

**SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA RAPID TRANSIT DISTRICT**

**REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS  
FOR A STATION ART PROJECT AT THE  
EL CERRITO DEL NORTE BART STATION  
CONTRACT NO. 05HA001-ARTIST.001  
AMENDED OCTOBER 28, 2015**

**GEOGRAPHIC ELIGIBILITY: OPEN ONLY TO ARTISTS RESIDING IN CALIFORNIA**

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE: ~~NOVEMBER 4, 2015, 11:00 PM Pacific Time~~  
**NOVEMBER 8, 2015, 11:00 PM Pacific Time****

Applications are available through CaFÉ; [www.callforentry.org](http://www.callforentry.org), an on-line application system for artist calls. There is no charge to artists for using CaFÉ. *If you are a first time user of CaFÉ, please allow adequate time to learn the use of this system. We recommend that artists complete their applications at least 48 hours prior to the stated deadline.*

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## **I. INTRODUCTION**

The San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District (BART) is issuing Requests for Qualifications from **artists residing in the state of California** for art projects in stations that are being upgraded as part of a Station Modernization Program. BART is issuing Request for Qualifications for the Powell Street Station in San Francisco, the 19<sup>th</sup> Street Station in Oakland, and the El Cerrito del Norte Station in El Cerrito. **This Request for Qualifications is for the El Cerrito del Norte Station only.** A Request for Qualifications for the Powell Street Station and the 19<sup>th</sup> Street Station may be found at Call for Entry (<https://www.callforentry.org/>) or by request at [AThorne@bart.gov](mailto:AThorne@bart.gov). Artists may submit applications for one or more stations but will not receive a commission for more than one station art project. This particular RFQ will award one artist a total of two installations of mosaic tile murals at two different locations in the El Cerrito del Norte Station.

## **II. ART OPPORTUNITY**

The art opportunity at the El Cerrito del Norte station includes the design and fabrication of two wall mounted artworks comprised of glass or ceramic mosaics to be located in an expanded area of the station. One artist or artist team will be selected to design and fabricate artwork for both wall sites. A more detailed description of the art sites and the type of artwork to be commissioned are described below.

## **III. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

1. This RFQ is open **only** to artists residing in California. Artists must be U.S. citizens or have legal working status in the United States. Bay Area artists are encouraged to apply.
2. This RFQ is open **only** to artists who have demonstrated experience in producing architecturally scaled glass or ceramic mosaic panels and who can provide professional documents that illustrate and describe the appropriate installation method required for the artwork.
3. Applications will be accepted only from artists whose work is being submitted in response to this RFQ. Applications submitted by third parties, such as galleries, art consultants, family members, etc. will not be considered.

## **IV. PROJECT ASSUMPTIONS**

1. Selected artists or artist teams will be required to waive their rights of integrity (also known as the artist's moral rights) to commissioned artwork as pertains to its removal or repair as set forth in the California Art Preservation Act and the Visual

Artists Rights Act. Due to the function and nature of the stations as busy transportation hubs BART will retain the right to remove or relocate the artwork as may be deemed necessary by BART in the future.

2. Selected artists or artist teams will retain copyright to their work, but will grant BART certain rights to reproduction. Neither party will retain the right to reproduce the artwork for commercial purposes.
3. Selected artists or artist teams will be required to adhere to the Model Agreement for Final Design, Fabrication and Transportation of the Artwork, which can be found at: [www.bart.gov/art](http://www.bart.gov/art). This agreement is provided in this RFQ for informational purposes and is subject to change based on the final scope of work with selected artists or artist teams.

## **V. PROJECT BACKGROUND**

### **A. Area Description**

Nestled within the scenic beauty of west Contra Costa County, on the eastern side of San Pablo Bay, the City of El Cerrito has long been recognized as a family friendly, desirable place to reside. El Cerrito has more than 23,500 residents and over 950 diverse businesses. The community's main retail areas can be found near the El Cerrito del Norte and El Cerrito Plaza BART Stations, as well as along San Pablo Avenue—El Cerrito's "Main Street." The Ohlone Greenway, often referred to as the "BART path," traverses the entire length of El Cerrito running parallel to the two BART stations, and offers such diversions as jogging, walking and biking for those wishing to exercise, commute or just enjoy the outdoors.

