



September 7, 2021

Yesler Bridge Mural Project (west side of 4th Ave)

Description of Proposed Work

The Alliance for Pioneer Square, through the guidance of a community-led Public Realm Work Group, would like to implement a permanent mural on the west abutment wall of the Yesler bridge along 4th Ave in the Pioneer Square Historic District. The mural is intended to be a quality work of art that celebrates Pioneer Square's local culture and community for years to come.

The Public Realm Work Group is composed of Pioneer Square business owners, employees, and residents, who meet regularly to discuss public realm improvement projects for Pioneer Square. The group felt strongly that completing a public art project this year would be of great benefit to the neighborhood as we look toward economic recovery and beyond. Implementing a mural project seemed to be most feasible, given the project scope, timeline, and budget. The work group discussed possible mural locations and the Alliance reached out to a number of property owners in the neighborhood. The Yesler Bridge was selected because the Alliance for Pioneer Square was able to obtain permission from the property owner, the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT), and the western abutment wall is a good fit for the project scope, budget, and is located in Pioneer Square.

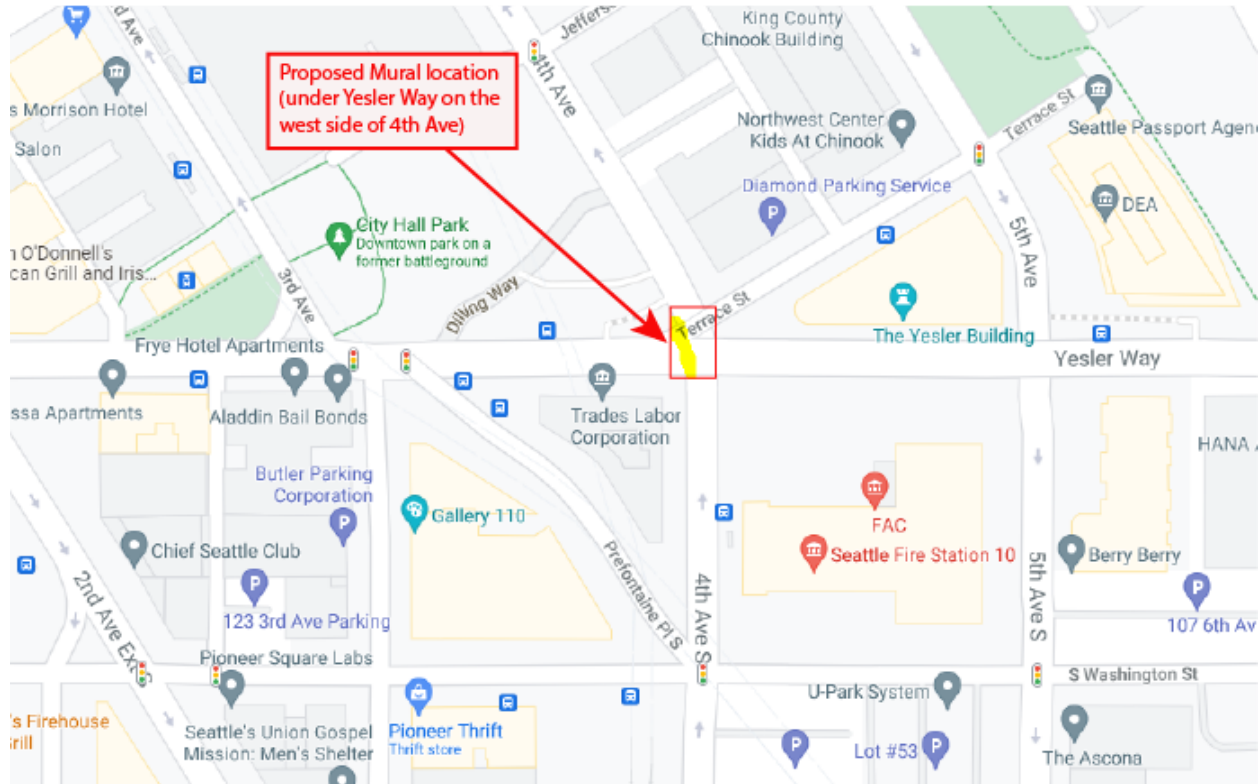
Additionally, the work group gave guidance as to what they would like to see reflected in the theme of the mural. Themes that rose to the top were Coast Salish Art, the Jazz Era, and the LGBTQ+ Community. It was also important to the group to not restrict the artist to a given theme, in order to make space for the artist's creative expression. In mid-July, the Alliance for Pioneer Square created an online public survey that gave an opportunity for the broader community to give input on a possible mural theme. Additional themes that rose to the top included The Gold Rush; Pioneer Square Arts; Seattle/Pioneer Square's music legacy; the natural environment/forests/Puget Sound; and PSQ history and industry. Again, these themes served merely a potential source of inspiration, and artists applying were not bound to these themes in any way.

