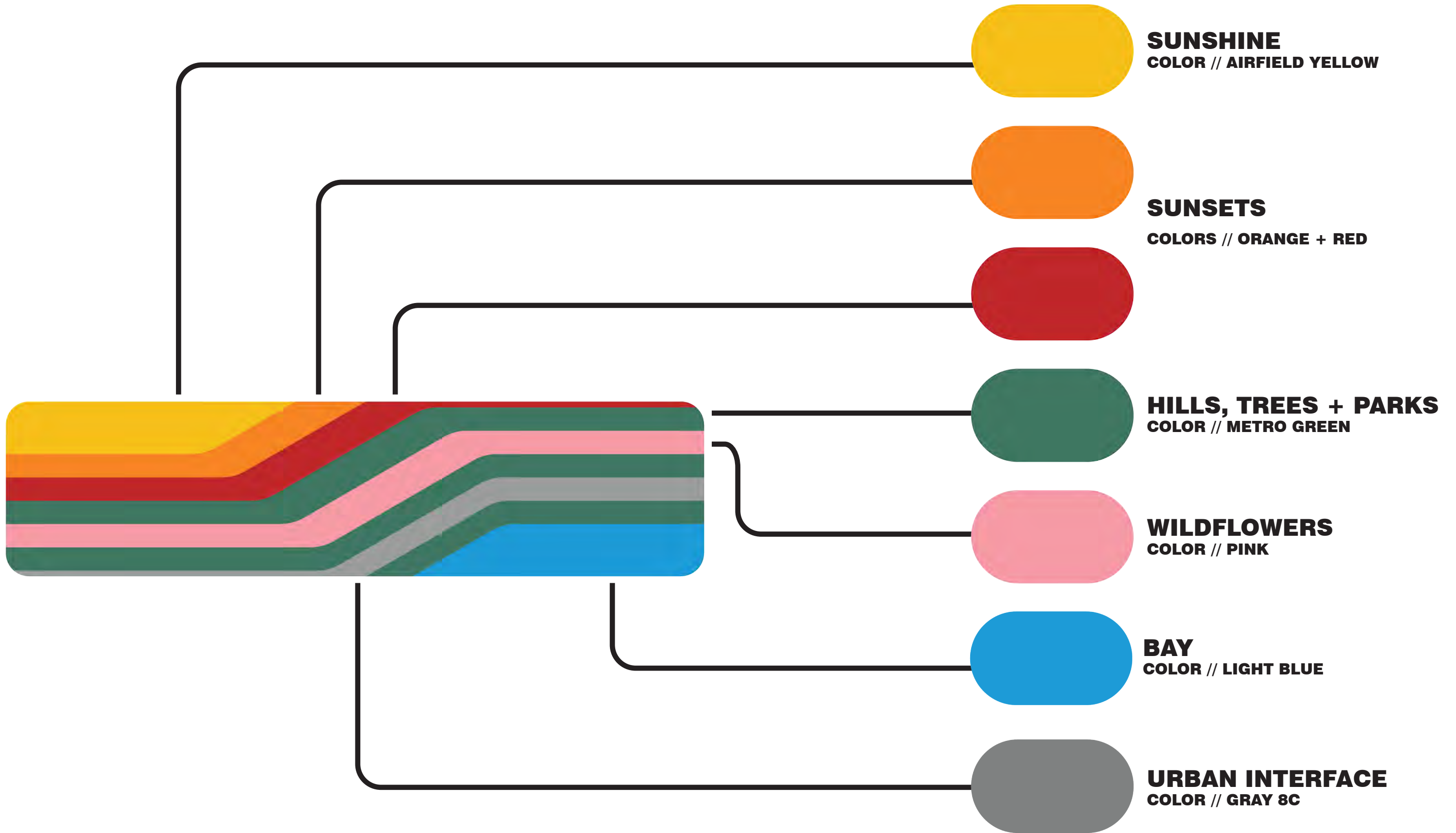


**ZONE B**



**ZONE C**

**OPTION B // ENLARGEMENT PLANS** 1/4" = 1'-0"



**OPTION B // DESIGN CONCEPT + STANDARD COLORS**



Shades of the Little Hill Pete Frankel

**OPTION B**  
VIEW 1



Shades of the Little Hill Pete Frankel

**OPTION B**  
VIEW 2



**Pete Frankel**



**From:** [noreply@civicplus.com](mailto:noreply@civicplus.com)  
**To:** [Will H. Provost](#); [Lina Huang](#)  
**Subject:** Online Form Submittal: Arts & Culture Commission Support Application Form  
**Date:** Friday, November 8, 2024 8:23:37 PM

This sender is trusted.

