

## HISTORIC AND DESIGN REVIEW COMMISSION

October 19, 2016

Agenda Item No: 2

**HDRC CASE NO:** 2016-416  
**COMMON NAME:** Hays Street Bridge  
**CITY COUNCIL DIST.:** 2  
**DISTRICT:** Dignowity Hill Historic District  
**APPLICANT:** Kathy Armstrong/Luminaria San Antonio  
**OWNER:** City of San Antonio  
**TYPE OF WORK:** Public Art Installation  
**REQUEST:**

The applicant is requesting a Certificate of Appropriateness for approval to install a freestanding mural under Hays Street Bridge at the corner of Hays Street and Cherry Street.

### APPLICABLE CITATIONS:

*UDC Section Division 5. – Public Art San Antonio (PSAS)*

The purpose of Public Art San Antonio (PASA) is to support a public process for incorporating artist services and artworks in the design of civic spaces and capital projects and to define the City of San Antonio's policies and guidelines for acquiring and commissioning art of the highest standards which shall enrich the quality of life for all residents and visitors of San Antonio.

The goals of Public Art San Antonio (PASA) are to create a better visual environment for the residents and visitors of San Antonio, to integrate the design work of artists into the development of city eligible capital improvement projects, and to promote tourism and the economic vitality of the city through the enhancement of public spaces. Public Art San Antonio (PASA) serves the entire City of San Antonio as the public art program for all city departments, capital projects and public art initiatives, and is a division of the Office of Cultural Affairs (OCA). Public Art San Antonio (PASA) specifically seeks:

- To encourage the selection of artists at the beginning stages of each project who can work successfully as members of the project design team, and to encourage collaboration among all arts and building disciplines;
- To foster quality design and the creation of an array of artwork in all media, materials and disciplines that best respond to the distinctive characteristics of each project site and the community that it serves;
- To select experienced artists who represent the diverse cultural landscape of San Antonio;
- To encourage the selection of design enhancements that are accessible to the public and respect the historical resources and mobility of the citizenry;
- To encourage artists, design enhancements and programs for open spaces, parks, infrastructure and facilities that contribute to neighborhood revitalization and enhance the quality and pride of neighborhoods in the city;
- To encourage participation by citizens in the process of acquiring and commissioning of design enhancements;
- To encourage the role of public art and design enhancements in enhancing economic development and cultural tourism;
- To encourage the role of artists in the functional design of eligible capital improvement projects;
- To exhibit art in designated city facilities for the enjoyment of the public and to heighten awareness and appreciation for local artists; and
- To maintain and provide stewardship of the city public art and design enhancements collection.

*Sec. 35-651. - Eligible and Ineligible Public Art and Design Enhancements.*

(d) Eligible Public Art and Design Enhancements. It is the policy of the City of San Antonio that all public art and design enhancements commissioned or acquired through PASA are designed by an artist, craftsman or an artist or

craftsman in collaboration with the project architect, landscape architect or engineer. Such artworks may include, but are not limited to the following:

The incremental costs of infrastructure elements, such as sound-walls, utility structures, roadway elements and other items if designed by an artist or design team that includes an artist co-designer.

- (7) Artistic or aesthetic elements of the overall architecture or landscape design if created by a professional artist or a design team that includes a professional visual artist.
- (8) Earthworks, neon, glass, mosaics, photographs, prints, calligraphy, any combination of forms of media including sound, literary elements, film, holographic images, and video systems; hybrids of any media and new genres.
- (9) Murals or portable paintings in any material or variety of materials.
- (10) Sculpture: freestanding, wall supported, or suspended; kinetic and electronic in any material or combination of materials.
- (11) Temporary artworks or installations, if such artworks serve the purpose of providing community and educational outreach purposes.
- (12) Public art and design enhancements that are an integral part of architecture, landscape architecture, and landscape design.
- (e) Ineligible Public Art and Design Enhancements. Public art and design enhancements that are mass produced or of standard manufacture, such as playground equipment, fountains or statuary elements, unless incorporated into an artwork by a project artist, or reproductions, by mechanical or other means, of original artwork, except in the case of film, video, photography, printmaking or other media arts.
- (f) Specifically excluded from this section is artwork in the museum collection of the San Antonio Museum of Art and the Witte Museum.

