

May 28, 2020

Sent by email to JMaginot@losaltosca.gov

City of Los Altos Public Arts Commission
Los Altos City Hall
1 North San Antonio Road
Los Altos, CA 94022

Subject: Review and approve Adopt-A-Bench artwork on bench located in the city of Los Altos

Dear City of Los Altos Public Arts Commission:

The Santa Clara Valley Water District (Valley Water)'s Public Arts Program works on collaborations with community stewards and local artists to beautify Valley Water infrastructure through their expressive artwork. This year, Valley Water is piloting the Adopt-A-Bench Project (Project) in which seven of our existing Valley Water benches throughout Santa Clara County will have updated interpretive art. On January 15, 2020, Valley Water staff emailed the City of Los Altos (City) staff and informed them of our plan to install the new artwork on our existing bench located in Los Altos at Heritage Oaks Park, 979 Altos Oaks Dr, Los Altos, CA 94024, with the City's Public Arts Commission's feedback and direction. The bench is on Valley Water property and the Project and its maintenance is fully funded by Valley Water.

On March 10, 2020, Valley Water's Board of Directors approved the artwork presented (Attachment 1). The artwork was uniquely developed by Valley Water's Youth Commission which consists of high school students throughout Santa Clara County, in partnership with local artist Paul J. Gonzalez. The Youth Commission and Mr. Gonzalez received input from Valley Water biologists familiar with the region of the creek. The artwork for this specific bench features Permanente Creek and the native species California Red-Legged Frog, raising awareness and highlighting the local creek's fauna and natural environment.

Upon the City's Public Arts Commission's feedback and direction, next steps include a potential social distancing painting event in which Valley Water's Youth Commission will paint artwork on the bench tiles, installation of the artwork onto the bench, and an end-of-project event to celebrate the success of the Youth Commission's excellent work in this pilot project. Accordingly, these activities and their scheduling are dependent upon the County of Santa Clara's public health guidance in response to COVID-19.

We appreciate the City of Los Altos Public Arts Commission's feedback and assistance in this public arts effort. If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact Peggy Lam at 408-912-0088 or plam@valleywater.org.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

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Kristen Yasukawa
Community Benefits Program Administrator
Civic Engagement Unit

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cc: Rick Callender, Domingo Candelas, Rachael Gibson, Peggy Lam, Jon Maginot, Don Rocha,
Sherilyn Tran

Attachment 1: City of Los Altos Adopt-A-Bench Artwork Design

District 7:

Gary Kremen
Permanente Creek
Bench # 072
979 Altos Oak Dr
Los Altos, CA 94024



Focus Animal: California Red-Legged Frog

19"



48"