## Arts & Culture Commission Support Application Form

Contact/Applicant Name:	Maritess Desiderio
Organization Name (if applicable):	El Cerrito Preschool Cooperative
Contact Phone:	[REDACTED]
Contact Email:	[REDACTED]
Contact Address:	7200 Moeser Ln
City/Zip	El Cerrito, 94530
Location of proposed event/project:	7200 Moeser Ln, El Cerrito, CA 94530
Anticipated number of attendees?	1000
Date(s) & Time(s) of the event:	March 16, 2025 from 9:00am - 3:00pm

### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Include project description here:

Messy Art Day is an annual community-centered event hosted by the El Cerrito Preschool Cooperative (ECPC), designed to engage children and families in hands-on, creative art experiences. This event encourages artistic exploration in a joyful, open environment, inviting children to participate in a wide range of messy, sensory-rich art activities. Over the past 20 years, Messy Art Day has evolved into a cherished local tradition, drawing over 1,000 attendees from El Cerrito, Albany, and neighboring Contra Costa County communities and all over the Bay Area.

The event transforms the ECPC school and a portion of Ashbury Avenue into a multisensory playground, featuring more than 20 interactive art stations such as mural painting, sculpture building, and recycled art projects. These stations reflect ECPC's play-based philosophy, which emphasizes learning through creative,

hands-on experiences. The event is open to all and provides children the opportunity to explore and express themselves in a non-judgmental, inclusive environment.

Messy Art Day also reflects El Cerrito's commitment to sustainability, with many of the art stations using recycled and donated materials to reduce waste. This focus not only teaches environmental responsibility but also aligns with the community's values of promoting eco-consciousness through the arts. By offering a free or low-cost event, we ensure broad accessibility, allowing children and families from all backgrounds to participate, which strengthens community bonds and fosters creative collaboration.

---

Have you done a similar event or project before?

Yes

---

The Arts & Culture Commission cares about diverse audiences and environmental sustainability. Can you tell us how you will address those concerns?

Messy Art Day is designed to be accessible and inclusive for all families, as it is free to attend and open to the public, making it possible for individuals from diverse backgrounds to participate. The event takes place in a public space, expanding onto Ashbury Avenue, which allows for greater engagement from the wider community, including those who may not have direct ties to ECPC.

In terms of environmental sustainability, we place a strong emphasis on using salvaged, found materials and donated items that would otherwise be discarded. This approach minimizes waste while fostering creativity in reimagining these materials for large-scale, interactive art stations. Additionally, many of our tools and equipment are reused year after year, further reducing the environmental impact. This commitment to sustainability is aligned with our philosophy of teaching children about resourcefulness and environmental consciousness through hands-on, art-based play. The grant funding would allow us to maintain and enhance these practices, ensuring we can continue to offer an eco-friendly, community-centered event that benefits a wide audience.

---

#### REQUEST

---

Type of Support Requested:

Financial Support

---

Enter \$ Amount

1,000

---

**If discounted venue/space, have you already contacted the Recreation Department at [recreation@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us](mailto:recreation@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us) to inquire about availability and discounted cost? If not, please do so before submitting**

this application. Review [application guidelines here](#).

---

What is your basic budget, and how will it be spent?	The basic budget provided by ECPC for Messy Art Day is \$2,000. This amount covers essential event costs, including basic art supplies, volunteer support, and the preparation of 20+ art stations on campus. The additional \$1,000 we are seeking through the grant will enable us to expand the number of stations, particularly along Ashbury Avenue, which is fully accessible to the public. These additional stations are vital for increasing engagement with older children and families, offering larger-scale art experiences and more opportunities for sensory exploration. The funds will be specifically allocated toward acquiring extra materials for these public-facing stations, ensuring that we can maintain a free or low-cost event that is inclusive for all families in the community.
Please upload your line-item budget (if requesting financial support)	<a href="#">ecpc-messy-art-day.pdf</a> (attached)
Have you received funding from the ACC in the past?	Yes
If yes, provide the history of the past project/event, and how much you were awarded. If you are requesting more than what you were awarded in the past for the same project/event, please provide justification for the increase.	\$1,000
Upon implementation of project/event, you will be required to return to the ACC in person to provide a short verbal presentation on how the proposal was implemented. Please confirm that you agree	Yes

to complete this requirement.

