



**TOWN OF LOS GATOS
COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT**

MEETING DATE: 12/02/2025

ITEM NO: 15

DATE: October 21, 2025
TO: Mayor and Town Council
FROM: Chris Constantin, Town Manager
SUBJECT: **Authorize a Revenue and Expenditure Budget Adjustment in the Amount of \$9,500.00 from the Town's Public Art Fund for the Forbes Mill Footbridge Children's Art for Fiscal Year 2025-26**

RECOMMENDATION: Authorize a revenue and expenditure budget adjustment in the amount of \$9,500.00 from the Town's Public Art Fund for the Forbes Mill Footbridge Children's Art for fiscal year 2025-26.

FISCAL IMPACT:

An expenditure budget adjustment of \$9,500.00 from the available Town's Public Art Fund will cover the cost of the panels and installations. The current balance of the Public Art Fund is \$24,328.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

Indirect nexus to "Ensure all residents and visitors feel a sense of belonging in Los Gatos, maintaining and enhancing the Town as a welcoming, family-oriented, safe, and inclusive community."

BACKGROUND:

The Town's Public Art Fund was established by Council in May of 2021 with Ordinance 2318, which added Chapter 25, Article VII "Public Art Funding" to the Town's Municipal Code. This requires new private development projects to place public artwork on-site valued at 1% of building value, or if desired by the developer, to pay that amount into the Town's Public Art Fund in lieu of placing public artwork on-site. In lieu funds may only be used for public art projects.

PREPARED BY: Ryan Baker
Library Director

Reviewed by: Town Manager, Assistant Town Manager, Town Attorney, and Finance Director

The Forbes Mill Footbridge Children's Art is a public art project that was originally coordinated by the Arts and Culture Commission (ACC). Los Gatos Saratoga Recreation (LGSRec) partnered with the Town for the project in 2011 due to Town capacity issues related to dissolving the Town's Recreation Department. LGSRec currently produces three separate week-long Footbridge Art summer camp programs as part of their summer activity calendar for children. LGSRec subcontracts with other vendors to conduct the program on their behalf. This program produces approximately 40-45 children's artworks for the Town's use. The Town then contracts directly with a photographer to digitalize the artworks and a vinyl sign printer/installer for final installation. Each year approximately 40-45 older panels are removed to be replaced with new ones.

DISCUSSION:

Funding for the photographer, the vinyl printing, and final installation were previously part of the Town's Capital Improvement Budget (CIP) included under "Town Beautification" CIP number 821-2002. This project was categorized as Tier Two in the adopted Fiscal Year 2025-26 CIP Budget. As a result, there is no funding allocated for the project. This places the Forbes' Mill Footbridge Children's Art project on hiatus for the foreseeable future.

While the project was ultimately not included in the adopted FY 2025-26 CIP budget, coordination with project partners and contractors had already advanced under the understanding that the program would proceed as in prior years. Unfortunately, the potential for the project's deferral was not communicated early enough to allow for an orderly pause, and preparatory work had already commenced. Considering these circumstances, proceeding with the project this fiscal year is recommended to uphold the Town's professional obligations, maintain positive working relationships with partners, and preserve the continuity of this longstanding community program.

Town staff therefore recommends closing out this final project year by utilizing the Town's Public Art Fund to cover the expenses for Fiscal Year 2025-26. This approach ensures that the project can be completed without impact on either the General Fund or the CIP Budget. All participating partners and contractors have been notified that, following this fiscal year, the project will be placed on hiatus pending future funding considerations.

Per the conditions of the Ordinance, the ACC must make the determination that the project meets the definition of Public Art and meets the requirements as a qualifying expenditure of Public Art funds. The ACC made the determination at their meeting on November 19, 2025, that the Forbes Mill Footbridge Children's Art is Public Art that it qualifies for use of Public Art funds.

COORDINATION:

This item was coordinated between the Library, PPW, Finance, and the ACC.

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SUBJECT: Approve Public Art Funds for the Forbes' Mill Footbridge Children's Art

DATE: December 2, 2025

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT:

This is not a project defined under CEQA, and no further action is required.