



Rendering of the art site from the northeast viewpoint

Midland Library Gathering Circle Artwork Supplemental Materials

Site Address: Midland Library, 805 SE 122nd Ave, Portland, OR 97233

Project Scope: One artist/artist team will be selected to create a site-specific 2-dimensional wall-mounted artwork that will be installed on the north wall of the interior Gathering Circle, with the option to expand to the east wall of the space depending on the artist's vision and budget allocations

Project Budget: \$60,000

Deadline: Thursday, November 3, 2022 at 5:00pm PDT

More About the Library Capital Bond Projects

The renovation and expansion of Midland Library is part of the [first phase](#) of the [Library Capital Bond Projects](#). Approved by voters in 2020, the bond project will include expansions and renovations to seven branch libraries; building a destination library in East County; adding gigabit speed internet to all libraries; and creating a materials handling and distribution center, also known as the Operations Center.

[The new Multnomah County Library Operations Center](#) was the first real estate purchase for the bond. This building leads the way for the additional bond projects and will be located near the intersection of NE Glisan and NE 122nd Ave, approximately 8 blocks from Midland Library, in east Portland, Oregon. After the Operations Center, Midland Library will be one of the first locations to reopen, currently scheduled for late spring/early summer 2024. The interior Gathering Circle artwork at Midland Library is one of three public art elements intended for the new site.

Based on the [MCL project sequencing](#), all building projects are anticipated to be completed by the end of 2025. Some of the first projects include Albina, North Portland, Midland and Holgate libraries. In alignment with the [Capital Planning Project Principles](#) the architecture teams for all of these projects are being led by women of color.

Since the scope of the bond project is substantial and will impact different communities with different needs, MCL has made a strong [commitment to community engagement](#) throughout this process to ensure that each community will be authentically engaged in the building and service design of each library. Additionally, the bond project is being guided by the following library pillars: free access for all, a trusted guide for learning, the leading advocate for reading and a champion for equity and inclusion.

More About the Midland Library Project Team

As part of the Library Capital Bond Projects, Midland Library renovations are being led by Multnomah County Library. Construction is being overseen and coordinated in conjunction with [Swinerton](#), specifically the local Portland office. RACC is stewarding the public art elements allocated by Multnomah County's Percent for Art Program.

The Midland Library design team includes [Bora Architecture & Interiors](#) and [Colloqate Design](#). Bora believes in design as an expression of care. They are committed to creating authentic, inclusive and healthy places that unite people and the planet. Colloqate is a nonprofit [Design Justice](#) practice focused on building spaces of racial, social, and cultural justice.

The whole design team is committed to the principles of Design Justice. The team believes that to design is to have an unyielding faith in the potential for a just society. It is an act of individual and collective hope that has the potential to express collective values and amplify community power through the processes and outcomes of design. However, historically, the design profession has excluded justice and equity as part of the design process and has further marginalized the very groups who are most experienced to speak for their communities' needs.

Because of this, community engagement has been and will continue to be a central component of this project. Many members of communities who will be served by this new library space have raised art as an opportunity to build a sense of belonging and representation.

Community Engagement and Participatory Design

Colloqate Design, the project design lead, is also steering the community engagement effort and is able to support an artist/artist team in their public meeting and design review process by sharing information about artist-led sessions through their communication channels. Depending on availability, this may include connecting with the library's cultural advocates, We Speak Your Language staff, location staff and other possibilities through online outreach.

The design team is also able to reach out to the Community Design Advocates (CDAs) who worked on the project and are able to spread the word to their communities. Several of these advocates have expressed interest in staying involved in the art process on this project. If the artist/artist team would be interested in connecting with these advocates to support their work, we can reach out to gauge interest.

In addition to the public art funded through RACC, Colloqate Design is working on the design for textured patterning on the exterior of the building and will be facilitating a workshop around patterns and textures around August 2022. They will share information from this workshop with all artists/artist teams working on installations for Midland Library.

As a result of the community engagement sessions that have already taken place, the overall design concept for Midland Library is weaving. A visual representation of this concept can be found [here](#).

So far, some of the significant input received from the community about their desires for this renovated space and public resource, includes:

- Create comfort by welcoming patrons through seeing their own culture and identity represented in the space through color, words and art
- Include people who have often been left out of the cultural narratives seen in space
- Create opportunities for learning across cultures and identities that help build community and understanding among different people
- Engage patrons with art that has expressive colors
- Embed relevant stories and histories
- Create community ownership by having community members involved in the creation of the art rather than art being selected behind closed doors