---

STAFF/PERSONNEL

---

# paid staff 5

---

# volunteers 61

---

If applicable, load additional documents here: [ecpc-messy-art-day\\_1.pdf](#) (attached)

---

Email not displaying correctly? [View it in your browser.](#)



ecpc's

**MESSY  
ART  
DAY**



EL CERRITO PRESCHOOL COOPERATIVE

# Whoa, what a Mess!

Once a year, we turn El Cerrito Preschool Cooperative (ECPC) and an adjacent street into a wild and wonderful art playground – aka **Messy Art Day**. With over **20+ hands-on stations** and **1,000+ attendees**, it's a day where kids (and parents!) can get messy, creative, and have fun.

*It's where the magic of messy meets creativity*





# But why the Mess?

... *Because mess is fun!*

And it's not just about the paint—it's about letting kids be kids. We believe in process art—where the experience is more important than the end result. It helps little ones **develop motor skills, build sensory awareness,** and (bonus!) they'll have a blast while doing it.

# How we got so Messy

What started as a small event over **20 years ago** has now grown into a beloved East Bay tradition. While similar events have popped up, we're still the only one offering it **free/low-cost** and run entirely by volunteers.

Since then, each station continues to be made from **donated and recycled materials**, keeping it eco-friendly, reducing waste, and making it **a true community effort**.

*Who knew getting messy could do so much good?*



# What to expect of the Mess

## Process over product

It's about the journey, not the masterpiece.

## Big, bold, and messy

Giant art stations, creating music, buckets of more than just paint—it's all part of the fun.

## Family fun for all ages

We've got activities inside for kids 4 and under, as well as Ashbury Ave is open to all ages to explore larger, more exciting art stations.

## Festival vibes

With music, food trucks, and plenty of space to create, it's more than just art—it's grown into community celebration!



# It's much more than just mess



Messy Art Day about bringing families and the community together to connect, create, and have fun in a safe, playful environment.

It's a chance for kids to explore their creativity, build confidence, and try new things, all while parents enjoy a day out with the family.





Messy Art Day showcases the heart of

## ECPC's play-based philosophy

Helping children learn and grow through  
hands-on experiences.





Questions?

Contact Us



Learn more

Messy Art Day



El Cerrito Preschool  
Cooperative

We love ECPC!



EL CERRITO PRESCHOOL COOPERATIVE

**ECPC**

EST. 1940

## **REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF ECCRU ARTIST RESIDENCY – Zona Sage**

I have enjoyed working as one of this year's artists in residence at the El Center Recycling Center. My focus has been on creating art from the books that are recycled at the center. Most of those books came from the Exchange Zone, where the public is allowed to drop off materials such as books, and to choose to take home the items contributed there.

### What I have done so far

I conducted a very successful art workshop at the City's Fourth of July celebration. It was a particular draw for children, who in many instances told their parents they preferred to come to the art tables before going on the rides! It was an enormous amount of work, which I could not have accomplished without the help of two assistants, and the contribution of boxes of materials from the City (thank you Lina Huang)! I will be doing another workshop for seniors at the El Cerrito Community Center at the end of November, where the project will be making holiday cards with recycled materials.

### Works I have been creating

I am attaching photos of some of the pieces I have been working on. Not all are completed, but I am enclosing a sample to demonstrate the range of my works. As you can see, some of the current pieces employ strictly book parts (or National Geographic magazine pages in one instance), and other pieces mix textiles and stitching along with the book parts.

### Why I would like to extend my residency

Shortly after the beginning of my residency, the Exchange Zone was closed. For some time there had been conflict at the Exchange Zone between members of the public trying to donate materials, and certain people who tended to stay at the center for hours, trying to pick off select items before they were left. In order to come up with solutions to this problem, the Exchange Zone was closed from April to the early part of July.

Having the Exchange Zone closed for such a long period of time significantly impacted my ability to gather the materials needed for my projects.

Since the July reopening, the Exchange Zone has been much more

organized and less stressful for the public without the groups of people who used to hang around there, and I have resumed gathering materials and creating new art works.

If the residency is extended

If my residency is extended, I would like to emphasize more textiles in my future works.

