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Press Release

Foothill Gold Line Issues Public Call for Pomona Residents to Be Featured in Future Pomona Station Artwork

Public artwork at future Pomona Gold Line station seeks to permanently highlight inspirational Pomona residents

MONROVIA, Calif. – The Foothill Gold Line Construction Authority (Construction Authority) is issuing a public call for nominations for Pomona residents, past and present, to be featured in the artwork of the future Pomona Gold Line station, which is part of the 9.1-mile, four-station Foothill Gold Line light rail extension from Glendora to Pomona. The campaign is part of the public artwork plan developed by the city-selected station artist, Stephen Farley, who seeks to highlight Pomona residents who served as inspirations in the community.

"Other cities have a hall of fame, but the future Pomona Gold Line light rail station will have a hall of gratitude," stated Farley. "Who inspired you? For whom are you grateful? Who changed your life? This art project is designed to connect us to our past and our future, generating a renewable source of people power for positive change."

Words expressing the power of these people will be exhibited alongside their photos. An example could be: "Norma showed me the power of love". The artwork will be fabricated on glazed ceramic tile, using the Tilography process. Pairs of people and statements will be included on railings and other locations around the future Pomona station.

Stephen was selected by the city of Pomona's Station Design and Art Review (SDAR) Committee in 2005 to be the station artist for the future Pomona Gold Line station, based upon his preliminary design concept. Over the past decade, Stephen has worked closely with the SDAR Committee and Pomona community to refine his station artwork plan before having it approved and integrated into the future Pomona station plans.

Members of the public can submit their nominations online, as well as learn more about the station artwork, at www.pomonapeoplepower.com. Submissions are due by October 31, 2020. The Construction Authority will make an announcement by mid-2023 on who will be selected to be permanently featured in the public artwork at the future Pomona station.

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About the Foothill Gold Line Construction Authority – The Foothill Gold Line Construction Authority is an independent transportation planning and construction agency created in 1998 by the California State Legislature to plan, design and build the Metro Gold Line light rail system from Union Station to Montclair, along the Foothills of the San Gabriel Valley. The agency completed the first segment from Union Station to Pasadena in 2003 and the Pasadena to Azusa segment in 2015; both on time and under budget. The agency began work on the Glendora to Montclair segment in 2003. The Glendora to Montclair segment was environmentally cleared in March 2013 under CEQA and again in 2019 to allow the potential for phased construction. The project completed advanced conceptual engineering in 2016. When completed, the extension will add new light rail stations in the cities of Glendora, San Dimas, La Verne, Pomona, Claremont and Montclair. The project may need to be built in phases, due to funding constraints. Major construction on project segment from Glendora to Pomona began in July and is anticipated to be completed in 2025. If additional funding is secured by October 2021, the entire segment from Glendora to Montclair will be completed altogether by 2028.

The project is being built in Los Angeles and San Bernardino Counties. The Los Angeles County portion will be funded mostly by Measure M, with residual funds from Measure R not used to complete the Pasadena to Azusa segment. San Bernardino County is responsible to fund their portion of the project to Montclair (in San Bernardino County). The State of California is also providing \$300 million in funding through a TIRCP grant awarded in 2018.

About Stephen Farley – A native of Pomona Valley, Stephen Farley is an accomplished artist based in Tucson, Arizona. He has an extensive resume of community-based public art projects across the U.S. His current work includes creating varied art features at the two main light-rail stations in Downtown Phoenix. He invented a new process for translating photographs to ceramic tile called tilography, which he has used for two four-story murals at the One University Government Center in Broward County, Florida, and 18 large vertical murals at the Gardner Community Center in San Jose, California.

Stephen graduated from Williams College in Williamstown, Massachusetts with a B.A. in political science. He studied abroad his junior year at the American University in Cairo, Egypt.