



FIRE STATION 2 PUBLIC ART INPUT REPORT

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Fire Station 2 Public Art Input Report

Executive Summary

Tied to the city's Capital Improvement Program budget and plan, Carlsbad Municipal Code 2.18.110 (Appropriations for arts) allocates 1% of the total cost of the construction project to fund permanent public art. The overall construction budget for the new Fire Station 2 Project No. 4060 allows for \$130,000 to be put towards the permanent public art budget. The Arts Commission will receive a presentation summarizing the process, as outlined the city's Art in Public Places guidelines, and resulting final design concept for public art at Fire Station 2. By proper motion and vote the Arts Commission determined their support of the final design concept and drafted a memo addressed to Mayor and Council Members, dated May 5, 2022, affirming their support for the final design concept.

The Public Art Process

Carlsbad's Art in Public Places program began in 1985. Tied to the city's capital projects budget and plan, the program is administered by the city's Cultural Arts Office, which follows a set of policies and procedures that guides the entire process, from artist selection through to final installation of the work.

Tied to the city's Capital Improvement Program budget and plan, Carlsbad Municipal Code 2.18.110 (Appropriations for arts) allocates 1% of the total cost of the construction project to fund permanent public art. The overall construction budget of the new Fire Station 2 Project No. 4060 allows for \$130,000 to be put toward the permanent public art budget.

A key component of Carlsbad's program is an emphasis on public participation during the process, ensuring that the artworks are integrated into the physical and social environment of the city and reflect the broad range and interests of the community.

In the case of the public art component for Fire Station 2, a subcommittee was created to assist in the artist's selection process and provide guidance throughout the process, from vision to selection of the final art design. This meeting took place virtually on Wednesday, Nov. 10, 2021.

The subcommittee members included city art commissioners, city staff including Fire Battalion Chief Eric Evonsion, the construction project team, community members and one arts professional.

The Request for Proposals

The Request for Proposals was developed to elicit artist and artist teams to respond with a design concept that incorporated an illumination feature that enhances the architectural elements and/or treatments to the glass panels or exterior facades. This request aligns with a national public art trend and best practices.

The Request for Proposals was released nationwide through multiple outlets on July 6, 2021 and the deadline for submissions took place on Aug. 10, 2021. There was a total of 12 submissions. Staff reviewed and rated each submission and identified four proposals that rose to the top and rated 85 or above.

The four highly ranked artists included: Shan Shan Sheng from San Francisco, California; Bill FitzGibbons from San Antonio, Texas; Mary Carter Taub from Chapel Hill, North Carolina; and Sijia Chen from Los Angeles, California.

Each artist proposal captured the spirit of innovation, which aligns to the design and spirit of the building and to the Fire Department's focus on having an innovative approach with their daily work.

Staff met with each of the four artist finalists and had provided them with feedback on their initial design concepts. The artists were invited to prepare a presentation to share information about their proposed work of art, about themselves, and about their past public art commissions. Each artist was prepared to receive interview and discussion-style questions from the Public Art Advisory Subcommittee panelists.

At the end of the session, the subcommittee made the unanimous decision to select artist Mary Carter Taub's design. The selection was presented to the city's Arts Commission at their May 5 meeting for a proposer motion and voted, determining their support of the final design concept.

Community Feedback

Input from the community was gathered through a variety of media, including a dedicated project webpage, direct email, social media and online survey. In addition, a community meeting was scheduled for community members to provide feedback on the proposed design options. Throughout the process, data was shared with the project team.

Survey

The survey was comprised of three questions. The first two were open ended questions, the third was related to their residence or business location:

Question 1 – What was your initial reaction to this proposed art? (195 responses)

Question 2 – Does it feel like Carlsbad? If yes, in what ways? If not, why? (186 responses)

Question 3 – What part of town do you call home? (195 responses)

In all, 195 responses were received and 59% of the responses came from individuals who call south Carlsbad home (zip codes 92009 and 92011). The community response to the proposed art was positive, with over 60% of survey participants stating a positive reaction to the proposed art. About 13.85% of reactions were noted as neutral for not stating a negative or positive sentiment, and 26.15% of the community reactions were negative.

One individual would like to be involved in the selection of the proposed design earlier in the process.

Some responses suggest a lack of awareness about how the art selection process took place.

For Question 1 – 60.51% of the responses were positive
26.15% of the responses were negative
13.85% of the responses were neutral

For Question 2 - 53.23% of the responses were positive
38.17% of the responses were negative
10.22% of the responses were neutral

Participants from all districts of the city were represented in the survey responses:

Zip Code	Number of responses	Percentage
92008	36	22.36%
92009	51	31.68%
92010	13	8.07%
92011	41	25.47%
I don't live in Carlsbad	20	12.42%

Community Comments:

“Jumping up & down excitement! We are in such a beautiful and vibrant spot for a reason. Let’s project that! Great designs.”

“Yes. The building has a modern take on our rancho past. The colorful light that will emanate from the windows project a positive message of the people inside the building.”

“No. Very modern. Colors too bright. Maybe something more in tune with environment and/or OCEAN.”

“Abstract art is exactly that . . . Abstract. The only person that gets it is the one that makes it. This does not fit a fire station or the neighborhood.”



Community Meetings

Two community meetings were held at the Children’s Garden at Dove Library and Batiquitos Lagoon on Saturday, April 30, allowing community members to give feedback, learn about the artwork and choose their preferred designs for the different elements of the proposal. Mary Carter Taub, the artist, was in attendance to speak to the community members about the proposal and answer questions. There were over 125 people in attendance.

Of the options presented at the community meeting, Option A for the bay and Option C for the tower received the most “hearts.”

Garage Bay Option A: 48 hearts
 Garage Bay Option B: 29 hearts



Tower Option C: 67 hearts
Tower Option D: 21 hearts

32 people answered the paper survey.