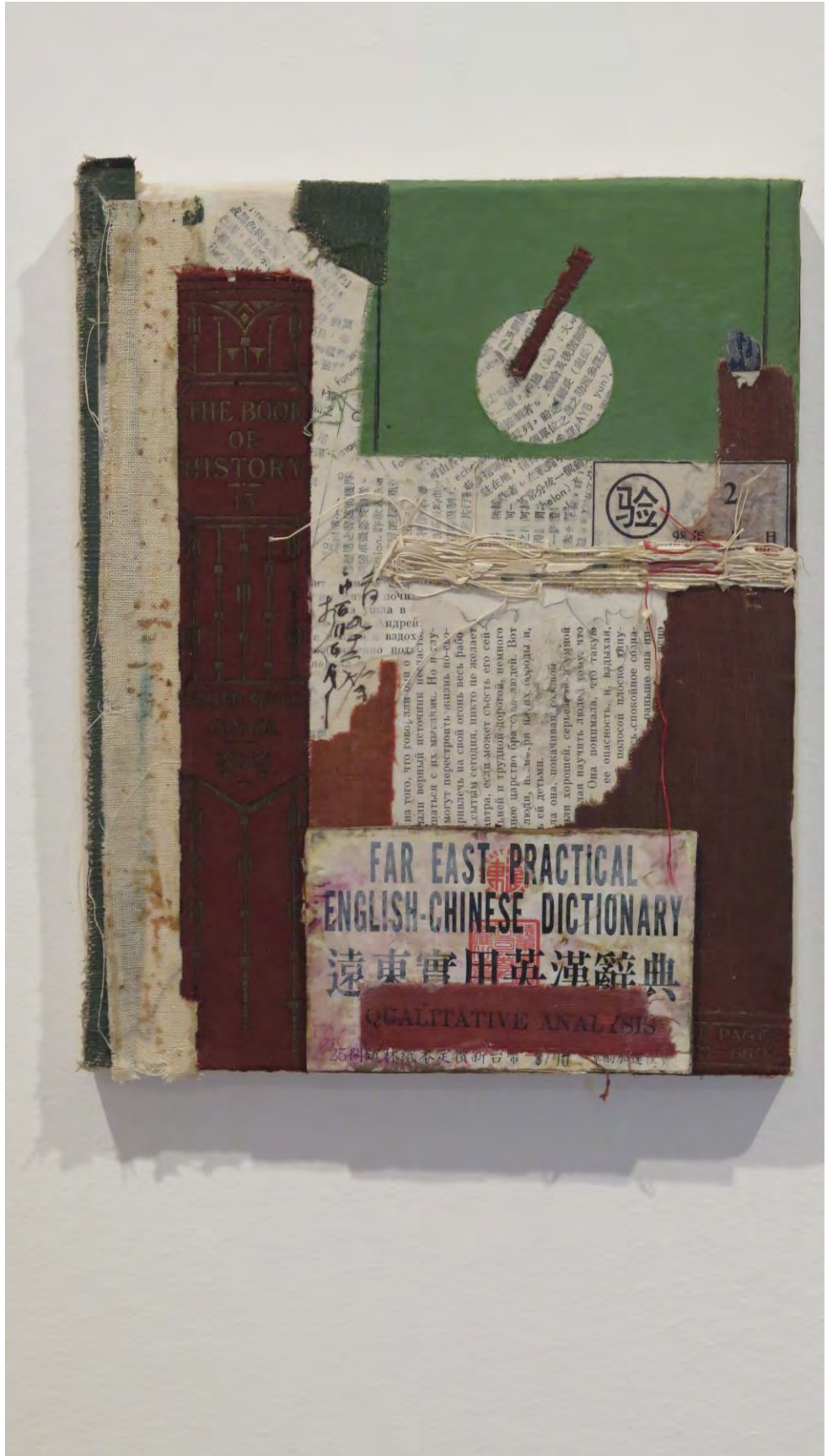
Respectfully submitted,  
Zona Sage

**Enclosed:**

**Photos of Pieces So Far (see following pages)**



**REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF ECCRU ARTIST RESIDENCY –  
Zona Sage**



**REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF ECCRU ARTIST RESIDENCY –  
Zona Sage**



**REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF ECCRU ARTIST RESIDENCY –  
Zona Sage**



**REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF ECCRU ARTIST RESIDENCY –  
Zona Sage**



**REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF ECCRU ARTIST RESIDENCY –  
Zona Sage**



**REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF ECCRU ARTIST RESIDENCY –  
Zona Sage**



**REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF ECCRU ARTIST RESIDENCY –  
Zona Sage**



**REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF ECCRU ARTIST RESIDENCY –  
Zona Sage**

## **REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF ECCRU ARTIST RESIDENCY –**

### **Lisa Zimmer-Chu**

Being an artist in residence at the El Cerrito Center Recycling Center has been a fantastic experience so far, as we near the official end of the term. I've been exploring materials beginning with their raw origins from the earth, through the lens of time. Every piece is round, emphasizing the CYCLE, in honor of the physical shape of the center and in recognition that for me, recycling is but a piece of my aspiration to participate in a circular economy.

