

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY
Arts Commission

March 31, 2014

TO: Santa Barbara County Public Works Department

RE: **Public Art included one the Union Valley Parkway Interchange in Orcutt**

I am writing on behalf of the Santa Barbara County Arts Commission to express enthusiastic support for the inclusion of public art tile panels in the Union Valley Parkway Interchange in Orcutt.

The Arts Commission reviewed the concept of inclusion of student-created artwork incorporated into the Union Valley Interchange in Orcutt during the course of two public meetings. The first, on November 13, 2013 was held in Solvang and the second on February 12, 2014, in Santa Barbara. At the November 13th meeting Arts Commissioners reviewed proposed artwork and made recommendations and suggested some modifications to some of student-created artwork.

At the March 12th meeting of the Arts Commission Corby Kilmer, Cal Trans; Will Robertson, Santa Barbara County Public Works; and Hannah Rubalcava, Orcutt Children's Art Foundation, presented the final artwork for review and approval. The County Arts Commission recommended the sixteen final student artworks chosen for the Union Valley Parkway Interchange.

The Arts Commission commends Ms. Rubalcava of OCAF for her guidance and all the students who submitted artwork for this project. The Arts Commissioners were impressed with the aesthetic quality and image diversity of the proposed art panels and their references to the history and culture of the region.

The Arts Commission also recognizes and appreciates the guidance and support of Corby Kilmer, with the Department of Transportation, Will Robertson with County Department of Public Works, and Fred Luna with the Santa Barbara County Association of Governments (CBCAG) in making this opportunity possible.

As part of the cultural and arts fabric of Santa Barbara County the Arts Commission recognizes the great role of public art in creating a sense of place and fostering community pride. It is especially gratifying to see youth engaged in this very creative and public way for decades to come.

Sincerely,



Ginny Brush
Executive Director



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