COMMUNITY WORKSHOPS Saturday, April 30



Subcommittee and Commissioners Feedback

The feedback offered by subcommittee members and commissioners at the end of the selection process was positive. Comments included:

- Approval of the use of public buildings to improve the esthetics of the community
- The proposal and selection of art that fits the character of the building and the community
- The survey was succinct and to the point
- The team was commended for their process involving the community and continuing to involve community members throughout the process
- The art reflects the space
- The art is lovely and leaves you with a happy feeling
- Overall, the process and proposal achieved the intended goals

Proposed Final Design







Next Steps

Feedback from the “in person” Meet the Artist workshops and the online survey helped shape the final design concept. City staff will share the artist's design concept at the City Council meeting on July 26, 2022.

Appendices

***Comments are copied verbatim**

How engagement opportunities were promoted:

Community Meetings Promotional Efforts



Image credit: Artist, Mary Carter Taub, design concept

Meet & Greet Fire Station 2 Public Artist: Mary Carter Taub

Saturday, April 30
10 - 11:30 a.m., Children's Garden at Dove Library
2 - 4 p.m., Batiquitos Lagoon Nature Center, 6880 Gabbiano Lane

Meet artist Mary Carter Taub and learn about the artwork designed for the new Fire Station 2. Your feedback will help the artist finalize the design, leading to the formal review and approval process. If you can't attend the workshop, please visit the [Public Art, Fire Station 2 webpage](#) to view the artwork design, respond to the proposed color palette and see what's ahead for the project.



[View this email in your web browser](#)

HAVE YOUR SAY
Carlsbad



City of
Carlsbad
Cultural Arts

PROPOSED PUBLIC ART

The City of Carlsbad's Cultural Arts Office is seeking community input on [public art](#) that will be prominently featured on the west-and south-facing sides of [Fire Station 2](#), visible from El Camino Real at the corner of Arenal Road in south Carlsbad. The fire station is currently being rebuilt in place to better accommodate the needs of today's firefighting equipment and crews.



How to provide input

There are three upcoming opportunities to provide input on the proposed public art for Fire Station 2:

In person

Saturday, April 30

- 10 - 11:30 a.m., Carlsbad City Library, 1775 Dove Lane
- 2 - 4 p.m., Batiquitos Lagoon Nature Center, 7380 Gabbiano Lane

Meet the artist and members of the city's Cultural Arts Office, see poster boards of the proposed art and provide feedback.

Online

View the artwork and take our short online [survey](#) by May 4.

[View this email in your web browser](#)



Was this forwarded to you? [Sign up](#), and we'll email you directly.

April 21, 2022

We have had a busy week here with the graduation of our first Citizens Academy and your input on public art. I'll cover all the



Fire Station 2 artwork design

Meet artist Mary Carter Taub and learn about the proposed artwork being designed for the new Fire Station 2 at two events April 30 [or online](#).

Your feedback will help the artist finalize the artwork design so it can proceed through the formal review and approval process.

Saturday, April 30

10-11:30 a.m., Children's Garden at Dove Library

2-4 p.m., Batiqitos Lagoon Nature Center, 6880 Gabbiano Lane

As part of the city's commitment to arts and culture, money is set aside to incorporate art into most major city projects. Artists are selected through a community-based process to bring a wide variety of artistic perspectives and styles to our city.

Speaking of Fire Station 2, construction is progressing well, and the station is on track to be completed this fall. Earlier this week, the Fire Department did a fit test of our largest piece of firefighting equipment – a 68-foot ladder truck. And, yes, it fit perfectly. To put this in perspective, the old station's garage was a mere 35 feet deep.

Workshop activities and feedback

Of the options presented at the community meeting, Option A for the bay and Option C for the tower received the most “hearts.”

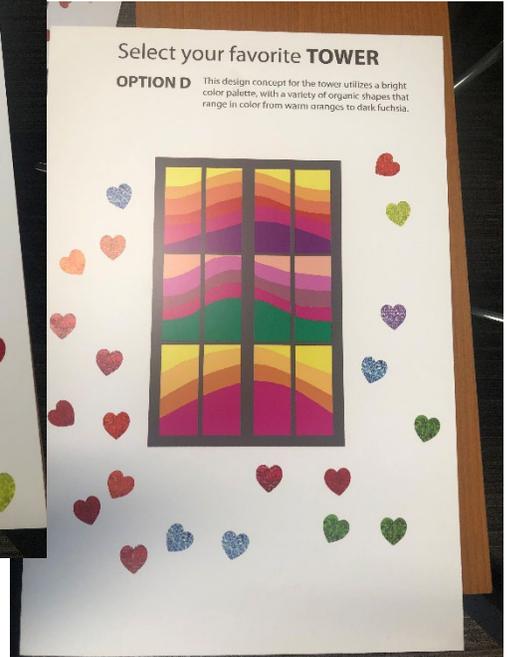
Garage Bay Option A:	48 hearts
Garage Bay Option B:	29 hearts
Tower Option C:	67 hearts
Tower Option D:	21 hearts



32 people completed paper surveys at the community meetings.

Options Presented





Feedback compiled via the paper survey is captured below:

Proposed Artwork for Fire Station 2
Artist Mary Carter Taub

Survey responses
Saturday, April 30, 2022

In person community events:
 10 to 11:30 a.m., 1775 Dove Lane, 92011
 2 to 4 p.m., 7380 Gabbiano Lane, 92011

Number	1. What was your initial reaction to the proposed work of art?	2. Does the proposed art feel like Carlsbad? If yes, in what ways? If not, why?	3. What part of town do you call home?
1	Very surprised / shocked	NO. Carlsbad is a coastal "village by the sea," not a town that should have abstract art on buildings that make them look like they belong in NYC. This artwork is especially inappropriate for a firehouse. I implore the artist to do some research on fire service culture and implement more art pieces that relate to our rich history, culture, and traditions. I would also encourage the artist to talk with some of the firefighters that will be living and working out of this fire house. Sincerely, Eric Brown Fire Engineer Carlsbad Fire Department	92008
2	Does not fit the Station 2 community. A misrepresentation of the fire department.	This does not feel like Carlsbad nor the area. I grew up here and this feels way off the surroundings. "A sore thumb." Please consider color palette change.	92009
3	Loved it!		92011
4	Can't go wrong with A or B	Yes	92011