#### What I have done so far

I enjoyed the opportunity to conduct 2 educational events early in my residency. The first was a Maker Faire at Harding Elementary School. (Photo 1) I provided 100 'goodie bags' with items from ECRC for students to use in their games made from recycled materials and was a speaker for a group of students, parents and teachers. (Photo 2) The second event was another Maker Faire, this time with the EC Chamber of Commerce at Hana Gardens, where I did a paper-making demonstration.

#### Works I have been creating

(Photo 3) The paper demo served me well for my first finished work about materials that come from Wood/Plants, giving me a chance to refine the process. (Photo 4) I made the frame for pouring the paper from items also found at the center - a motor oil pan, screen, and a bike tube, and used a blender found there as well. (Photo 5) I have also completed my glass piece, using a clock out of the electronics bin as the foundation. (Photo 6) The work about metal is nearly finished, a mobile reflecting the infinite recyclability of metal. (Photo 7) I will be creating the plastic/fossil fuel piece soon, and have appreciated Carrie's diligent dinosaur collecting -- the photo credit goes to her:)

(Photo 8) This work in progress, embroidered within a film reel, is a distillation of information about the center, which I am still gathering from various personnel. It's the first of two pieces telling the part of the story that's about the materials residents drop off at the center, and the volume collected.

#### Why I would like to extend my residency

The work I've been making with items collected over the past months has coalesced into what I think of as an installation, to be exhibited as a whole, each piece a chapter in a long and complex story. I'd like to have everything described above completed by April, when I will have an exhibit at NIAD (details not yet finalized). I'm still in search of materials to finish framing the paper piece, and am in the process of collecting information for the 2

embroidery pieces. Along with creating work about plastic, I also have descriptions to write. At a minimum, I'd like to extend my residency to include the NIAD show.

If the residency is extended

(Photo 9) If my residency could be extended beyond May, I have an idea and materials to make a piece about cardboard (think logging), as well as interest in exploring styrofoam, clothing, compost, and/or the concept of circularity. I'd like to submit a comprehensive proposal to the Richmond Art Center, with a goal of creating a standing partnership for future ECCRU artists. Recycling is hefty, and I'd be honored for a chance to give it more time and attention with ECCRU.

Thank you for the opportunity,

Lisa



**REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF ECCRU ARTIST RESIDENCY –  
Lisa Zimmer-Chu**



**REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF ECCRU ARTIST RESIDENCY –  
Lisa Zimmer-Chu**



**REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF ECCRU ARTIST RESIDENCY –  
Lisa Zimmer-Chu**



**REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF ECCRU ARTIST RESIDENCY –  
Lisa Zimmer-Chu**



**REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF ECCRU ARTIST RESIDENCY –  
Lisa Zimmer-Chu**



**REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF ECCRU ARTIST RESIDENCY –  
Lisa Zimmer-Chu**



**REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF ECCRU ARTIST RESIDENCY –  
Lisa Zimmer-Chu**



REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF ECCRU ARTIST RESIDENCY –  
Lisa Zimmer-Chu



**REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF ECCRU ARTIST RESIDENCY –  
Lisa Zimmer-Chu**



# DRAFT 2025 Regular Meeting Schedule

## Arts and Culture Commission

City Holiday/Closed  
 Regular Meeting  
**Location:**  
 Council Chambers  
 10890 San Pablo Ave.  
**Meeting Time:** 6:00 PM

January							February							March							
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
			1	2	3	4							1								1
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	
														30	31						

April							May							June							
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
			1	2	3	4	5					1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
27	28	29	30				25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30						

July							August							September							
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
			1	2	3	4	5						1	2		1	2	3	4	5	6
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30					
							31														

October							November							December										
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S				
			1	2	3	4							1						1	2	3	4	5	6
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	7	8	9	10	11	12	13				
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	14	15	16	17	18	19	20				
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	21	22	23	24	25	26	27				
26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28	29	30	31							
							30																	



## DRAFT MINUTES

### REGULAR MEETING OF THE ARTS AND CULTURE COMMISSION

Monday, August 26, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

#### Staff Liaison

Will Provost | 510-215-4318  
[wprovost@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us](mailto:wprovost@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us)

El Cerrito City Council Chambers  
10890 San Pablo Avenue  
El Cerrito, CA 94530

The City encourages submission of written comments in advance to the Arts and Culture Commission via email to [wprovost@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us](mailto:wprovost@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us) prior to the meeting or by contacting the staff liaison listed above.

