



Sunnyvale

# Public Art – Prefabricated Sculptures

## Public Art Fund Allocation Request

City Council  
Nov. 9, 2021  
Cherise Brandell



# Agenda

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How We Got Here

Community Engagement

Proposed Project

Next Steps



# How We Got Here

- Master Plan for Public Art (MPPA) adopted in 2020
- \$600k+ balance in the Public Art Fund
- MPPA outreach identified public art priorities
  - ◆ Functional
  - ◆ Whimsical





# Engagement Process For Initial Project

- Two Study Sessions with Arts Commission and meetings with Councilmembers to brainstorm projects
- Community Survey identified public art priorities:
  - Art that is functional
  - Small-scale, whimsical
  - Temporary or rotating art



# Engagement Process

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- May 2021 – Arts Commission project selection

## **Functional Art**

Such as permanent artistic benches for city parks and open spaces

## **Whimsical Small-Scale**

Such as small-scale murals throughout city facilities and open spaces

## **Temporary/Rotating Art**

Such as sculptures altered by artists throughout city spaces (similar to Chicago Cows)



# Proposed Project

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- “Prefabricated sculptures altered by artists temporarily installed throughout city spaces.”
- Goal: To create an iconic program that is distinctly Sunnyvale, provide fun and unexpected discoveries, invite exploration of Sunnyvale, and establish a distinctive Sunnyvale icon.
- Estimated cost varies between \$2,000-\$5,000 per piece depending on size and number of sculptures
- Maximum expenditure of \$100,000



# Examples of Prefabricated Sculptures

Cows on Parade, 1999, Chicago



# Examples of Prefabricated Sculptures

The Hearts of San Francisco, 2004-present





# Examples of Prefabricated Sculptures

Los Altos Bears going on now



# Public Art Fund Allocation Process / Next Steps

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- Request Public Art Fund allocation from Council
- Identify the sculpture and vendor to fabricate
  - Surveys and study session generated a potential list
    - Suns
    - Wagons
    - Fruit boxes
    - Airplanes
    - Computer chips

# Public Art Fund Allocation Process / Next Steps

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- On-line survey for community to vote for favorite
- Work with purchasing to select a vendor
- Distribute a Request for Qualifications/Call for Artists
- Establish a committee to select artists
- Artists develop proposals
- Arts Commission review and recommendation
- City Council review and final approval



# Recommendation

- Alternative 1: Approve an allocation from the Public Art Fund for up to \$100,000 for prefabricated sculptures modified by artists.



# Questions