5	Very bright and colorful, hopefully provides a fun + calm environment for firefighters on their down time/time spent at station.	Sure. Its progressive + inclusive of all colors which may imply a "welcoming" appearance for all who pass by it.	92009
6	Bright and attractive!	Yes – we need more of this brightness + liveliness in our architecture! The community has a youthful character and this would fit in nicely.	92011
7	Outrageous! In a good way	Yes; color scheme	I don't live in Carlsbad
8	Beautiful	Modern, clean, bright	92011
9	Beautiful – Reflects the sky, flower fields and community	Yes – sunsets, flowers	92011
10	Jumping up & down excitement! We are in such as beautiful and vibrant spot for a reason. Let's project that! Great designs	Yes. I come to this "cholla" corner to watch the sunsets, and this work is so reflective of that.	92009
11	Very cool!	Option B has that I would call "ocean" colors!	92010
12	I love the colors. I like Option B + for the tower Option D	Yes. Colorful + bright brings positive mood.	92011
13	I like how vibrant and unique the art on it is.	The art does not feel like Carlsbad but I think that is a good thing as it is unique while not being outrageous.	92009
14	Positive, like that light will pass through glass	Yes – matches shapes + colors	92009
15	Great addition to Carlsbad aesthetic. Adds to, but does not dominate the neighborhood. Will look wonderful at sunset!	Yes (see above)	92009
16	Surprise	Carlsbad is open to new things + new ideas. It has so many cool things available – this art reflects our personality	92009
17	Very colorful & dynamic	Yes the colors selected remind me of the beach, the sun, sand, waves at Carlsbad.	92008
18	I like the innovative design approach	Yes	92009
19	Bravo! I think its beautiful and I'm impressed to see artwork as an element to a Fire Station. I love it.	In the wave shapes and the vibrant colors, it feels like Carlsbad to me.	92010
20	Very cool & was a nice surprise to come to the library and view this. 😊	Yes, very artistic & pretty & lively.	I don't live in Carlsbad
21	It's very meaningful.	Yes. Carlsbad is a very colorful area.	I don't live in Carlsbad
22	I liked it. The colors stand out without being distractions.	Reminds me of sand art	I don't live in Carlsbad
23	Inspired	Yes	92011
24	Colorful	Yes. Getting more diversity	92009
25	Very nice artwork	Yes	92011
26	Fun perspective	N/A not from Carlsbad	I don't live in Carlsbad
27	It's vibrant, beautiful & reminded me of stained glass artwork found in synagogues & churches.	Yes! Bright, vibrant colors represent our city well! I.e. the flower fields, diverse cultures, & backgrounds, ocean, sun, wild flowers & more	92009
28	Beautiful!	Yes, ocean, nature, sunsets, colorful, creative, pleasing, charming, beautiful, fun, aesthetically pleasing	92009
29	Excited!	Yes. I love it	92009
30	Abstractness perfect. Won't be distraction for drivers (auto) hopefully not golf drivers and their golf balls either. Concerns re BB Guns hopefully best glass possible	Ocean, lagoons, green hills – Yes. Abstract so drivers will not be looking closely – can enjoy the flow/motion of design	92009
31	Very impressed	Yes – Carlsbad is upgrading & attempting to look more glamorous. Nice to see our end of Carlsbad coming along.	92009
32	Option B & D		Leucadia

Online Survey Responses

Responses are verbatim

What was your initial reaction to this proposed art?

I liked it. My preferences are options A and C.
This will be wonderful ! It follows the Carlsbad theme/vibe of Art throughout the city. Glad to see this happening.might need a few temporary parking places across the street for those of us who will stop to admire the glass.(just saying)
I love the idea and the concept!! Very creative and colorful! Love the areas involved... our beautiful flower fields, the lagoon and sunsets. Awesome idea!
It seems out of place, not part of the rest of the area.
Beautiful!
Beautiful and modern
Like all four designs. I prefer b&c as it accommodates the blue of the ocean.
This proposed art does not fit the culture of our fire department. Fire department is built around tradition and service. As a 3rd generation firefighter and a Carlsbad fire department member we pride ourselves on serving this country and city. Personally I feel like the fire department members and surrounding city citizens should have a say and more options then the same proposed design with different colors. I would like to see art that reflects our fire department traditions. I value each artist and their unique style but Please reconsider a change. Thank you
I thought it was a joke. There's no way this should be going on a fire house.
This does not look like a fire station.
Outstanding! I like option B & C... Both have more blue to reflect the close batiquitos lagoon & Pacific Ocean!
It brings out colors that are not usually in fire departments.
The car drivers would be looking at this and not the road—call an ambulance!
It's a bit busy.
Stain glass at church
LOVE IT!! Vibrant. Option B and D are my favorites.
I like it!
Too much color like a Church
I like A and C
Modern and colorful
Very interesting. It livens up the station in a very attractive and practical way. Also should be very durable and colorfast avoiding upkeep expense.
Fantastic! Colorful! Exciting , caring about visuals in the city
It looks like Easter's Hangover
The garage bay doors look like Phil Collins had an acid flashback and vomited rainbow spaghetti on a back ally wall. Translation: this is a hectic mess that in no way represents our beautiful city or the fire department.
Is this the best we can come up with? This is simply stained glass that's going to cost the city an exorbitant amount of money. Why don't we do something patriotic, fire related or something that resembles La Costa Resort.