---

1. **ROLL CALL** – Chair Audrey Faine called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.  
**Present:** Chair Audrey Faine; Vice Chair Renée LeVesque; Members: Courtney Helion, Kim Settles

2. **COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS, COUNCIL LIAISON AND STAFF LIAISON REPORTS**

Councilmember Lisa Motoyama highlighted that the City Council recently adopted a new Climate Action and Adaptation Plan, that the draft Hillside Natural Area Management Plan is available for public input, that the Council will hear a quarterly budget update at the September meeting, and that local Measure G will be on the ballot in November which would extend an existing tax at the current rate in El Cerrito.

Staff Liaison Provost announced an upcoming workshop for the Richmond Street Complete Streets project to take place on September 12, an upcoming film screening for United Against Hate Week to take place on September 26, and a new exhibit "Near and Far" by Mimi Sheiner, on display in the City Hall Gallery Space.

3. **DRAFT PAVEMENT ART CALL FOR ARTISTS**

Sustainable Transportation Program Manager Jarrett Mullen provided a presentation on the proposed pavement art pilot project call for artists.

**Moved/Seconded:** Member Helion/Member Settles **Action:** Motion to approve the Pavement Art Pilot Program Call for Artists with modifications including limiting the applicants to El Cerrito and Richmond residents, setting the award to \$1,000, and editing the theme to encourage abstract designs that celebrate the Ohlone Greenway and Wildflower Area. **Ayes:** Chair Faine; Vice Chair LeVesque; Members Helion, Settles. **Noes:** None. Motion approved.

4. **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Buddy Akacić – spoke in support of the City leading a project to improve the area around the Community Center parking lot including by painting a utility box and improving the landscaping.

Josh Green – introduced himself and shared his desire for the Arts and Culture Commission to pursue a historical mural project (attachment).

Jenny Hammer – spoke to encourage the ACC to focus on the Dorothy Rosenberg Memorial Park property and its potential to support the arts in El Cerrito.

Tess Taylor – announced her interest in something happening with the Dorothy Rosenberg property that would be consistent with the intention of the gift given to the City.

Linda Colleen – spoke in support of bringing more attention to the Dorothy Rosenberg property and doing what can be done to have the property used as intended. She stated an interest in having the topic agendaized on a future ACC agenda.

**5. EL CERRITO ART ASSOCIATION SHOW MINI GRANT REQUEST**

Eileen Libby presented her mini-grant application for the ACC to support the El Cerrito Art Association's 47<sup>th</sup> Annual Art Show and Sale.

Buddy Akacić – spoke in support of the mini-grant application.

**Moved/Seconded:** Member LeVesque/Member Settles **Action:** Motion to approve the mini-grant application and to support the El Cerrito Art Association's 47<sup>th</sup> Annual Art Show and Sale in the amount of \$2,500. **Ayes:** Chair Faine; Vice Chair LeVesque; Members Helion, Settles. **Noes:** None. Motion approved.

**6. EL CERRITO ARTS ORGANIZATION DATABASE**

Staff Liaison Provost provided a presentation describing the new El Cerrito Arts Database which is now live at [el-cerrito.org/ArtsDatabase](http://el-cerrito.org/ArtsDatabase), with the intention that it will be updated once per month, currently by Chair Faine.

**7. ACC CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

The Commission heard updates, participated in discussion, and considered possible action items regarding planning, logistics, and expenditures for the ACC calendar of events, including:

- October Arts Month
- Juneteenth Event

**Moved/Seconded:** Member Settles/Member Helion **Action:** Motion to approve the expenditure not-to-exceed \$300 on October Arts Month posters **Ayes:** Chair Faine; Vice Chair LeVesque; Members Helion, Settles. **Noes:** None. Motion approved.

