



**San Antonio Arts Commission  
Public Art Committee  
Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, March 4, 2025  
10:00 AM | Videoconference**

Members Present	Members Absent	Staff
René Barilleaux, * Commission Chair, Mayoral	Emily Neff	Lisa Biediger
Freda Facey, * Committee Chair		Kirstin Cutts
Kaldric Dow		Alyssa Franklin
Linda Hardberger, * Mayoral		Diana Hidalgo
Adrian Highsmith		Krystal Jones
Yadhira Lozano, * D3 Commissioner		Thu Nguyen
Wendellyn Miller		Kimberly Mirelez
Ashley Mireles		Laura Parker
Jacqueline Pugh		Jordyn Patrias
Andi Rodriguez		Renée Talamantez
Jessica Sanchez, * Mayoral		

\*Appointed by Mayor and City Council

**Call to Order / Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM. by Freda Facey, Chair. Roll call taken by Renée Talamantez, Committee Liaison, and a quorum was present.

**Item 1. Approval of minutes**

*Public Comments:* None

*Committee Discussion:* None

*Motion:* Linda Hardberger moved to approve the Public Art Committee Minutes from Tuesday, February 4, 2025; Andi Rodriguez seconded the motion. The motion was carried by the following vote:

Aye: Barilleaux, Facey, Dow, Hardberger, Highsmith, Lozano, Miller, Mireles, Pugh, Rodriguez, Sanchez

Absent: Neff

Jacqueline Pugh joined at 10:03 AM

## **Item 2. FY 2026-2028 Department Wide Call for Panelists for Public Art Division (Action)**

Jordyn Patrias presented the FY2026-2028 Department Wide Call for Panelists for Public Art Division. An overview of the panelists for the Public Art Division was presented along with high level information on all applicants.

*Public Comments:* None

*Committee Discussion:* Committee questions and staff answers included:

- Yadhira Lozano requested clarification for information presented on the demographic slide. Patrias stated the categories on the slide.

Committee comments included:

- Linda Hardberger commended the variety of expertise on the panelists, including people with experience in theater and performance.
- Freda Facey noted this is an update to the Department of Arts & Culture process and is an improvement and better use of time.

*Motion:* Linda Hardberger moved to approve the FY 2026-2028 Department Wide Call for Panelists for Public Art Division; Jessica Sanchez seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Barilleaux, Facey, Dow, Hardberger, Highsmith, Lozano, Miller, Mireles, Pugh, Rodriguez, Sanchez

Absent: Neff

## **Item 3. 2022 Bond & TIRZ Project Initiations (Action)**

Laura Parker presented Denver Heights Park Public Art and Culebra Trailhead Public Art for Project Initiation approval. Alyssa Franklin presented Market Square Public Art for Project Initiation approval. Maps of the project locations, project overviews and timelines were shared.

*Public Comments:* None

*Committee Discussion:* Committee questions and staff answers included:

- Andi Rodriguez asked if the tile mural by Jesse Trevino near Market Square will remain or be moved. Kimberly Mirelez replied that the Department is in discussions with Market Square and Center City Development Operations about the existing mural. It is not City owned. The artist for the City's public art project will take into consideration the context of the site. Rene Barilleaux stated that there are plans to relocate the Jesse Trevino tile mural to the McNay grounds.
- Linda Hardberger asked if the Denver Heights Park locations presented are for three artworks or will one location be selected. Kimberly Mirelez replied that once an artist is on board, they will meet with community and the Department of Parks and Recreation. The location will depend on budget, what the artist is inspired by what the community wants and Parks will allow.

Committee comments included: None

*Motion:* Jackie Pugh moved to approve 2022 Bond & TIRZ Project Initiations; Andi Rodriguez seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Barilleaux, Facey, Dow, Hardberger, Highsmith, Lozano, Miller, Mireles, Pugh, Rodriguez, Sanchez

Absent: Neff

#### **Item 4. Peggy Drive Area Drainage Concept Design (Action)**

Jordyn Patrias presented the concept design for Peggy Drive Area Drainage Public Art for approval. Maps of the project location, reviews of the community engagement results, the selected artists, and concept design renderings were shared.