The El Cerrito del Norte BART station, designed by the firm of De Mars and Wells in 1969, is designed in the Brutalist architecture style (Figure 1). Its strong, concrete structures create a striking form that highlights programmatic elements such as vertical transportation, stairs, and platform waiting areas. The concrete fins on the exterior facades reflect a hierarchy of form, space and order. The station was built with a concrete finish that captures the impressions of the construction formwork, while some of the vertical elements are articulated with angular ribbing. Existing glass mosaic murals by artist Alfonso Pardiñas bring color and life to the stairwells on both the east and west sides of the existing paid area in the station and direct passengers from the concourse to the platforms (Figure 5). Pardiñas also installed a complementary work at the El Cerrito Plaza station.

The El Cerrito del Norte station is a regional transportation hub served by 25 bus routes and is the busiest of the three stations in West Contra Costa County. Modernization plans include renovating the entry plazas, enlarging and upgrading the paid areas, relocating and redesigning bike racks, and installing new lighting on the concourse and platform areas (Figure 2).

## **B. Art Site Description**

One artist or artist team will be commissioned to produce two glass or ceramic mosaic artworks for the east and west concourse walls in an area of the station that will be expanded through Station Modernization. Each wall is approximately 8'-1" above ground level. The wall spaces available for art each measure roughly 8'x7" high and 42' wide. The artwork may be designed to fill all or part of this area. The art sites are illustrated in Figures 2, 3 and 4.

Specifications for the fabrication of the artwork will be provided to project finalists during the conceptual design proposal phase. The artist or team selected for the project will be expected to fabricate the artwork on panels that can be transported to the site and installed by BART.

## **C. Art Project Description**

The artwork theme will be developed by the selected artist or team. However, the color palette should reference, and the artwork theme should complement, the historic Pardiñas murals. The art should be designed and fabricated on panels that can be installed in the station by BART contractors who are completing the other station modernization work. An example of similar panel art, completed by Jean Varga and Alfonso Pardiñas, can be seen at the Union City BART station.

## **D. Art Budget**

The budget is \$180,000. Art budgets must include design development, fabrication, engineering, delivery costs, installation guidelines and oversight, professional consultants, the artist's project management fees, Automobile and General Liability, Risk of Loss Insurance or other insurance against loss or damage to the artwork as required by BART, and all other costs associated with the art project. BART will be responsible for the cost of the installation and for installing the murals but will expect the artist to be on-site and provide guidance during all or part of the art installation.

## **VI. QUALIFICATIONS**

This project is open only to artists who have demonstrated experience in producing architecturally scaled glass or ceramic mosaic panels and who can provide professional documents that illustrate the appropriate installation method required for the artwork.

Applicants must demonstrate a history of professional activity as an artist and must demonstrate appropriate skills or experience in designing, fabricating and managing an art project relative to the scale and complexity of the art project described above

Selected artists must be available to work collaboratively with project teams consisting of BART staff, project architects and engineers, and community representatives throughout the design, fabrication and installation of the artwork.

**Artist Teams:** Two or more artists may apply together as a team, but each artist may submit only **one** application for one project (i.e. an artist may apply either as an individual **or** as a member of **one** team. Artists **may not** apply as a member of more than one team).

Qualifications that will be used to evaluate the applications in the Artist Selection Process (Part VII of this RFQ) are as follows:

**A. Minimum Qualifications**

1. A minimum of five years of work as a practicing artist as evidenced by resume and professional recognition (awards, honors, exhibition record, etc.).
2. A minimum of five years experience producing architecturally scaled glass or ceramic mosaic art installations. Experience with other types of tilework will be considered, as long as the artist demonstrates that the work can be visually compatible with the existing station art and is appropriate for long-term exposure in a transit facility.

