

<b>Committee(s):</b> Culture, Heritage and Libraries – For Decision	<b>Dated:</b> 20/05/2024
<b>Subject:</b> City Arts Initiative Recommendations to the Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee	<b>Public</b>
<b>Which outcomes in the City Corporation’s Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?</b>	Vibrant Thriving Destination & Flourishing Public Spaces
<b>Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?</b>	n/a
<b>If so, how much?</b>	n/a
<b>What is the source of Funding?</b>	n/a
<b>Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain’s Department?</b>	n/a
<b>Report of:</b> Damian Nussbaum, Director of Innovation & Growth	<b>For Decision</b>
<b>Report author:</b> Joanna Parker, Principal Planning Officer, Environment, Chair CAI Luciana Magliocco, Destination Director	

### Summary

This report presents the recommendations of the City Arts Initiative (CAI) which met on 18 April 2024. At this meeting CAI considered the following proposals:

1. Sculpture in the City 13<sup>th</sup> Edition – to be in place from July 2024 to May 2025.
2. 40 Leadenhall Street, ‘Scar Wall’ by Lothar Goetz – a permanent installation from September 2024.
3. London Festival of Architecture, Navigating Change Sculpture Trail – to be in place from 1 June to 30 June 2024.
4. Bloomberg, Asphalt Art Queen Street repaint - from June 2024 to June 2027.

### Recommendation(s)

CAI recommends that members of the Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee approve the above proposals subject to necessary permissions gained from environmental health, planning and highways.

### Main Report

#### Background

1. The CAI met on 18 April 2024 to consider the proposals outlined under ‘Proposals’ within this paper.

2. At the Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee meeting on 18 March 2024, Members approved the CAI's recommendation to move to a delegated authority model for CAI applications. The delegated authority criteria have been submitted for this committee to review as an appendix to the Appointments to the City Arts Initiative paper. If the criteria are approved the delegated authority procedure will take effect from the next City Arts Initiative meeting on 6 June 2024.
3. Further background information is available in appendices below. Full details of all the applications to the CAI are available on request from the Cultural Policy & Partnerships Officer.

## **Proposals**

### **Sculpture in the City 13<sup>th</sup> Edition**

4. The SITC project team (led by Lacuna) have been through an intense period of fundraising from March to April. Currently there is a small funding gap to fully deliver the 13<sup>th</sup> Edition and the team continue with their fundraising efforts. To manage this position, the project team reviewed the proposed number of artworks and concluded on a programme of 11 artworks, installing a minimum of five new artworks and prudently retaining six existing artworks from the 12<sup>th</sup> Edition.
5. CAI reviewed the artworks for the minimum programme, plus an additional five tentative artworks have been selected to provide flexibility and contingency to swap artworks if necessary or install at a later stage in the year should additional funding be secured. Details of all artworks selected can be viewed in [Appendix 1](#).
6. Artworks will be sited across 16 locations on private and public land in the Eastern Cluster area from July 2024 – May 2025. Site locations and proposed artworks can be viewed in [Appendix 1](#). Site visits have been undertaken with City Highways officers, artists, gallerists and SITC's technical team and engineers to identify and confirm suitable locations.
7. Further information regarding the scale and dimensions of each installation can be viewed in [Appendix 1](#). Each artwork has undergone a rigorous feasibility study with the project's install teams MTEC and Price and Myers prior to necessary licences and permissions being granted. This work is undertaken in consultation with the Health & Safety office under the Deputy Town Clerk.
8. Each artwork has specific maintenance requirements. SITC contracts specialist conservators who visit the artworks once a month after installation. As well as on a case-by-case basis if any damage occurs. Lacuna confirmed that instances of vandalism are rare in the history of the project.
9. All artworks in the 13<sup>th</sup> Edition have been reviewed by the City Corporation's Access team in Planning, who are satisfied that accessibility has been carefully considered as part of the artwork proposals.

10. The CAI requested that Lacuna review some of the proposed site locations to ensure the installations do not impede pedestrian flow. This will be addressed through Highways and Planning processes.
11. Subject to finalisation of project funding, deinstallation of the 12<sup>th</sup> Edition artworks will take place in May and June 2024. The 13<sup>th</sup> Edition will be installed in July for a public opening on 24 July. If full funding is not raised, further consideration will be needed for handling the existing 12<sup>th</sup> Edition and proposed 13<sup>th</sup> Edition.
12. The CAI recommends the Sculpture in the City 13<sup>th</sup> Edition application is approved by members subject to relevant necessary permissions gained with environmental health, highways and planning teams.