#### **FINDINGS:**

- a. The applicant is proposing to install a freestanding mural by the artist team Los Dos, Ramon & Christian Cardenas, underneath the Hays Street Bridge.
- b. Hays Street Bridge was originally built in 1881 over the Nueces River and was relocated to Hays Street in 1910. The City of San Antonio purchased the bridge from Union Pacific in 2007 and the bridge was restored in 2009 for pedestrian and bicycle use.
- c. The mural will be painted on wood panels that will be attached to a free-standing support made of galvanized steel rods similar to the railings found along the bridge. The mural will be 12' by 9' wide, painted with acrylic paint on polytab material attached marine grade panels using nova gel paste. The panels will be attached to the freestanding mural steel support.
- d. The proposed support system will be installed into the concrete pad underneath the bridge across from the B-Cycle station on Cherry Street. The support system will not touch the bridge and will not require special footings as it will be weighted down with standard concrete parking blocks secured with metal rods.
- e. The project received approval from the San Antonio Arts Commission on September 6, 2016. The installation is one of many installations for the Luminaria Arts Festival.
- f. According to the UDC Article 5, the purpose of Public Art San Antonio (PASA) is to support a public process for incorporating artist services and artworks in the design of civic spaces and capital projects and to define the City of San Antonio's policies and guidelines for acquiring and commissioning art of the highest standards which shall enrich the quality of life for all residents and visitors of San Antonio. Additionally, the goals of Public Art San Antonio (PASA) are to create a better visual environment for the residents and visitors of San Antonio, to integrate the design work of artists into the development of city eligible capital improvement projects, and to promote tourism and the economic vitality of the city through the enhancement of public spaces. Staff finds that the proposed sculpture has met the objectives of Article 5 of the UDC.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends approval as submitted based on findings a through f.

#### **CASE MANAGER:**

Lauren Sage



## Flex Viewer

Powered by ArcGIS Server

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CITY OF SAN ANTONIO  
NOTICE OF HEARING  
HISTORIC & DESIGN  
REVIEW COMMISSION  
ADDRESS: 1000 North Loop West, Suite 1000  
REQUEST: RECONSTRUCTION OF PUBLIC SPACE  
HEARING DATE: 08/14/2019  
TIME: 2:00 PM  
FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:  
3478-1000-1000  
ALL HRRG MEETINGS TAKE PLACE AT 1000 N. LOOP WEST











# Hays Street Bridge Area-Murals



Location: "Los Dos" mural, Hays Street Bridge Underpass

## ATTACHMENT "A"

### Detailed Description of the Proposal:

#### Los Dos Mural underneath the Hays Street Bridge

Luminaria proposes a series of outdoor murals in the Hays Street Bridge area as a creative placemaking project that will help to transform the Eastside Promise Zone of San Antonio. The Eastside Promise Zone Initiative is part of President Obama's plan to comprehensively revitalize distressed communities by partnering with local communities and businesses to improve quality of life. Luminaria is partnering the City of San Antonio to launch this creative placemaking initiative to coincide with the 2016 annual multi-arts Luminaria festival. The outdoor mural series will reflect the distinct character of the Eastside district and bring vitality and engagement to key areas in this district.

Luminaria proposes to install a mural by the artist team Los Dos, (Ramon & Christian Cardenas, from El Paso Texas) on city property underneath the Hays Street Bridge. The mural will be painted on panels that will be attached to a free-standing support which will be installed underneath the bridge directly across from the B-Cycle station on Cherry Street (also underneath the Hays Street Bridge). The freestanding mural support system will be made of galvanized steel rods similar to the bridge railings located above. The mural support will not touch the bridge and will not require special footings. It will be weighted down with standard concrete parking blocks that will be secured with metal rods driven into the ground. See rendering below.

The mural by Los Dos is approximately 12 feet high by 9 feet wide. It will be painted with acrylic paint on polytab material that will attach to marine grade panels using nova gel paste. The panels will attach to the freestanding mural support illustrated below.