**B. Desired Qualifications:**

1. Experience working with public agencies or institutions, and engaging in community processes.
2. Past work that demonstrates the artist or artist team's overall approach to art making and perceived ability to create artwork that is relevant to the station, the host community, and BART riders.
3. A minimum of 2 years of professional experience that illustrates the applicant's ability to design, manage, and fabricate the project as required (i.e. past experience with public art projects, project management, public art administration, studio experience, related work skills or experience etc). Desired skills may include budgeting, scheduling, communications with clients, and collaborating with third parties completing implementation, construction, or fabrication.

## **VII. ARTIST SELECTION PROCESS**

### **A. Selection of Finalists**

Step 1: Applications will be pre-screened by BART staff to ensure that applicants meet the Minimum Qualifications described in Section VI of this RFQ, and that the applications are complete as described in Section X.

Step 2: If more than 200 applications are received, a screening panel comprised of 3 arts professionals will review the applications and will create a short list of artists whose work will remain under consideration. The screening panel will evaluate and short list each applicant's work based on whether they meet the Desired Qualifications described in Section VI of this RFQ.

Step 3: A selection panel comprised of arts professionals, community stakeholders, City of El Cerrito staff, and BART staff will review the short listed applications and will rank them according to the selection criteria outlined above.

The applicants with the three highest scores, (hereinafter "Finalists"), will be invited to develop conceptual design proposals as described in Part B, below.

### **B. Conceptual Design Proposal Submittal and Review Processes**

1. Finalists will be required to attend a project orientation with representatives from BART, the project design team and community members. Finalists who attend an orientation and who travel more than 90 miles from the interview site will receive a travel allowance of up to \$1000, based on 2015 Federal reimbursement rates.
2. Finalists will be issued a Request for a Conceptual Design Proposal from BART and will be given 10-12 weeks to develop conceptual design proposals following a Notice to Proceed from BART.
3. Finalists may be asked to confer with local community members and with BART when developing the conceptual design proposals for the artwork.
4. Conceptual design proposals must indicate the Finalist's design intent for the two original artworks proposed for the sites, including proposed colors, materials, and fabrication processes as applicable to the project, and a project budget and project timeline. Finalists will be required to provide to-scale renderings and other visual materials to adequately illustrate the proposed artwork.
5. The selection panel will review the conceptual design proposals and will recommend the artwork to be commissioned (the "Selected Design") to the BART Board of Directors. The artist or team recommended for the project will be required to enter into an Agreement with BART for design development, project management, fabrication, and delivery of the artwork.

6. Finalists will receive an honorarium of \$2,000 for the successful submission of the conceptual design proposals (per artist or artist team).
7. All physical materials submitted as part of every artist's application and proposal will become the property of BART, unless otherwise agreed to in writing by BART. Except with respect to Selected Designs, artists shall retain all intellectual property rights in their applications and conceptual design proposals.

## **VIII. BART'S RIGHT TO IMPLEMENT**

Finalists selected to submit a conceptual design proposal must agree to the following:

1. If BART approves the Finalist's conceptual design proposal as a Selected Design, BART shall have the irrevocable and exclusive right to enter into an agreement with the Finalist to implement the proposed artwork, as set forth in the document entitled "Model Agreement for the Final Design, Fabrication, and Transportation of an Artwork." (available at [www.bart.gov/art](http://www.bart.gov/art)). Agreement may be tailored as needed to suit the particular needs of a given artwork (i.e. scope of services will be finalized and attached, insurance requirements will be reviewed by BART's Insurance department to ensure that coverage is adequate for scope of services).
2. If an artist or artist team's conceptual design proposal is selected as an alternate choice for the Selected Design, BART shall retain the option of entering into an agreement for the final design of the alternate artwork within a six-month period following the Notice to Proceed.
3. If the conceptual design proposal is not approved as a Selected Design, BART is under no obligation to enter into a subsequent Agreement for the Final Design, Fabrication, and Transportation of an Artwork.
4. If a Finalist's conceptual design proposal is not accepted for implementation, BART will not implement, or authorize the implementation of, the same conceptual design by another party or parties.