**8. EL CERRITO POET LAUREATE UPDATE AND TERM EXTENSION**

El Cerrito Poet Laureate Tess Taylor provided an update to the Commission on her term so far as Poet Laureate, including announcing her substantial Fellowship received from the Academy of American Poets, as well as her plans for the upcoming year (attachment).

**Moved/Seconded:** Member Settles/Member LeVesque **Action:** Motion to extend the term of Poet Laureate Tess Taylor to September 30, 2025. **Ayes:** Chair Faine; Vice Chair LeVesque; Members Helion, Settles. **Noes:** None. Motion approved.

**9. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Moved/Seconded:** Member Settles/Chair Faine **Action:** Motion to approve July 22, 2024 meeting minutes. **Ayes:** Chair Faine; Vice Chair LeVesque; Members Helion, Settles **Noes:** None. Motion approved

**10. UPCOMING ITEMS**

- City Hall Gallery Space CFA
- Public Art on Private Project – 729 Kearney

The Committee discussed cancellation of the September 23 meeting and adjourning until October 28, 2024.

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 7:19 p.m.

---

Audrey Faine, Chair

This is to certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Arts and Culture Commission meeting of August 26, 2024, as approved by the Arts and Culture Commission.

---

Will Provost, Staff Liaison

Attachment: Public Comment Received at Meeting

Josh Green  
August 26, 2024

**Proposal to El Cerrito Arts and Culture Commission:  
The Story of El Cerrito Public Mural**

**Mission:** To support two primary goals of the ECACC, “Beautify El Cerrito,” and “Increase Access/Inclusivity to Public Art in the Community.”

**Description:** The proposed public art project is a long, three-panel mural that covers the blank external wall space facing east on San Pablo Ave. at Pastime Ace Hardware. 10057 San Pablo Ave.

Ace Hardware stands at the historic center of El Cerrito, William Rust’s hardware store and post office, and is the most appropriate spot for public art that tells the story of El Cerrito.

ECACC could ask for public input on a select number of historical themes and iconography. The following is just one example of how a chronological mural could be designed panel by panel:

1. Pre-19<sup>th</sup> century: Native peoples of the East Bay and the many creeks that nourished their communities.
2. 19<sup>th</sup> Century: The Castro Adobe, vaqueros and early white settlers of the area including William Rust. The infamous red-light district would bring some interesting color to it.
3. 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries: The quarry, post-WWII buildings across all of the hills, Motorcycle Hill, Harding Elementary, and El Cerrito Plaza.

**Objectives:** While El Cerrito has already improved its public spaces with the Utility Box art program and Pilot Bike Art Program, the city lacks a signature piece of public art of the kind that you see everywhere in Berkeley and San Francisco. The objective of this history-telling mural is:

- To educate El Cerrito residents about the origins of the city and proudly display the story in the most heavily trafficked area of the city.
- To establish El Cerrito’s reputation in the Bay Area as a place that supports public art, giving people outside the city another reason to patronize businesses on the San Pablo corridor.

**Potential next steps:** If it’s determined that the project has the support of the ECACC, possible next steps are:

1. Connect with the El Cerrito Historical Society to establish what important events needed to be depicted in the mural.
2. Secure permission from Ace Hardware owners and draw up agreement that would apply to any new owners of the property.
3. Fundraising: The project could cost upwards of \$100,000. Funding would come from public budgets and private fundraising. city budget, private fundraising.
4. Artist’s commission – A muralist would have to be retained, preferably a local artist that has a passion for history.
5. Project milestones, schedule, and completion target date discussed and agreed upon by ECACC.

Contact: Josh Green, [REDACTED]

## The Dorothy Rosenberg Memorial Park

Located on King Drive in El Cerrito, the Dorothy Rosenberg Memorial Park consists of a generous donation of 1.6 acres, possibly the largest ever received by the City, in 2014/2015. The property, including a house, was part of a trust created in 2003 by Marvin Rosenberg to honor his first wife Dorothy Rosenberg's life as a successful poet\* and in tribute to their life together on the property. Mary Rosenberg (Marvin's second wife), who retained a lifetime claim to the property and lived in the house for several years, relinquished her claim in 2014/15, at which time the title was transferred to El Cerrito. The park was then officially named and added to the city's roster of parklands.