Upbeat, happy
its ugly. too bright, too many different colors, looks like an old church stained glass window(my first thought). I'd prefer a Southern California artist. I pass this station every day. I am a professional artist. An artists sketches reveal their skill, I do not like this artists art for this project. If she must be used she should only use 1-3 colors...blues like the sky and the ocean. or a nice sculpture instead. public art should not be polarizing, it should be timeless and beautiful for all viewers. If these are to be illuminated at night they will be very, very bright. It's my opinion that the local fire station should not detract from the already beautiful neighborhood. to me this takes it in the wrong direction.
Love it!!
It looks very free and flowing
Vibrant and engaging artwork. I did not want to stop looking at it.
Awesome and unique! The color brings me joy!
The art is so welcoming!
I love the way it brightens up the whole space and makes the space less institutional and easy to ignore.
Stunning!!
It's okay but seems out of place for a fire station.
The art itself is pretty but they don't work together - I like option A bit it doesn't work with C or D. Wrong color family, needs to be cohesive.
This is a great way to make a generally utilitarian building stand out and shine (literally!). I really like the vision and style.
I think it's pretty and unique
Abstract art is exactly that....abstract. The only person that gets it is the one that makes it. This does not fit a fire station or the neighborhood.
Much too "busy" ...simplicity should be the prevailing theme. Fire stations/Firemen are all about being cool, calm and collected.
Terrible, does not fit in with community or surrounding residential/ commercial buildings. Would appreciate something that reflects fire department and District culture or landmarks.
I did not like the tower colors, because they resemble smoggy / smoky skies.
Very bright? I like the garage doors but I'm not sure about the tower
I was shocked that this has made it this far in what I imagined to have been a competitive process. The description of the art is complete BS, literally just words that sound nice written down. The art does not depict the description, it's just fluff. It also does not look good. I am astonished that this is seriously being considered. It will be an eye-sore at that intersection and amongst the elegant, Spanish style homes and resort that neighbor it. It is definitely not what any fire station should look like.
It's pretty and bright and feels inviting.
Loved it!
Outstanding!!! Really stunning.
I have a history with this project. When the RFP was first proposed I connected with my friend and colleague, David Judson, who is the owner of "Judson Studios" (The finest stained-glass fabricators in the World"). He said that the \$104,000 that the City was offering to spend on the "Glass Project" was too low and that no quality stained-glass artist/fabricator would submit a proposal for less than \$200,000. Because the project is being done on the cheap you now have a ham &egger artist trying to sell the city a "Temporary Window" design through a cock & bull story about how he is using the colors of Carlsbad to create this Walmart Window

<p>for the Fire Station. Temporary Windows are used when a construction budget on a project is strained or some consultant is milking the funding. After you finish with your usual "Dog & Pony" Show I would be willing to speak to David Judson about fabricating the glass panels. He is a "master" at elevating an artist's original design and turning it into a quality piece of stained-glass.</p>
<p>I think the artwork is very nice but not appropriate and esthetically appealing for a fire station. It looks like something that would be beautiful for a community center or library but not something that represents the city of Carlsbad's fire department.</p>
<p>Beautiful! It made me feel so proud of our city!</p>
<p>Tower colors are too bright for the neighborhood. They should be same as the garage bay.</p>
<p>Looks like a modern church.</p>
<p>Terrible, as it is so abstract that means nothing but distracting drivers who pass on this high speed and busy intersection don't waste tax payers money to have kindergarten paint on clear glass, just have the flower field picture of roses on te windows that mean something!!</p>
<p>This is a misrepresentation of the city of Carlsbad, the local community neighboring station 2, and the fire department as a whole.</p>
<p>I appreciate thee opportunity to give feedback. This design reminds me of LA style, and is little out of sync with the vibe of Carlsbad. A little loud-especially the tower options. Maybe tower designs could be a little more interesting. Not so horizontally oriented because they don't flow with the other garage bay composition. Or maybe add something circular or asymmetrical.</p>
<p>Looks good</p>
<p>I'm not a big fan of stained glass and this is what this feels like to me. Most importantly, what do the fire fighters think?</p>
<p>Sad! Uninspired. Derivative.</p>
<p>The appearance of the fire station is aesthetically unappealing. This is approach to art is to flamboyant and not appropriate for the community architecture and creates an eyesore in the community and for neighboring citizens.</p>
<p>I love it. I just drove by the grey-and-blue YMCA in the Barrio today, and was so sad about the building's drab, uninviting prison/garage look. The proposed artwork for the fire station is vibrant and friendly. I enjoy the bright colors. I'm always happy to see glass art in public spaces. Can't wait to see the finished building. I know you're not asking for input on the color options, but my preferred combo is B + D.</p>
<p>Tower colors too fluorescent/bright. I don't see how it ties to Carlsbad.</p>
<p>I think it's beautiful the corner windows are striking nice choice of colors.</p>
<p>Interesting, but the two pieces seem a bit disconnected.</p>
<p>It's colorful and eye-catching.</p>
<p>It is ok at best....</p>
<p>It looks like we are celebrating gay pride on a fire station. Even if the underlying motive has nothing to do with pride it doesn't represent the men and women of the fire service who have to live and work in that station every single day. I have served this city's fire department for 14 years and it's a slap in the face that no floor fire personnel were asked what they thought about final designs. A couple chiefs may have gotten a heads up but I can tell you the rank and file did not. This is an atrocity. Actual artwork that preserves the legacy of firefighting like fire station 3 would be welcome.</p>
<p>It looks unlike any fire station I've seen before. It's stunning!</p>
<p>I think it is alright, not what you expect on a firehouse.</p>
<p>There was not much thought that went into this design. Does not reflect what a fire station is about. I do not like these proposed designs.</p>