*Public Comments:* None

*Committee Discussion:* Committee questions and staff answers included:

- Linda Hardberger stated that it would be nice to include benches to allow for people to spend more time with the artwork as well as additional trees along the road. Patrias replied that she will speak with Public Works and see if trees can be added. Patrias noted that this is a phase 1 of a Public Works drainage project and addition of trees would need environmental review. Kimberly Mirelez stated part of the city-wide urban heat island mitigation included funding for planting trees and she would reach out to that team to request additional trees. Jackie Pugh asked how the sandblasting would be preserved. Patrias replied that the depth meets ADA standards, and the sandblaster will use paint that is UV resistant. Sandblaster has had good success with this product, and it is designed to last.
- Freda Facey introduced one of the artists, Andrea Jacobson, and invited her to share anything regarding her design. Andrea Jacobson commented that she was interested in keeping the community and the natural elements in mind for the design.
- Facey asked for clarification on location. Patrias shared image of the location on a map and stated that the location is on the far east side, located near IH-10 and 410. It is close to San Antonio, Converse, and China Grove. Access to Eastgate is off East Houst Street.

Committee comments included:

- Kaldric Dow noted that the stained glass will look nice at sunrise and sunset and complimented the natural elements of the sandblasting design. Dow commented that the two designs complement each other nicely.
- Andi Rodriguez commented that it was wonderful to see the evolution of the artists past work and their designs for this project. Rodriguez stated that the designs speak to nature and the surrounding area of the site and will be a delightful experience for pedestrians. Rodriguez also praised the fabrication design.

*Motion:* Kaldric Dow moved to approve the concept design for Peggy Drive Area Drainage Public Art; Adrian Highsmith seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Barilleaux, Facey, Dow, Hardberger, Highsmith, Lozano, Miller, Mireles, Pugh, Rodriguez, Sanchez

Absent: Neff

#### **Item 5. Milam Park Final Design (Action)**

Kimberly Mirelez presented the final design for Milam Park Public Art for approval. Maps of the project location, reviews of the community engagement results and selected artist, and final design renderings were shared.

*Public Comments:* None

*Committee Discussion:* Committee questions and staff answers included:

- Andi Rodriguez asked for clarification on the fabrication material and if it will be painted directly on the stone. Kimbelry Mirelez replied that it will be painted on polytab material and applied to panels. The panels will be installed on the face of the wall. The Department of Arts and Culture is working with the Office of Historic Preservation to ensure the fabrication design will not impact the integrity of the wall. While the wall is not historic, it has been at the park for a long time.
- Yadira Lozano asked about the images used in the depiction of the Virgen and noted the Zia symbol appears to be more reflective of the New Mexico area. Lozano asked if this was intentional and how does it relate to San Antonio. Artist, Cristina Sosa Noriega, replied that it is a Native American sun symbol and the image in the rendering is used more in the New Mexico area. She has discussed the correct image to use with Ramon Vasquez who provided a reference for a symbol that is for the local region. Noriega stated that the image Vasquez recommended will be used in the design. Noriega stated that the Virgen depicted in the mural is the one at San Fernando Cathedral. Noriega shared that she has never painted a mural quite like this that is long and cannot be seen in one view. She is using a 3D model that will be available at the Department of Arts and Culture office.
- Freda Facey asked if there are plans to address the grounds in front of the mural. Mirelez replied that the area is managed by the Department of Parks and Recreation, and typically there is grass in in this area in the spring and summer months. She will discuss with Parks to ensure the site looks good. Mirelez also noted that Centro helps to maintain this park.

Committee comments included:

- Kaldric Dow commented that the this will provide visitors with an attraction in the park. Dow commented that the design is executed well and appreciated the details and the candles.
- Andi Rodriguez suggested printing the mural on a smaller scale to be able to view it in its entirety, similar to what is available for the relief mural at the Lila Cockrell Theatre. A printed fold out material would be a nice way to share the design at the dedication.
- Freda Facey thanked the artist for being present and expressed her appreciation for a beautiful mural design.