Marvin Rosenberg—himself a professor emeritus of dramatic art at the University of California, Berkeley—had a vision for the future of the Rosenberg property. Recollections of life in what is now the park and life in the community were shared by Mary and Marvin's son Barr —

*He would sometimes invite his students for outdoor picnics and for the performance of some of their plays and dance programs. . . . Marvin [had] hands-on knowledge of every plant and every flower in his garden . . . and bought neighboring lots . . . as they became available. When purchasing the lot with access to Shevlin, Marvin was already imagining how that would enhance the land's usefulness as a public park.*

*It was always Marvin's hope that his garden should live beyond him and create a space for people of El Cerrito to share and enjoy . . . as a public park and lasting memorial to Dorothy. We hope that the Dorothy Rosenberg Memorial Park will give pleasure to the citizens of El Cerrito . . . and that the city will cherish it as the open space that Marvin intended.*

Citing financial hardship, little has been done by the city in the intervening ten years to move the property or house closer to the goal or wishes of the Rosenbergs. No marker or plaque designates the property and it is essentially invisible and unvisited by the public. A group of volunteers, Friends of the Dorothy Rosenberg Memorial Park, have been looking after the grounds since 2015. The house, for years abandoned, has recently become occupied by the fire department to conduct fire drills.

We are hoping to bring awareness of this park and its potential as a place where the community can participate in all manner of arts and cultural pursuits. The Arts & Culture Committee of El Cerrito could play an important role, not only in development, but also in honoring the rich legacy of the literary arts in this area.

\*In 2013 the poetry prize component of the original trust, the Dorothy Sargent Rosenberg Memorial Fund, was folded into the Poetry Foundation's annual Ruth Lilly Fellowship—now the Ruth Lilly and Dorothy Sargent Rosenberg Poetry Fellowship. Their yearly poetry prizes are ongoing.

# El Cerrito Poet Laureate 2024-2025 Plan

School and Public Programs

# Fall 2024 Events

## FALL 2024

### AUGUST

**August 28 (for ECHSstudents): Welcome to this year!**

### SEPTEMBER

**September 11 (for ECHS students): Lunchtime mentorship**

Tess and poet Alan Charazo, of KQED, lunch meeting with El Cerrito High School (ECHS) literary magazine staff.

**September 14, 10:30 am, El Cerrito Public Library**

75th Anniversary Celebration -- Tess Taylor Day! El Cerrito Author Series  
6510 Stockton Avenue, El Cerrito, California

## OCTOBER

### **October 16 (for ECHS students): Lunchtime mentorship**

Tess and poet Blaise Zerega, of Alta Magazine, lunch meeting with ECHS literary magazine staff.

### **October 21, 7 pm, PUBLIC, Hana Gardens**

Drop-in poetry circle with El Cerrito Poet Laureate Tess Taylor  
10870 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito, CA,

## NOVEMBER

**November 13 (for elementary TBA and ECHS) School reading and teach in** TBA readings at two schools with poets Shanti Sekheran & Vanessa Hua

### **November 13, 5.30-7pm, El Cerrito High School Auditorium OR Harding TBA**

**Bay Area Voices** Shanti Sekheran, Vanessa Hua-  
a conversation about novels, poems, and YA work

## DECEMBER

**December 12, 12 pm, ECHS field trip to the Grotto**

ECHS literary magazine and African American Poetry club staff meet with Believer Magazine and discuss writing at the Grotto  
2847 Taylor Street, San Francisco

## Spring 2025

## JANUARY

MLK day teaching TBA

## FEBRUARY

**February TBA:** Ishmael Reed in conversation with ECHS students

**Feb 8, 4-6 pm, open to the public: Place and Placemaking in Poetry and Photography** Ishmael Reed in conversation with Lewis Watts @ Rec Center, Garden Room, about writing and imagining El Cerrito/ Richmond in art

## MARCH

March teach in:

Mentorship 14 Hills magazine visits ECHS literary magazine staff

**March 15, 4-6 pm, ECCC**

Public reading TBA

Garden Room, 7007 Moeser Lane, El Cerrito

## APRIL

April TBA

Special Poetry Month Readings – stay tuned

## MAY

**May 2-3, Youth Poetry Festival and Year End Celebration All ages welcome - fun games and readings! Stay tuned!**

May 2: 5-8 pm, ECCC Garden Room

Garden Room, 7007 Moeser Lane, El Cerrito

May 3: 11 am-3 pm, ECCC Garden Room

Garden Room, 7007 Moeser Lane, El Cerrito

May 3: 5-8 pm, ECCC Social Hall

7007 Moeser Lane, El Cerrito

For more information or an updated schedule, email [tess\\_taylor@mac.com](mailto:tess_taylor@mac.com)