



October 8, 2024

Board of Supervisors  
County of Ventura  
800 South Victoria Avenue  
Ventura, CA 93009

**Subject:**     **Approve the Acceptance of an Exterior Wall Mural at the Ray D. Prueter Library; and Authorize the Library Director to Sign an Agreement by and between the County of Ventura, City of Port Hueneme, and Mobile Mural Lab LLC for Exhibition of Artwork at the Ray D. Prueter Library.**

**Recommendations:**

It is recommended that your Board:

1. Approve the Acceptance of an Exterior Wall Mural at the Ray D. Prueter Library.
2. Authorize the Library Director to Sign an Agreement by and between the County of Ventura, City of Port Hueneme, and Mobile Mural Lab LLC for Exhibition of Artwork at the Ray D. Prueter Library.

**Fiscal/Mandates Impact:**             **None**

**Background:**

On November 1, 2021, the Port Hueneme City Council created the “Monument and Mural” Community Benefit Fund (“CBF”) project and ad hoc committee to carry out the development of a public monument honoring a local historic figure and a permanent mural in the City of Port Hueneme. At the time, \$15,000 was allocated for the project in the 2021 CBF.

On April 21, 2022, the City Council approved \$25,000 for the permanent mural project as part the CBF. This was ultimately approved jointly by the City and Port of Hueneme on October 21, 2022. At that time, it was decided the monument project would be championed by the Port and therefore, became a separate item in the CBF from the mural project.

On October 2, 2023, the City Council authorized the City to enter into an agreement with the Oxnard Performing Arts Center (“OPAC”) to guide the mural project. The planning of a mural to

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be located on the exterior of the Ray D. Prueter Library in Port Hueneme has taken place since then. While located within the City of Port Hueneme, the Ray D. Prueter Library is operated by the Ventura County Library through a Joint Powers Agreement established in 1987. Under this agreement, the Ventura County Library is responsible for the ownership and maintenance of the interior and exterior of the facility.

In 2023, representatives from the City of Port Hueneme met with Ventura County Library System (VCLS) staff members to discuss the mural project at the Ray D. Prueter Library in Port Hueneme. Through the City's agreement with OPAC a consultant was hired to oversee the project. Library representatives participated in multiple Mural Committee meetings with the consultant, as well as sub-committee meetings consisting of community members with an interest in the arts to ensure community input, to discuss and plan this mural project. Thirty-eight professional artists responded to a Request for Proposals which were reviewed by the sub-committee and narrowed down to the top nine semi-finalists. The Mural Committee then met to review the nine semi-finalist submittals and recommended a proposal presented by Renee Fox and David Russell, aka "Mobile Mural Lab."

### **Strategic Plan:**

This project directly supports the County of Ventura strategic goal to maintain and improve dependable public resources to serve the needs of our diverse communities.

### **Discussion:**

An Agreement by and between the County of Ventura, City of Port Hueneme, and Mobile Mural Lab LLC for Exhibition of Artwork at the Ray D. Prueter Library (Exhibit 1) has been established outlining responsibilities associated with this mural. The Port Hueneme City Council approved the mural design and to move forward with the project on September 16, 2024. Under the terms of this Agreement, the City of Port Hueneme agrees to provide the wall mural for display to the County, installed by the Artist, free of charge to the County. The control of use of the wall mural will be by County as long as it is publicly displayed on the exterior of the Ray D. Prueter Library building. The mural will be installed for a planned mural display life of 30 years, with the City responsible for paying for the cost of mural repair and/or maintenance per recommended maintenance guidelines and/or as may be required based upon available resources. Should the City determine that it is no longer feasible to repair and/or maintain the wall mural, or if this Agreement is terminated, the City will pay for the full cost of restoring the Library exterior wall to its original condition. The term of the Agreement will be 30 years from the date of the parties' execution.

Aspects of the mural will represent the community's past, present and future. This mural will coincide with the VCLS's mission to inspire our community members to explore, discover and connect. We are asking for your Board's approval to authorize the Library Director to sign the Agreement by and between the County of Ventura, City of Port Hueneme, and Mobile Mural Lab LLC for Exhibition of Artwork at the Ray D. Prueter Library.

This board letter has been reviewed by the County Executive Office, the Auditor-Controller's Office and County Counsel.

If you have questions regarding this item, please contact Nancy Schram at 677-7158.



NANCY SCHRAM  
Library Director

**Attachments:**

Exhibit 1: Agreement by and between the County of Ventura, City of Port Hueneme, and Mobile Mural Lab LLC for Exhibition of Artwork at the Ray D. Prueter Library