The San Antonio Arts Commission reviewed the proposal on September 6, 2016 and approved the final design for the Hays Street Bridge Public Art Murals.

#### Hays Street Bridge Area-Murals

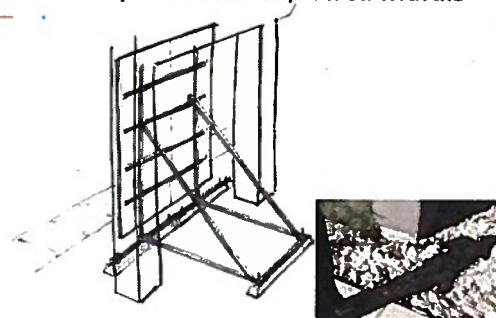


Location: "Los Dos" mural, Hays Street Bridge Underpass



mural design

#### Hays Street Bridge Area-Murals



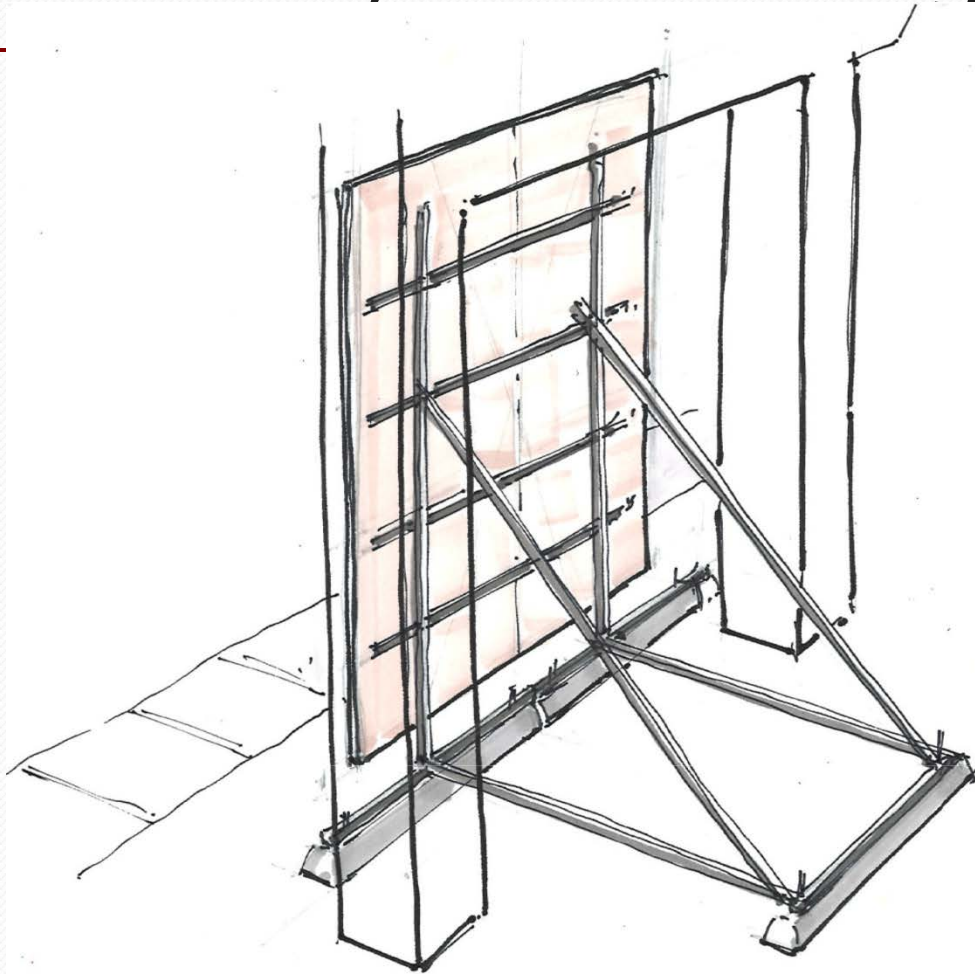
Design of Freestanding mural support







# Hays Street Bridge Area-Murals



Design of Freestanding mural support



# Hays Street Bridge Area-Murals



Previous Work: "Los Dos" of El Paso, Texas