### **Lacuna – ‘Scar Wall’ by Lothar Goetz**

13. The developers of the new tower at 40 Leadenhall Street submitted an application for a permanent large scale wall painting by Artist Lothar Goetz. Goetz is a German artist known for his large scale, colourful geometric wall murals.
14. The artwork is to be located on private land on the alleyway wall on Furnace House, Fenchurch Buildings, the building adjacent to 40 Leadenhall and owned by Vanquish Properties.
15. The site was selected by Vanquish Properties and the curatorial team as an appropriate location for a permanent public art commission. The alleyway has needed an intervention as structurally the wall cannot support the cladding originally proposed as part of the wider planning permission for 40 Leadenhall. The artwork would provide a creative and visual solution to an otherwise blank facade.
16. The working title of the artwork ‘Scar Wall’ is a reference to the condition of the site, a historic blank wall which has been left post development. The artist's inspiration is drawn from the Gordale Scar, a limestone ravine in North Yorkshire. Further details of the design and dimensions can be found in [Appendix 2](#). The artist's statement can also be viewed in [Appendix 3](#).
17. The full proposal is funded by Vanquish Properties and the artwork will be owned and maintained by Vanquish Properties. The artwork will begin at 3.5m above ground level, reducing the chances of vandalism and graffiti.
18. Lacuna has reviewed concerns in relation to neurodiversity and has completed the appropriate research to provide reassurance that there are no issues relating to the artwork in this regard. See [Appendix 3](#) for more details on the research.
19. The installation date is proposed for September 2024.
20. The CAI recommends that the ‘Scar Wall’ is approved by members subject to any necessary permissions gained from Highways, Planning and Environmental Health and other relevant licenses for installation. Further to this CAI also

recommends that the applicant consults with the Corporation's access officer and the EC BID and nearby stakeholders.

### **London Festival of Architecture – Navigating Change**

21. The London Festival of Architecture (LFA) submitted an application for 4 temporary installations as a part of the Navigating Change - Street Assemblies project. The project is a joint commission between LFA and four of the City's business improvement districts (BIDs): Aldgate Connect, Culture Mile, ED BID and Fleet Street Quarter.
22. The project is being delivered in partnership with design and architecture studios: Urban Radicals, Millimetre and AKII engineers.
23. The installations are to be placed on public highway in the following four BID locations from 28 May - 30 June 2024 to coincide with London Festival of Architecture:
  - a. Roundtable - Culture Mile BID: 120 London Wall, Moorgate
  - b. Speakers Plinth – Aldgate Connect BID, Vine Street
  - c. Archive Pod – Eastern Cluster BID, installed on 28 May at Sky Garden. To be moved to the Garden at 120, and various rooftop locations across the summer.
  - d. Assembly – Fleet Street Quarter BID, Public realm outside the Maughan Library (KCL – private land)
24. The installations will be made up of several free-standing architectural structures, bespoke to suit the approved locations. Further information, including the concept which is based on parliamentary debate and dimensions for each installation can be viewed in [Appendices 4 and 5](#).
25. All sites have been assessed by the City Highways team and the private landowners. Planning permission is not required as the installations are in situ for under 28 days.
26. Funding has been confirmed with the City BIDs for the delivery of the installations. LFA and the City BIDs are responsible for the maintenance of the installations.
27. CAI recommends that applicant consult with the Corporation's access officer and the surrounding local businesses where the installations are situated. CAI members raised questions around access to power, maintenance, quality of the product and possibility of antisocial behaviour next to the pub in the London Wall location.
28. The CAI recommends the London Festival of Architecture application is approved by members subject to necessary permissions gained from Highways and feedback from Health and Safety. The recommendation is also subject to LFA providing appropriate reassurance to the points raised in paragraph 26.

### **Asphalt Art**

29. Bloomberg submitted an application to repaint the existing Yinka Illori Queen Street Mural on public highway in June 2024 as a part of a 3-year maintenance programme. See [Appendix 6](#) for details.
30. The Queen Street mural is located on the pedestrianised area, adjacent to the Bloomberg building. The mural was originally installed in 2021 as a part of Bloomberg's Asphalt Art Initiative. The original artwork was approved by CHL on 14 June 2021.
31. The original project delivered one colourful crossing outside Cannon Street Station and one larger-scale mural on the pedestrianised area of Queen Street, outside Bloomberg HQ. The mural on Queen Street is now in a poor condition, becoming faded, dirty and in some areas completely worn away. See [Appendix 7](#) for images of the current artwork condition and the original.
32. The mural will remain part of Bloomberg's global Asphalt Arts programme, driving profile and awareness of the City as a cultural and vibrant destination. It will be promoted across Bloomberg's and City of London channels.
33. Bloomberg Philanthropies will provide a grant to the City Corporation that cover all costs for the work, a grant agreement will be in place between Bloomberg and the City Corporation to ensure any potential increases in costs will be met by Bloomberg. The Destination City team will support in the delivery of the project by contracting the supplier and liaising with local stakeholders for the repaint in June 2024. The estimated time required to support the project for one officer in the Destination City is 0.1 FTE. Beyond June 2024, ongoing support and resource provided by the Destination City team will be determined and agreed subject to implementation of the Destination City Review recommendations.
34. This proposal outlines a 3-year maintenance plan for the artwork for regular cleaning and repainting to ensure quality and impact is retained. A regular schedule and description of works is outlined in [Appendix 7](#).
35. Discussions with Highways and Environmental Health regarding the works are already underway, a road safety audit has been completed (see [Appendix 9](#)). The original contractor is primed to complete the work subject to approval.
36. As part of the process of implementing the original artwork, comprehensive consultation was undertaken with the City of London Accessibility Group and other access organisations. In addition to this, an equalities analysis and equality action plan was also developed which can be viewed in [Appendices 10 and 11](#).
37. During the project, the GLA/TFL undertook research into the impact of colourful crossings for people with neurodiversity. During the research, a pause on the installation of colourful crossings in London was proposed by the Mayor of London. Due to this recommendation, the Asphalt Art programme was paused with only one colourful crossing installed.