*Motion:* Andi Rodriguez moved to approve the final design for Milam Park Public Art; Kaldric Dow seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Facey, Dow, Hardberger, Highsmith, Lozano, Miller, Mireles, Pugh, Rodriguez, Sanchez

Absent: Barilleaux, Neff

Rene Barilleaux departed at 10:58 AM.

## **Item 6. Rack-n-Roll Loan and Relocation (Action)**

Kirstin Cutts presented the loan and relocation of *Rack-n-Roll* bicycle racks for approval. Photographs of the installation to be loaned, the site of the future reinstallation, and historical background and context were shared.

*Public Comments:* None

*Committee Discussion:* Committee questions and staff answers included:

- Linda Hardberger asked for clarification on which location was to be relocated. Cutts replied that it will be the Rack-n-Roll in the City Tower Garage that will be relocated to Loma Park Elementary School.

Committee comments included:

- Freda Facey commented that the relocation sounds like a good idea and noted that the children at the school will make use of the bicycle racks.

*Motion:* Adrian Highsmith moved to approve the loan and relocation of *Rack-n-Roll* bicycle racks; Andi Rodriguez seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Facey, Dow, Hardberger, Highsmith, Lozano, Miller, Mireles, Pugh, Rodriguez, Sanchez

Absent: Barilleaux, Neff

## **Announcements and Reports**

- Kimberly Mirelez introduced a new Public Art Project Manager, Thu Nguyen.
- Freda Facey introduced Wendellyn Miller and Ashley Mireles, new Public Art Committee members.
- Facey thanked Sean Beauvais and Catherine Hernandez from Department of Transportation, noting that we appreciate people from their respective Departments joining.
- Yadhira Lozano announced the Luminaria Pop-Up Gallery at the Aiden Hotel, opening Thursday, March 6 from 6:00 to 8:30 PM. The program will highlight local artist on first and second floor of the hotel and new exhibitions will be displayed the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month. This month's exhibition will celebrate women's history month.
- Yadhira Lozano announced that Luminaria has a \$550 grant available for Bexar County artists. The grant will support the advancement of an artist's career. The 2025 grant is sponsored by Alice Kleberg Reynolds Foundation.
- Andi Rodriguez announced La Zona Gallery's new exhibition, *The Nature of Us*, curated by Raisa Melendez Tardi and Symone Martinez. The opening reception is this Saturday, March 8<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 to 9:00 pm. The exhibition celebrates International Women's Day.
- Yadhira Lozano expressed concerns for the removal of the San Anto mural on the westside by David Blancas. The mural was created 10 to 15 years ago and is on private property. Lozano stated that this loss is a big blow to the community and asked for information regarding best practices for preserving murals. Krystal Jones replied that she has been working with cities across the country on best practices. The City does not have purview for artwork on private property, but she has reached out to colleagues and

there are no existing procedures regarding this. Jones stated that the artist does have rights and it would be dictated by the commissioner of the artwork. Jones stated she is looking to help San Anto and private owners on preserving murals to keep these legacy murals alive. Jones mentioned that murals and artwork on public property are protected through the Department of Arts and Culture process and funding. Jones stated that she is still learning details of the situation and shared that San Anto will have a community meeting and work on a solution with the property owner. Jones offered to brief the committee on what is discovered and developed on how to protect murals moving forward. Lozano expressed appreciation for Jones' response and suggested San Antonio set the bar for the nation on mural protection.

### **Adjournment**

Motion: Yadhira Lozano motioned to adjourn the Public Art Committee meeting; Jessica Sanchez seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Facey, Dow, Hardberger, Highsmith, Lozano, Miller, Mireles, Pugh, Rodriguez, Sanchez

Absent: Barilleaux, Neff

Meeting adjourned at 11:19 AM.