Site Plans and Other Resources

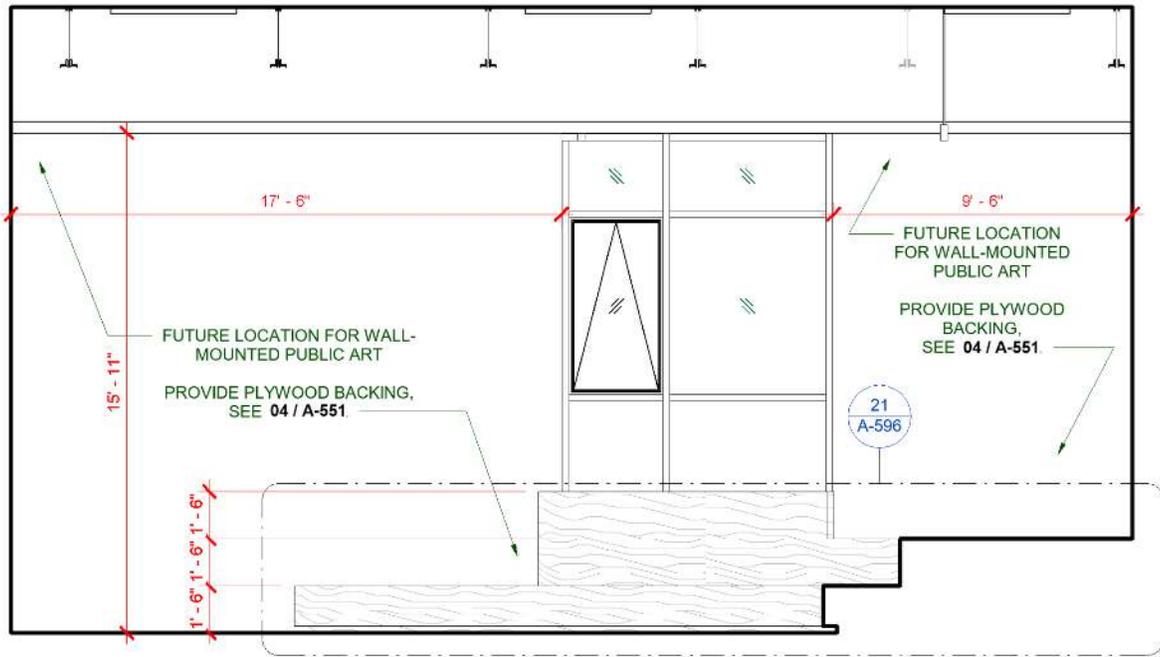
[Midland Library Revised Site Plan – Full](#)

[Midland Library Gathering Circle](#)

[More information on Trauma-Informed Design](#)

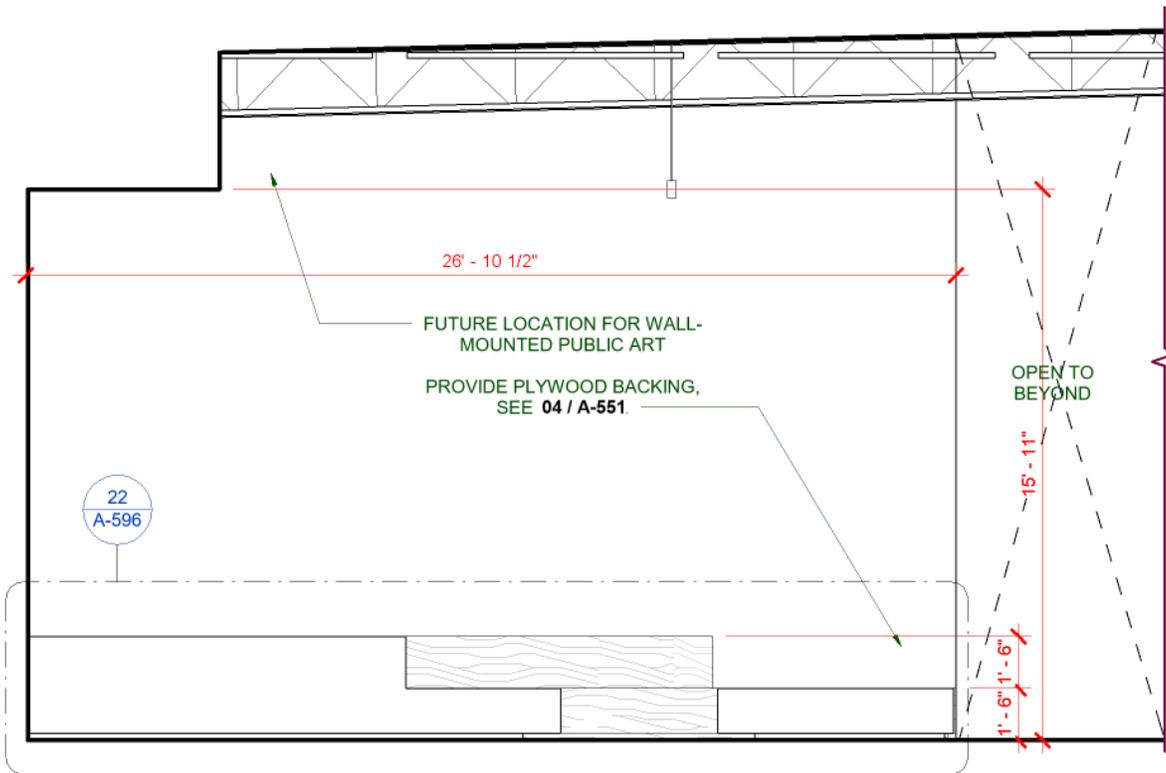
More About the Project Site

Below are images of the art site from different viewpoints.



31 INTERIOR ELEVATION - GATHERING CIRCLE - NORTH
1/4" = 1'-0"

Rendering of the art site, north elevation



11 INTERIOR ELEVATION - GATHERING CIRCLE - EAST
1/4" = 1'-0"

Rendering of the art site, east elevation