



DATE: September 29, 2016

AGENDA ITEM # 7

**TO:** Public Arts Commission

**FROM:** Jon Maginot, Staff Liaison

**SUBJECT:** Discuss opportunities for placement of murals in Downtown

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## **BACKGROUND**

As part of its 2015/16 and 2016/17 Work Plans, the Public Arts Commission (PAC) has discussed potential installation of murals in Los Altos. Potential installations have been suggested for Downtown.

## **DISCUSSION**

On March 22, 2016, the City Council considered a recommendation from the PAC to allocate \$20,000 for the installation of two murals Downtown. The City Council approved this recommendation contingent upon the City Council approving the final installations. On April 19, 2016, the City Council and PAC met in a joint meeting and discussed the proposed mural concepts. Based on the feedback received at that meeting, it is recommended that the Commission discuss next steps in moving forward with developing final proposals for Council approval.

The PAC has worked with artists Morgan Bricca and Kelsey Montague to propose mural installations Downtown. On June 23, 2016, the PAC recommended installation of the mural by Kelsey Montague to the City Council and approved moving forward with a design by Morgan Bricca at an alternate location. On July 12, 2016, the City Council considered the recommendation to install the Kelsey Montague mural and expressed concerns with the proposed mural and directed the Public Arts Commission to propose a mural which is more colorful and without the black background.

At the August 25, 2016 PAC meeting, the PAC determined to hold further action on the Morgan Bricca mural to after completion of the Public Arts Master Plan. At that same meeting, the PAC requested asking Kelsey Montague if she would propose her original design on a white background with certain elements in color. Ms. Montague stated she could do that, however she is concerned because having certain elements in color encourages individuals to color in other elements. She is also concerned because she feels it might deter engagement.