38. The Queen Street mural was exempt from the above recommendation and was successfully installed in September 2021.
39. The GLA has confirmed its support for the Queen Street repaint. Stating that as this is maintenance of an existing artwork and it is not a crossing, there are no areas of contention from the GLA and that it does not infringe on TFL's research-based road crossings.
40. TFL has provided support and confirmed that the Queen Street mural does not fall under the mandated pause on colourful crossings.
41. The CAI recommends the Asphalt Art application is approved by members subject to necessary permissions gained from Highways, Planning and Environmental Health.

### **Options**

42. The CAI recommends proposals 1, 2,3 and 4 are approved by members subject to necessary permissions gained from Highways, Planning and Environmental Health and any other specified recommendations as outlined above.

### **Corporate & Strategic Implications**

43. Strategic implications – No strategic implications arise from the recommendations in this report.
44. Financial implications – The CAI application process ensures that projects have appropriate funding attached. Projects/installations are either funded externally by the applicant or project partner. If it is an internal project, funding will have been approved by CoL. This funding also includes all costs associated with maintenance.
45. Resource implications – Apart from officer time handling enquiries and managing the installations, there are no resource implications other than where specifically noted.
46. Legal implications – No legal implications arise from the recommendations in this report.
47. Risk implications – No risk implications arise from the recommendations in this report.
48. Equalities implications – Officers from Planning sit on the CAI and provide access advice within their feedback to applicants.
49. Climate implications - Across the project and alongside its suppliers, SITC ensures sustainable working practices. All artworks proposed for the 13<sup>th</sup> Edition originate in the UK, primarily within London, reducing the carbon footprint of the

project. Deinstallation and installation of the artworks are consolidated to ensure the most environmentally friendly approach, including transport, use/type of equipment and materials. Contracted suppliers have environmental and sustainability policies to ensure best practice is embedded. No other climate implications arise from the projects recommended in this report.

50. Security implications - No security implications arise from the recommendations in this report.

51. Health and Safety implications: All artworks are submitted to City Arts Initiative for approval are reviewed by the H&S office under the Deputy Town Clerk. A technical team and structural engineers carry out feasibility studies on all artworks to ensure viability including H&S. RAMS are submitted for all artworks and all licenses, permits and applications are applied for to gain relevant approvals from the City Corporation and landowners.

## **Conclusion**

52. This report summarises the discussions of the City Arts Initiative. It presents recommendations in relation to the public art applications considered on 18 April 2024.

## **Appendices**

- Appendix 1 - SitC 13th Edition presentation
- Appendix 2 - 40 Leadenhall Street - Lothar Goetz presentation
- Appendix 3 - 40 Leadenhall Street - Scar Wall CAI application
- Appendix 4 - LFA Navigating Change presentation.
- Appendix 5 - LFA Navigating Change supporting document
- Appendix 6 - CAI Application - Asphalt Art Queen Street Mural
- Appendix 7 – Asphalt Art Cleaning and Maintenance Programme
- Appendix 8 - Asphalt Art Queen Street images past and present
- Appendix 9 - Road Safety Advice - Queen Street Colourful Crossing
- Appendix 10 - Queen Street Crossing Equalities Analysis
- Appendix 11 - Queen Street Crossing Equalities Action Plan

## **Background Papers**

- Full details of the applications received by the City Arts Initiative are available on request from the Cultural Policy & Partnerships Officer.

### **Joanna Parker**

Principal Planning Officer, Environment and Chair of CAI

E: [joanna.parker@cityoflondon.gov.uk](mailto:joanna.parker@cityoflondon.gov.uk)

### **Luciana Magliocco**

Destination Director, Innovation & Growth

E: [luciana.magliocco@cityoflondon.gov.uk](mailto:luciana.magliocco@cityoflondon.gov.uk)