The call for artists was open through early August 2021. We received 18 submissions. The Public Realm Work Group reviewed artist submissions and selected an artist. Implementation will likely include at least one volunteer painting day for the public to take part in the painting, under the direction of the selected artist.

The Alliance for Pioneer Square works to help preserve what makes Pioneer Square the most authentic, engaging and dynamic neighborhood in Seattle. Funding for this project was made possible by Historic South Downtown.

Set of Scale Drawing with all Dimensions Shown

Site Plan:



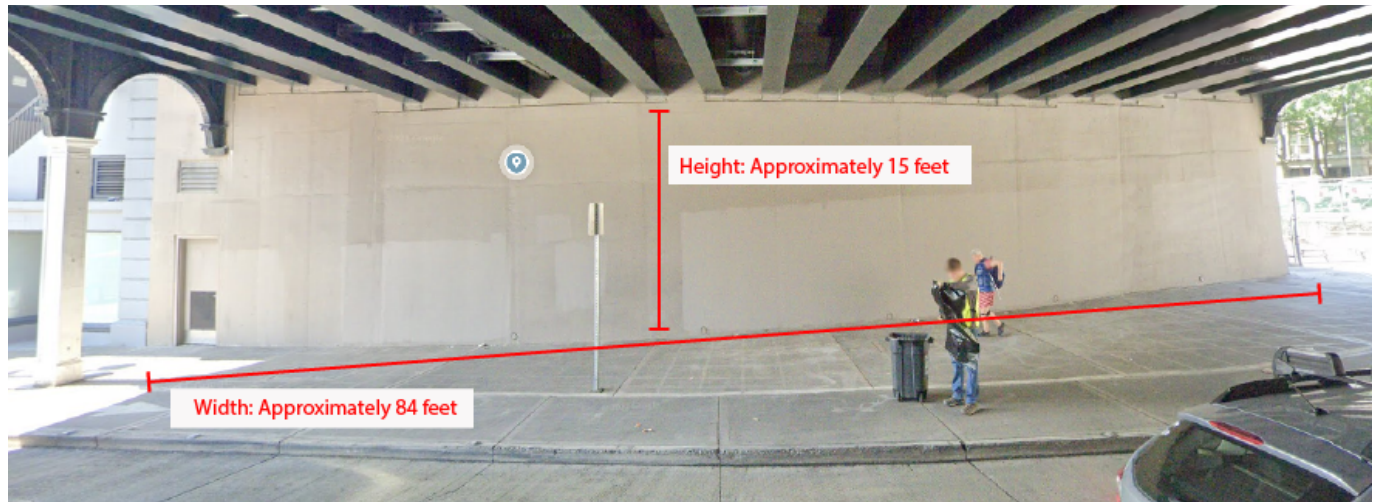
According to the Seattle Department of Transportation website, the Yesler Bridge was built in 1910, and is “one of the oldest permanent steel roadway bridges in the City of Seattle.” It was rehabilitated from 2016 to 2017 by the Seattle Department of Transportation. The west abutment wall was replaced during the rehabilitation.¹

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<https://www.seattle.gov/transportation/projects-and-programs/programs/bridges-stairs-and-other-structures/bridges/yesler-bridge-rehabilitation-project>

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The mural size will be approximately 84 by 15 feet (1,260 sq. ft.) as shown below:



Photograph showing the location of the proposed mural:



The new mural will be painted directly on the concrete wall surface. Although the wall is on a slope, the mural will extend to the bottom of the wall without losing the integrity of the design. The top will include an extension of the sky that will follow the uneven heights at the top of the wall, unless the Board prefers the mural is straight across the top. A clear anti-graffiti coating will be applied on top of the mural for ease of future maintenance.

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Photographs

Photo of the project site looking west across 4th Ave (captured Wednesday, August 4, 2021):



Photo of the project site looking north on 4th Ave (captured Wednesday, August 4, 2021):



Photo of the project site looking north on 4th Ave (captured Wednesday, August 4, 2021):

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Photo of the project site looking south on 4th Ave (captured Wednesday, August 4, 2021):

Materials, Colors and/or Finish Samples

Image of Mural Concept Design



Materials -Paint and an anti-graffiti clear coat.