



Alameda County Arts Commission
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*** PRESS RELEASE ***

**Utility Box Art Program in Castro Valley
Community Members are Invited to Submit Comments Online about the Proposals.
Online survey closes on November 5.**

(Oakland, California) – The Alameda County Arts Commission is pleased to announce that the artists' proposals for the Utility Box Art Program in Castro Valley are now available for public comment. The Utility Box Art Program will place artwork on County-controlled utility boxes in the unincorporated community of Castro Valley. Community members can view the proposals and submit comments by visiting the website, bit.ly/UBCVProposals or by visiting the Arts Commission's website at www.acgov.org/arts (click on "What's New"). The online comment period closes on November 5, 2018.

The Alameda County Arts Commission manages the Utility Box Art Program for the unincorporated area of Alameda County. The goal of the program is to place artwork on County-controlled utility boxes. A small group of artists will be selected for approximately 40 utility boxes in Castro Valley. Each artist will be assigned a group of boxes and provide a series of designs that are related in style or imagery. The designs will be printed on vinyl, which will wrap the utility boxes.

In August, the Artist Selection Committee, comprised of community members and arts professionals, met to review the qualifications and past work of a project pool of artists. The Selection Committee selected a group of artists, working in wide variety of artistic styles and mediums, as semi-finalists who were invited to create a proposal for the Utility Box Art Program. The artist semi-finalists learned about the special characteristics of Castro Valley to develop their proposals. The Arts Commission believes that community input is very important and encourages community members to comment on the proposals.

Community members are encouraged to submit comments describing why each of the artists' proposals may or may not be a good match for the whole community. The comments will help inform the Selection Committees' deliberations when they reconvene in November. The public comments are not considered a vote. The Selection Committee will select a group of artists to receive contracts for the program. It is anticipated that the artists will be under contract in early 2019 and that the installation of the vinyl wraps will take place in Summer 2019.

Community members who want to receive updates about the project should send an email to artscommission@acgov.org to be added to the Arts Commission's email list. For more information about the Utility Box Art Program, contact the Alameda County Arts Commission at (510) 208-9646 or www.acgov.org/arts

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