I love the colors. But not so much for a fire station. Maybe an elementary school or an art gallery but not a fire station. No offense to the artist.
Bright and colorful images which catch the eye of all passing by and wonder what kind of building this is.
Fantastic
But like to vote for the colors by email This for people who cannot make it to the meeting.
Pretty and fun. I like Options B and C. They have more of a flowing water sensibility, than the other 2 which are brighter and greener.
love the lively colors
The beautiful proposed art A and C would brighten the indoor and outdoor feel of the building which to me it feel like hope
Interesting. Bright and colorful. I like Option B and Option C
It looks like the outside of an aquarium or art museum from the 1970s. Why aren't you asking for input before you got the design. I doubt you are going to change it.
I like the Garage Bay options more than I like the look of the Tower Options.
I feel like it is very pretty! This area needs some bright colors like this.
I thought the designs were exciting and different for public art, especially a firehouse. I am sure it is very unique. The garage door Option A was my favorite. The addition of green made it appear calming and cooling and more artistic. As for the two towers, I liked option C. It felt exciting and bold. I appreciate the juxtaposition of feelings on the two art installations.
Vibrant and colorful
Somewhat new-age, but I like it.
I loved it! I like Options A & C
I hate it. The building overlooks the Batiquitos Lagoon, with unobstructed views of it. There is very limited nighttime lighting. These lighted designs belong in Times Square, not overlooking a beautiful, natural lagoon. The public artwork should blend in with the natural landscape and not try and be something it's not. Perhaps a local artist, and not a North Carolina artist, should be considered - one who respects and understands our natural and undeveloped precious lagoon.
In two words LOVE IT. My wife and I are so impressed on how Carlsbad places such emphasis on form as well as function when developing projects throughout the city. We have been residents since 2007 and through the years the city has evolved into a beautiful as well as recreational Mecca for its residence and visitors alike. My wife and I always enjoy showing, out of town visitors, all the sights of Southern California and Carlsbad is always part of the tour Thom and Pat Digiacommo
I Love it! The sculptural geometry of the building combined with the curvilinear color bands make a bold statement.
Adding color to the area is a plus. Nice flow!
Not a fan. Very bright. Are there other options?
Would have liked something a touch more subdued
I don't like it. Looks like art for a library not a fire station.
Looks like a church stained glass
C reminds me of the lagoon across the street. Beautiful colors.
The colorful art will complement the building design beautifully. I prefer options A and C.
not good. I would feature natural landscape like trees and flowers birds.
Kinda cool -- I prefer A and C

Very bright; too much pink. Just wavy lines
Too distracting. This is a busy, fast intersection and drivers do not need this distraction. Eastbound on Arenal it may conflict with the traffic signals.
Vegas
It is very cool reading about how the artwork will be fused into the glass. I like the abstract design, but I don't necessarily think the colors for the garage bay and the tower go together. Out of the options provided, I prefer OPTION B and OPTION C, and OPTION C, but I fee like the bright / hot pinks in the Tower don't really go well with the muted blues / grays / purples in the Garage Bay.
Not much difference between the options. The colors are vibrant and I'm sure it will look very nice when installed. I prefer option A for the garage bay as it has softer and more yellow. I prefer option D for the tower as I like the green.
Nice, but too similar.
Option B and Option C have more organic flow and cooler color scheme to represent Carlsbad connection to ocean. The work is very calming and is very accessible.
Although all are lovely, I prefer garage bay option A and Tower Option C. Thank you
Colors too vibrant. Something more subtle seems better. Looks like a bar or nightclub, not firestation.
Love it!
I like it - especially as it is embedded into the building. Definitely prefer Options A and C.
bold but not relevant to our area
Like incorporating art into the building
I think it's a fabulous idea!
1st Reaction: Wow lots of pink on the tower for a fire station at such a prominents spot. The colors on the garage bay are more complementary to the surrounding landscape on that corner of Arenal and El Camino. The garage bay art reminded me (at a quick glance) of the stain glass usually seen at a church. However I later noticed that the pretty waves showcased in the art piece were sort of hidden behind the grid (of wood or iron.) Do we need the grid? The tower colors instead should compliment or assimilate the tones of the garage bay door. Right now it looks like a big neon sign that doesn't match the rest.
It's truly beautiful. Though, regarding both tower designs, the hilly shapes covered with warm tones look like a depiction of fires on hillsides, potentially a frightening effect. And,...when driving by, at a quick glance, it may resemble a depiction of a fire inside the building. A few adjustments might help. —Sometimes negative effects (such as these) are not noted by the public until after public art is installed. I wish you the best outcome with this,L. Luisi
Love it!
Good idea
Didn't really have one but Gladys being incorporated into the design. If I have to pick I'd pick A and C
Colorful & vibrant. I like it.
A bit surprised
I do not like either of the tower options, but if I had to choose, I prefer "A" and "D"
The tower colors look like a fire! The garage bays clash with the towers. They should both be the same pattern.
Love it and the colorful brightness
Kind of cool, but the colors of the two different installations Garage Bay and Tower are too different in my opinion. I would like to see the Tower Option D be less bright hot colors and more cooler soothing colors or coastal/watery reference like the Garage Bay Option A or B.

Excellent idea
like option colors A and C
eye catching
I like Garage Bay Option B I like Tower Option CThey are all beautiful!
visually very busy and does not got well with the building or neighborhood colorful -
Meh , it's okay. Not what I would like to see.
Too busy
Beautiful. The abstract design is not such that it would distract drivers as the effect can be taken in with one glance. And such happy colors!
Childish and amature
Choose a local artist if you must distract from fire station.
I don't like how the colors from one side look with the ones on the other side.
Colors are garish. Maybe it looks better in person?
Beautiful!
Lovely
I found the composition to be weak and elementary. The proposed style is outdated.
Very Colorful. Not something I would pick. That said I would lean toward garage bay "A" tower "C". As show in rendering.
Beautiful and lively with all the colors. The artwork will enhance a busy thoroughfare and corner of El Camino Real. Was wondering how the glass will look during the day, in sunlight rather than when not lit by artificial lighting, which appears to be how it's shown in the online images of the proposed artwork.
Colorful ! My father was an LA County Fireman and a great artist. He would have loved to have such talent displayed
It's a great idea and each submissions are lovely. BUT...why are we hiring an artist from North Carolina with so many local artist to choose from?
Not a fan! Cheap and harsh. Especially the tower.
Too busy.
Not necessary...
Love it
yuk, is this a joke?
Too bright and NOT a good fit for the local community. Something that reflects more natural colors and the surrounding environment would be better.
The two pieces seem incongruent to me. I prefer the color scheme in the doors over the color scheme in the tower. The design itself is pleasing, but I would prefer the colors to be more along the lines of the blues and greens. The brighter colors will date the building much more quickly.
There is no symbiosis between the artwork and the building, and no common theme between the two art areas. Honestly, it does not look like art at all. It's more like they cut and pasted a design off the internet. I like that curves have been added to contrast with the angular geometry of the building, this works better in the tower than in the lower section but the colors are off. The lower section is heavily cut up with the vertical and horizontal lines of the frame resulting in an overly busy image. I suggest you change to colors on the tower and start again on the lower section.
Vibrant Goes with the culture in Carlsbad
Exciting

