

Art Exercise Results

#1 Why do you feel public art is important?

- Softens visually; softens harsh lines
- Adds human aspect, spirit; takes out of ordinary
- Adds humor
- Makes more comfortable
- Needs to be attractive & interactive; stimulative & informative
- Local artists reinforce unique community aspect
- Adds community pride, sense of place
- Beautifies stations
- It is cool
- Needs to be tough & easily maintained
- Without art it is cold & sterile
- Some felt that public art is not important, given economic concerns

Art Exercise Results

#2 What makes the Green Line area distinctive?

- Bedroom community, upscale neighborhoods
- Giant roads, featureless homes, no character. This project is a chance to bring character to the community.
- Distinct characteristics of the area include: shade, color, trees, giant garter snakes, Swainson's hawks, and other critters protected in Natomas Basin HCP.
- The selected artists should do research to determine what is unique about this area.
- Four areas: Railyards (industrial), American River (natural), Natomas (reclaimed farmland), Airport (international)

Art Exercise Results

#3 How should artists be selected?

- From area residents or the community, arts professionals (especially artists) and RT
- Additionally mentioned - police, business owners, architects, school administrators, high school students and City Council members
- Community members should be given the first say with input from art professionals and RT later in the process
- Neighborhood volunteers and politicians should not be used in the selection process
- Selection should be based on artist's experience & beauty of artworks
- Selection should involve local artists
- Separate selection by each neighborhood
- Desire decorative vs. abstract artworks

Art Exercise Results

#4 What is the purpose, mission or function of public art?

- Should have a relationship to the immediate surroundings
- Reflects the local history, social, economic, and environmental characteristics of the area
- Helps make the light rail system more attractive
- Represents the artistic vision of the community
- Makes the community feel more vibrant and be tasteful
- Helps to relieve boredom and beautify stations
- Should be clean and maintainable, safe and visible
- Make people feel good about light rail & create respect/stewardship for stations

Art Exercise Results: Artists

#1 Why do you feel public art is important?

- It is not design, not architecture, and not something that has been manufactured.
- It should speak to the soul and enable the experience of traveling on the Green Line to transcend the ordinary.
- Public art should be transformative, evocative and provocative.
- It should also be humanistic and tell some kind of story.
- Great public art helps us leave our inner selves and engage with the outside world.

Art Exercise Results: Artists

#2 What makes the Green Line area distinctive?

- The line of travel spans a wide spectrum --from rural to the world
- There is a duality in geography along the line that is simplistic & complex
- The Green line will be urban and suburban
- There are two strong/distinct destinations that cap each end: the Airport & the Capitol
- The symbolism of transportation: beginning at the old rail yards (old), to the rivers (natural), to airplanes (new).
- There is a geographic continuum
- It shares the space/route with many entities – some it enhances and some it intrudes upon
- The line of travel is a passage – like an open door – from the airport and back again.

Art Exercise Results: Artists

#3 How should artists be selected?

- Should take place early in the design process
- Arts professionals including artists, art historians, curators, and critics
- Children should be included in artist selection & design approval
- Should value artist's ability to create language which expands thinking.
- Should encourage mixture of forms, disciplines & sites that appeal to many people
- Sites should not be prescribed but open enough for artists to move in different directions
- Include opportunities for local and regional artists, and collaborations
- Encourage mixture of forms, disciplines & sites

Art Exercise Results: Artists

#4 What is the purpose, mission or function of public art?

- Should make you want to ride light rail.
- Make riders feel important & as if the artwork was made just for them.
- Should humanize the environment & the stations
- Should serve the soul. There is a story to be told (with art) along this line and the more you ride, the more of the story you should be able to receive.
- Each station should be unique & help create a sense of place and a sense of excitement.
- Each station could be treated as pieces to a puzzle & if you ride the entire line, you are able to fit the pieces together.
- The artwork should be sustainable or green if possible -- made with recycled materials, be energy efficient, use solar energy.
- Transportation = Transformation.

Art Response

Will develop a Public Art Plan,
incorporating ideas from survey, with
the following elements:

1. Mission
2. Artist selection and approval process
3. Site guidelines
4. Time Line
5. Budget
6. Maintenance and conservation