## **IX. PROJECT SCHEDULE**

Winter 2015:	Finalists Selected
Spring 2016:	Conceptual Design Proposals Due Final Agreements Awarded
Mid 2016 2017:	Station Modernization Construction Begins Artwork Installed

## **X. APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS**

***Applications will only be accepted through the CallforEntry.org system. Registering and applying on CallforEntry.org is free for this RFQ. Please do not submit applications directly to BART.***

1. Images: A minimum of 4 and maximum of 8 images, per artist or artist team, of prior work relevant to this project.
2. Annotated image list with full descriptions including title, medium, dimensions, project budget, location and commissioning agency (if applicable).
3. Maximum 3,000 character letter indicating interest in and potential approach to the project. The letter should provide a description of how your professional background relates to the station art project.
4. A current resume, per applicant, not to exceed **3,000 characters** that highlights professional accomplishments, particularly as relates to the station art project.
5. Three professional references, including phone and email contact information per applicant. Please do not include letters of reference.
6. If applying as a team, indicate the name and contact information of the team's representative.
7. Do not send specific proposals; the panel will not consider them. You may refer to completed artworks or projects submitted in your application that exemplifies the aesthetic direction you might consider for the station art project if you are selected as a Finalist.

BART reserves the right to reject any or all applications or proposals and to modify or terminate the application process or the selection process for any reason and without prior notice.

## **XI. CONTACT INFORMATION**

Questions about the RFQ or commissioning process must be sent to Abigail-Thorne Lyman at: [AThorne@bart.gov](mailto:AThorne@bart.gov) not later than 5:00 p.m. PST on October 16, 2015. Please reference **05HA001-ARTIST.001** in the subject heading of your email.

Responses to all inquires and any addenda will be posted at [www.bart.gov/art](http://www.bart.gov/art) and via CAFÉ to artists who have submitted applications prior to the due date.

**ALL REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION MUST BE VIA EMAIL AS INDICATED ABOVE. BART WILL NOT ACCEPT PHONE INQUIRIES.**

For additional information, please visit BART's website:

BART Art Program and Call for Artists Information: [www.bart.gov/art](http://www.bart.gov/art)

El Cerrito del Norte Station Modernization Plan: [www.bart.gov/elcerritodelnorte](http://www.bart.gov/elcerritodelnorte)

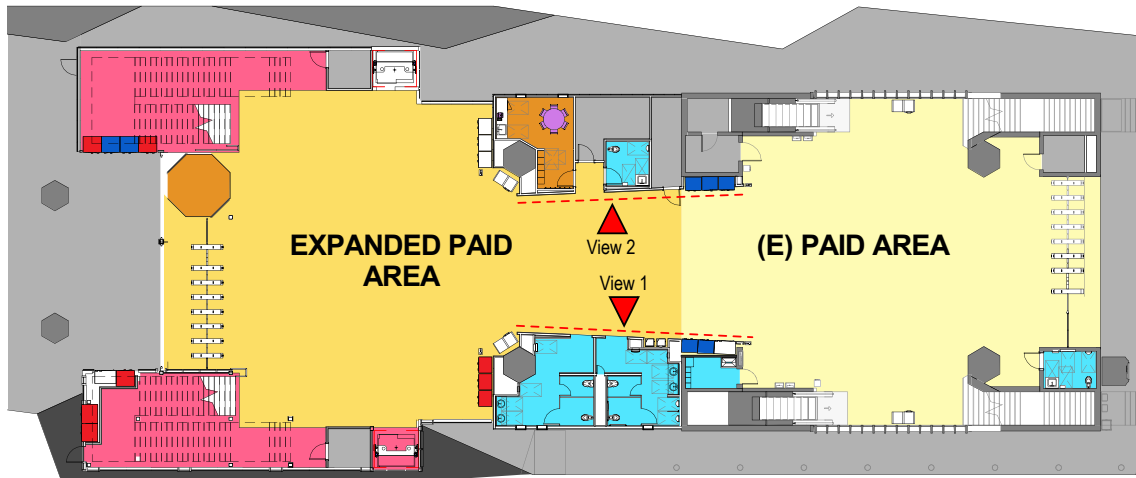
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**ATTACHMENT A: CONTEXTUAL PHOTOS AND ILLUSTRATIONS**