I like Option A and D
I was wondering what the cost will be given that people have other concerns to think about such as gas prices. Most drivers rush through without paying attention since they want to get to work or get home. I have seen this for years. Do a fire station really need to have fancy art that does not relate to what the work is? This art is nice, but I do not think it belongs in a fire station. It might even distract drivers and cause traffic accidents.
After having read the description above, I was expecting to actually "see" the flower fields, coastal areas, lagoons, etc., in the artwork, rather than just the colors. It is very bright and not at all what I imagined it might be.
Warm and colorful, clean, fresh and modern
Very bright colors
like the idea of stained glass
Beautiful!
I like it. I'd pick Options B and C. It will be fun and uplifting to have such a bright addition to that long El Camino Real stretch stretch.
Great
Fun- I like it! Both options are good; I have a slight preference for Options A and D, because they have more green.
I like the idea of adding color to make it pop. But the colors shown don't reflect the surroundings of the Batiquitos lagoon and the La Costa resort. They are fun colors but don't tie in with our neighborhood. Why pink? It's pretty garish.
I thought my friend was joking with me when he showed me the proposed color scheme. Why not keep it simple? What is wrong with a classic fire station. This is atrocious.
I thought it was a little bit too much for a fire station. I thought the firefighters might not like it.
I appreciate the artist and the hard work but this does not represent Carlsbad or the hard working men and women who fight fires.

Does it feel like Carlsbad? If yes, it what ways? If not, why?

Yes, it definitely incorporates the feel of Carlsbad. I can see the colors of all our few remaining beautiful Victorian homes, lands, sea, and all of the lagoons. I'm so happy this talented artist's vision included the towns origins and rich history. Especially since so many of the new large property build designs in the Village are destroying the iconic look, feel and important history of our village by the sea.
Definitely ! Carlsbad is becoming know for championing Art throughout the city. (People travel the world to look at the stain glass windows in cathedrals.) These incredible glass windows, in a cool architectural fire station, will be a delight.
Yea, it certainly does with the artist displaying our beautiful sights and sounds of Carlsbad. It will be a joy to drive by and see our awesome city displayed.
Does not feel like Carlsbad too gaudy.
Yes, colors look like Carlsbad colors.
Yes I like options A and C. Blues need to be represented not green.
Yes
Unfortunately it does not feel like Carlsbad. There is no building that has art that looks like this throughout our whole city. Previous art on new Carlsbad fire stations has been the staple city

bird of paradise. station 3 is a perfect example of fire service tradition. A kindly ask for the city to reconsider. Thank you
In no way does this color scheme feel like Carlsbad. It feels like a crayon box was thrown on the wall and this is what stuck. The architectural design of the building is beautiful and this will ruin it!
No, Carlsbad is full of blue collar workers. This station art is to flamboyant and should be something related to the fire department not colorful scheme.
Yes! It looks high end. Lots of bright nature colors found across the street in the batiquitos lagoon
Yes it does. Because Carlsbad has lots of lighter colors.
Way too flashy when we are trying to keep our rural feel. Plant some trees I. Front of the windows.
The colors are Carlsbad. But it's a bit overwhelming.
No I'd rather see blue ocean waves
I think it reflect our surroundings, the hills, ocean and sky perfectly.
If the final outcome is as attractive as the above sample. I think will be an lovely addition to Carlsbad.
No, is this a Fire Station? It should reflect more of the community it surrounds and protects. Should look like a Fire Station not a Church
Not really. In that location we are Spanish colonial. But the new station is not, so the color softens it.
It does not feel like Carlsbad, it could be any place . Carlsbad is a beautiful ocean line, lots of greenery and beautiful neighborhoods.
It encompasses both the traditional colors of the area in a very tasteful way. Makes a common utilitarian building into an art piece.
Yes! Makes me appreciate that the city cares about art and invests in it!! Thanks
No, it does not
Not at all. We are a serene beach community. These doors scream schizophrenic crisis.
No, no it does not feel like Carlsbad. None of this resembles Carlsbad. We can do better!
Yes, sophisticated, fun, intelligent.
no. it looks gaudy, tacky. The building is also oversized, so to me it just makes it a bigger eye-sore. (since you asked) I love public art, but many times artists and art chosen are not good.
Yes! I see the sunsets reflected feminine the lagoon.
It seems like a great way to show an arts community.
Yes- modern and engaging.
It's very California!
I don't know the area but I would love to visit based on what I'm seeing-I'm now assuming Carlsbad cares about displaying art and beauty in its everyday spaces!
Yes. Great energy and positive, happy vibes. Aesthetically pleasing with the architecture of the building.
It feels more fit for a museum. The colors on the tower seem more at home in a music festival.
Greens do, pinks do not
yes. I like the description of being a "map mashup" of sorts. I can see the ocean, the flower fields, and the rolling hills. I can see it more in the the tower art than in the garage bay art. I think I like the garage option A better (the brighter greens) and the tower option C better (including more of the blues for the water more than the green and purple for the hills).
Yes, I like the way it feels like waves, which are very "Carlsbad" as we are a beach community