**Figure 1: Exterior View of Station**



Plan View of Paid Area

**Figure 2: Station Improvement Plan, with Planned Locations of Artwork Denoted as “View 1” and “View 2”**

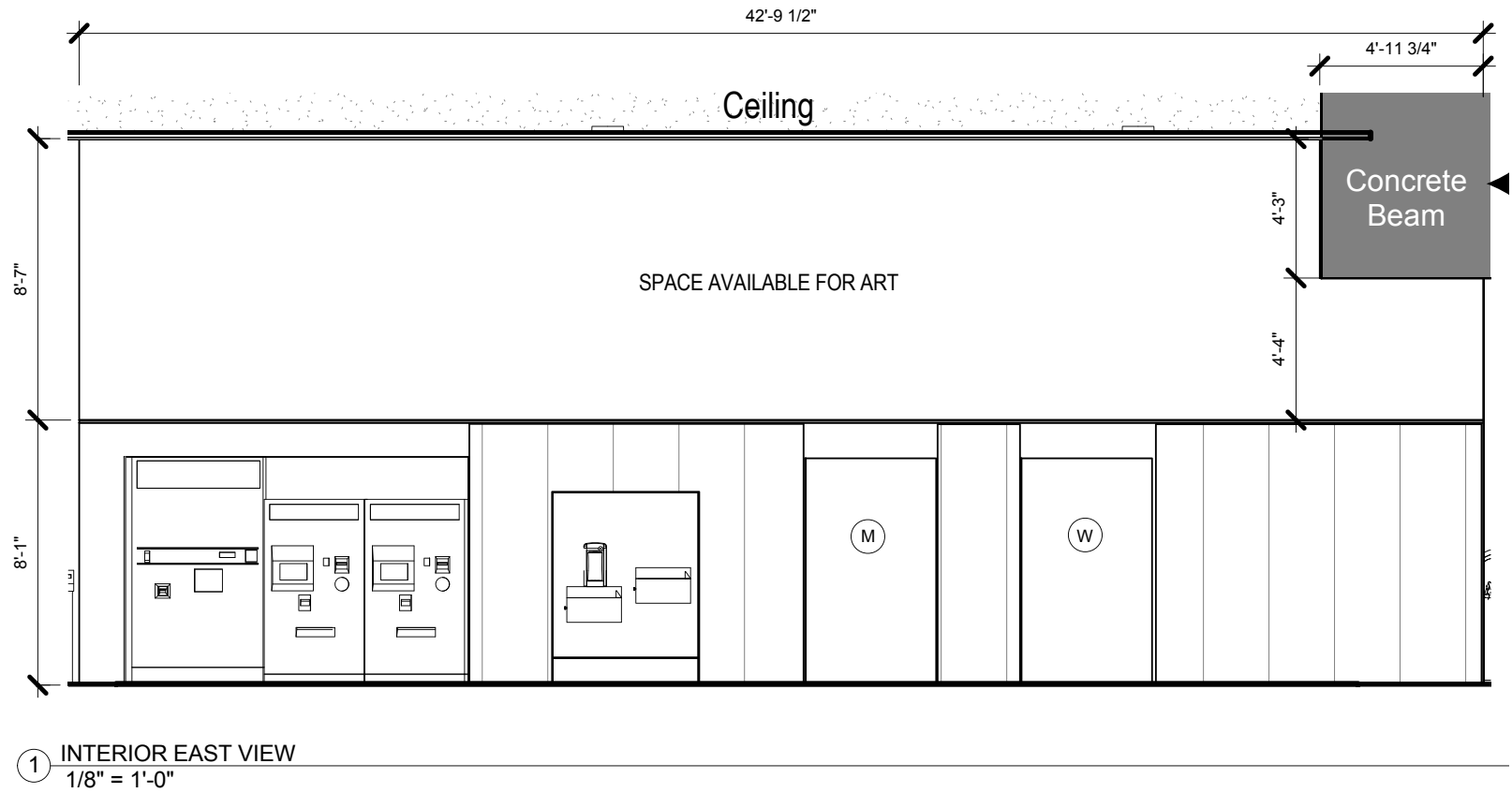
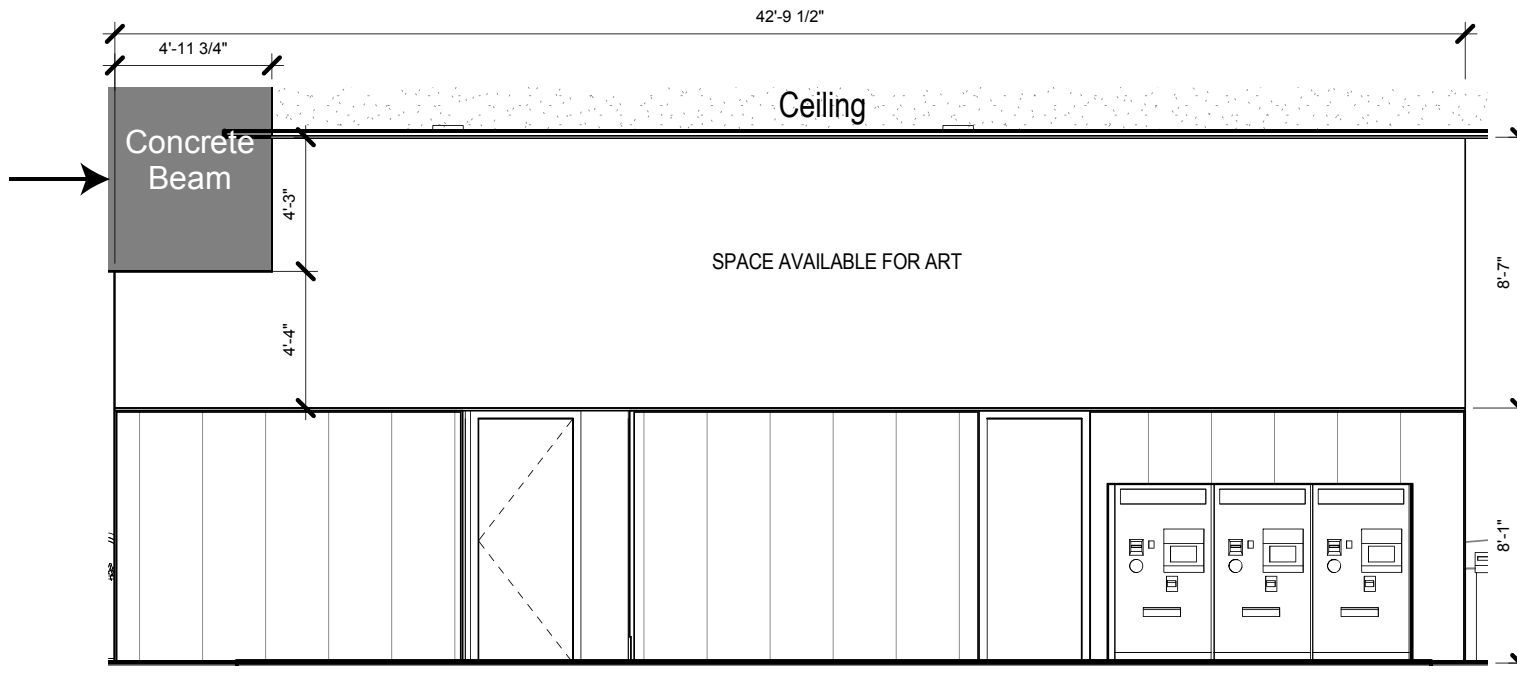


Figure 3: Dimensions of Space Available for One Mosaic Tile Mural, Shown as "View 1" in Figure 2



② INTERIOR WEST VIEW  
 1/8" = 1'-0"



Figure 4: Dimensions of Space Available for One Mosaic Tile Mural, Shown as “View 2” in Figure 2



**Figure 5: Example of Alfonso Pardiñas Station Wall Murals**