Just put waves or something else....anything else.
No. A and B bring to mind the feeling of entrapment, C and D echo simmering/hot flames. Agreed, artwork a mashup.
No, sunsets and flower fields is a stretch. I strongly feel that this art will not be interpreted as such. Fire stations have traditionally fit in with the area they serve and aim to be a part of the community. The art is loud and vibrant and not reflected anywhere else throughout the city or la costa district.
Feels like Carlsbad in ocean movement and colors on bay doors. Does not feel like Carlsbad in tower colors, which are too harsh and bright, and convey wildfires and smog.
Maybe? But kinda out of place for that corner? Doesn't really go with the Spanish style of Omni La Costa ? But I could be cool maybe tone it down a bit though?
No it does not. The curvy lines clash with the straight and square lines of the fire station. The colors seem like something out of a gay pride parade in Sedona or New Mexico. I can't imagine any neighbors want this "art" in their neighborhood. I also can't imagine any of the firefighters want this on their new firehouse either. I live in La Costa and will be unhappy if this is what the city chooses. Carlsbad is subtle and cool, calm and collected, and elegant and beautiful. This art is flamboyant and showy, the opposite of what Carlsbad is.
Yes, but I can't quite explain why!
Yes, it feels like Carlsbad. I feel the ocean, the beautiful colors we have here from plants, and our gorgeous sunsets.
It does feel like Carlsbad. Waves, flower field.
Yes it does! but not in a good way! Carlsbad probably has the worst collection of public art in San Diego County. I have lived in Carlsbad for 60 years. The stained-glass windows do not reflect our lost sybaritic culture at all. It does accurately project the new Carlsbad "Tourista Village" with its faux Disneyland like imagery. I have been a professional artist for 50 years. I have three degrees in Fine Art (HSD, BFA, MFA). I was an Art History professor at Palomar College.
Unfortunately no. It fits a library or community center but not a fire station. I would Have loved to see something representing our department. Maybe something patriotic or memorializing fallen firefighters due to the complexity of loss in the career those firefighters work hard for.
To me, this represents the love our city has for its land and sea. In Carlsbad we appreciate nature, living in harmony, and taking pride in preserving its integrity so that we can all thrive together.
No opinion on that
No. Should have more of a sea/beach theme. Dolphins, whales, starfish, etc. But I would check with the firefighters since they will be spending a lot of time there. Does it meet their safety requirements? Is it easy to keep clean? And in general, is that what they want to look at all day?
NO, NOT EVEN CLOSE THIS LOOKS LIKE SAN FRANCISCO ART FROM THE 70s
This does not feel like Carlsbad. Feels like a total misstep. There should be qualities which match the surrounding neighborhood and fire department color scheme. Currently this would be an eye sore to drive by or visit. Please reconsider the options.
The design of larger one feels more like Carlsbad. Maybe it's the additional green hues. I truly hope you're not proposing a totally different color scheme for the two pieces. Either stay with one color pallet or the other.
Yes. Bright, cheerful
No - it's stained glass.....

No. Carlsbad is a dynamic, creative community. These panels reflect none of that! Where's the lyrical beauty of James Hubbel's art? Perhaps he would allow a copy of one of his incredible fire on the mountains watercolors or his moving, meaningful stained glass.
This is not a representation of Carlsbad. The elegant architecture of the Omni resort and classic homes in the neighborhood are an amalgamation of classic and customs design. The addition of this bright and tacky display to the fire station diminishes the design and representation of the architecture.
I think it does. I like the play on the lagoon, Flower Fields, and sunsets (though I don't see how the Victorians figure into the artwork). It took me a minute to figure out what the garage doors are meant to symbolize, but then it clicked that that is the lagoon. I think of Carlsbad as a friendly, welcoming, safe place that has its act together. I think the proposed fire station artwork goes well with that image.
Carlsbad doesn't come through other than in the garage bay colors.
Yes. I definitely see the flower fields in the tower. The other panels are more muted, like the rest of the landscape.
Yes, I see the sunsets and flowers in it.
No, I think that it is CRUCIAL that we have a local artist do the work for this station. There is an endless sea of amazing talented artist in the local community. To have someone from another state design the art for this is just not right. Please re-consider and offer a call to local artist to create some magic for the space. I will offer to do the art on the building for a fraction of the proposed budget.
No. If it was meant to represent a sunset there are different color schemes and design layouts that would look much better. It looks like something a toddler would fingerpaint in day care
No, it doesn't feel like Carlsbad. When I think of Carlsbad images of beach, ocean, water, nature come to mind.
Not really, our public art is much less abstract for the most part. I think color schemes A and B remind me of our coastal location, but C and D look like they belong in the desert somewhere.
No, not at all. Carlsbad, main attraction, beach. I do not see or feel a coastal vision in this at all.
There could be something patriotic or a remembrance to 9/11.
As I said previously, the color schemes are all gorgeous but they don't seem to fit with the fire department. How do the firemen at station number 2 feel about it? I feel it gives confusing vibes.
Not the Carlsbad I live in, which is the Village.
Absolutely.
Yes. Waves of color.
feels like modern art without politics--unfortunatley not always Carlsbad--However, Just what we need, hope , energy, color, action!!!!
Yes, (C) it reminds me of a day at the beach when the sunset reflects on the sand and (A) while hiking in the Carlsbad trails
Not the Carlsbad I have known. But I would like the change.
No. The colors don't feel like Carlsbad. It's too abstract. It would feel more like Carlsbad if the artist was from the area.
The Garage Bay options include more blue and green, I like this because we are a coastal community.
I don't know if it feels like Carlsbad because a lot of Carlsbad feels very bland and this is so bright and wonderful. I think it will be a welcome change.
We are a town of many feelings and beautiful sights. I believe that is why this art piece is reflective of our community.

Yes, the curvy lines mimic the ocean & colors of water, sunset & nature.
Kind of? (Shoulder shrug) it kind of reminds me of the flower fields.
Yes
Absolutely not. Feels like Times Square in NYC. Very urban feel, which is great in the middle of the city, but not on the lagoon. It's "The Bars" all over again. Please, please use an artist that understands Carlsbad, Southern CA, nature, and our lagoon. Please go stand on that corner and look southwest at the unobstructed lagoon and ocean views. Feel the natural environment and create something that works with that. I live near that fire station. This design is absolutely horrendous.
Yes. The building has a modern take on our rancho past. The colorful light that will emanate from the windows project a positive message of the people inside the building.
I do not know if it reads Carlsbad, but it says art, movement and progressive thinking. I would dine there and ask for a window seat. I'll order the Rainbow trout, Greek Salad and raspberry gelato.
No. Very modern. Colors too bright. Maybe something more in tune with environment and/or OCEAN.
A bit too bright for my taste
Not sure. It's not appealing to me.
No
Vibrant. Different from La costa resort next door.
The tower options are vibrant and beautiful, definitely sunsets and flower fields. The garage bay images are less evocative of "Carlsbad"; they bring to mind tentacles or pool noodles.
no . Fire fighters save the planet by saving burning trees etc. So landscape and nature makes more sense.
It seems rather more modern than Carlsbad, but that it's necessarily a bad thing
No. Carlsbad is a beach town. Should make every attempt to retain this esthetic. This is no more indicative of Carlsbad (nor creative) than the bars and ice plant fiasco. Please, think beach, ocean, sunset, flowers, nature, not slashes of primary pre-school colors.
No, certainly not the beachy vibe we would prefer.
No. Primary colors are harsh. Looks like cheap stained glass. Gaudy
While necessarily look at the abstract patterns and "see Carlsbad", but I do get the inspiration for the colors being the ocean, flower fields, etc. in Carlsbad.
Loosely picks up the waves and the hills.
Kinda; option B simulates the waves a little more, but a more ocean/naval/waves look would be more Carlsbad.
Yes the solid flow and tranquil vibes
No. Out of place with surroundings. La Costa Omni resort nearby much more in tune with natural surroundings of the area.
Yes!
It felt more like Carlsbad once I read the artistic process that went into it. It is very abstract, though, so it's not obvious.
no, reminds me more of stained glass in a church would rather see colors of blue like waves and greens maybe in a more coastal design
No in particular
I personally would like a more realistic design but, I'm sure this abstract look will be equally beautiful

The Carlsbad by the Sea is about the ocean, whales and dolphin sightings, surf, waves, earth, the outdoors and the most beautiful golden sunsets (not pink!). And I usually love pink but not at a fire station. Thank you for the opportunity.
It's Fine. It's nice to see soothing abstract shapes (aside from my prior comments).
Yes — I think it's got a contemporary feel, without being too modern. I think it works with the new architecture.
Yes, but more ocean colors. Red might be very distracting, especially since it is close to El Camino Real
It feels somewhat like Carlsbad, however it doesn't have enough of the bright blue in it that represents the blue of coastal waters that the city sits on.
It does feel like carlsbad, especially after driving faraday on my morning commute. I love the new building at faraday & college. If it had this type of art facade, it would really make a statement. Something beautiful to look at on el Camino real is always a plus!!!
Carlsbad not really. Looks more like a contemporary Catholic Church.
It doesn't feel like Carlsbad to me. I lean toward ocean, lagoon and beach images to reflect our City.
I don't think it feels like CARlsbad. It is not soothing to have a fire station look like a fire. It should be more laid back like the feel of Carlsbad.
yes, it is colorful and bright! It is interesting and will be very eye catching. Good visual colors
Maybe- but better with more coastal colors or ocean/water reference than such bright colors.
Colorful, fluid. That little something unexpected
the options with more blues, yes since it captures the ocean dominance of Carlsbad, village by the sea
I can feel the sunsets, the ocean, and the colorful foliage prevalent in Carlsbad.
Not sure it feels like Carlsbad to me. Feels like dated art, from the past. The lines to me are more reminiscent of geological art, than ocean art.
No, this does not reflect the Carlsbad neighborhood or community - the artwork of very nice and creative but does not have the fell of our community - to modern, too many colors the artist should be local that understands the community
Not particularly because it would work in any city really. Something more Carlsbad-y would be an ocean themed piece.
Not consistent with beach community beauty and history i.e. ocean view, greenery
No looks like elementary or nursery school garish primary colors No Carlsbad residents applied? Would like to see public art budget spent with locals
No, because our focus is ocean water.
No. Carlsbad has a more laid back vibe.
Yes
Sure
It feels like Oceanside, not Carlsbad. Outdated and half-hearted. I would expect Carlsbad to commission a more sophisticated, even an edgy work.
No. It's a bit too bright. Not very coastal feeling. Looks like we are trying to draw attention to a fire station. Something more subtle or changeable would be a nice touch .
Yes. For me it illustrates an obvious connection to color swaths of the flower fields in the colors on the tower like structure of the fire station. I prefer Option A on the color scheme for the garage door bays, if public input is sought on the color options. The blue reminds me more of Carlsbad with the Pacific Ocean along our west coast.
Colorful and fun Would like more Seascape involved but still beautiful
NO! It's feels like North Carolina!

No, To vibrant and contrasting to the area.
No. The colors are too bright.
Seems silly, fire stations should be functional. Money better used for equipment and services!
Yes vibrant yet serene and color lifts mood.
Out of place. Does NOT reflect local vibe.
No, it is offensive. A not too subtle way to push a "church" look: safety=church. Disgusting propaganda
It's a bit more abstract than other artwork in the city and I wouldn't identify it as "Carlsbad" or even a fire station if I was shown the art work out of context. The glass in the doors is visually appealing, however.
Sort of, I see what it being attempted, but somewhere it falls short of what I would expect. A common theme you see in other Carlsbad art installations and the City logo and other branding material is hinted at. It just doesn't work here.
Yes, Carlsbad is naturally colorful and the art reflects that.
Yes. It makes me think of the ocean and the flower fields. I prefer Option D for the tower.
Yes, it feels breezy and joyful
No, it does not feel like Carlsbad where colors are more sand, adobe, old California style.
I am not sure it feels like Carlsbad, to me. I think of Carlsbad as having so much natural beauty and more of a small-town feel. This is beautiful, but to me, belongs somewhere with a more "big city" cosmopolitan feel.
Yes
No. Think of something in blues for the ocean.
its contemporary and is vibrant, but some may find it too "modern" -- depends if it is lit from inside at night.
Yes, it's bright, colorful and refined!
Yes
I think showcasing art is good for Carlsbad - we need more of it.
No. I live in north La Costa and drive by the proposed firehouse almost every day. Our area of Carlsbad-- specifically La Costa has a Spanish/Mediterranean feel to it. I don't feel like this proposal reflects this sense--- it feels too modern and stark. I would love to have colors that reflect the spanish clay tile, the green of the golf course, the blues of the sky and the lagoon. It would be nice to feature some type of sunset, but not the obnoxious fuschia pink!
No. It will clash with surrounding and neighboring communities. This is a FIRE STATION. It is not a library, museum, or cultural arts center. This will be a laughing stock of a fire station and an ugly smear on what appears to be a beautifully constructed building.
Once I read the artist information about the color choice I could see how it matches the ranunculus.
Not to me. Carlsbad is cool colors and coastal and this is on a fire station. It should incorporate the hard men and women risking their lives for us.

What part of town do you call home?

