

## City Hall Décor Survey

The City Council will be considering options regarding wall and/or display case displays of historic artifacts and photos (from the archives in the History Room) in the “public” areas of City Hall (i.e., first floor lobby, second floor public hallway outside the Council Chambers and EOC, third floor hallways). This would not include departmental or private offices. Some of the Council members like the pristine and clean look of the new walls, but they have asked for feedback about this idea from the employees who use these facilities on a regular basis. Your feedback on the following questions will be helpful in their deliberations. Note that if there is a consensus to do something on the walls, a plan would be developed, and there will be uniformity in the display (e.g., uniform frames, etc). Please respond by September 1<sup>st</sup>.

Would you support a display of historic photos on the walls of the areas noted above?

Would you support such a display in other areas, such as the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor conference room?

Would you support a display of other-than-historic items (i.e., other types of paintings/artwork?)

Would you support having one or more display cases containing historic archival items other than photos (there's likely room for this only on the third floor).

If you support any or all of the ideas above, what parameters should be set (i.e., only on certain walls, or throughout)?

If you support any or all of the ideas above, do you have any concerns regarding such a display?

What do you think about the tree sculpture (i.e., its location on the third floor, or its placement in City Hall at all)?

If you don't support any of the ideas above, why not? (Feel free to be candid.)

Add any comments.....

Your name/department is optional:

City Hall Survey Results

<i>Historic Display?</i>	<i>Conference Room?</i>	<i>Other-than-historic docs?</i>	<i>Display cases?</i>	<i>Parameters?</i>	<i>Any concerns?</i>	<i>Tree sculpture comments?</i>	<i>Don't support? Why not?</i>	<i>Additional comments</i>	<i>Your name/department is optional</i>
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Doesn't matter to me if its only on certain walls or throughout	No	It's fine			Jason Eggers, I.T. Dept
Yes	Yes	Not at this time. I think the historic theme is good. Areas could maybe be "categorized" so there's an area for "downtown photos", Ralston Hall, schools, etc.	OK idea, but who would be in charge of it and who would decide what goes in it? I wouldn't want to see too many cases as I think it would be too much clutter.	I think throughout is OK, and there should be options for department offices if they'd like some photos, too.	Make sure it looks nice. Who is going to pay for the framing and all that? And who is going to hang everything? Would it be a changing display or a permanent?	I think it should be moved back to the lobby where it started. It's lost on the 3 <sup>rd</sup> floor.		I think this is a great opportunity to showcase some of the historic photos I know are available. It's not just for us employees, but for all the visitors we have in city hall. It helps with the pride of the community. The walls are so bare and sterile, it feels like a hospital sometimes. I think the council photos in the main lobby should be moved to one of the hallways outside the Council Chambers. Thank you city council for asking for our opinion.	(No name)
								I would like a mixture of	

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								both. I think that City history is important or photos of the past would be good in certain areas. I also believe that art in certain areas of City Hall would be great. It would give some personality to the building.	
Yes	Yes, but it might be distracting if one is conducting a serious meeting	Yes, if tasteful.	No	Around the elevator because it is a larger space	Who will be doing the deciding/choosing? Art is so subjective.	It's Okay.			
Yes	Yes	Possibly	Yes	Combination of wall and display	No	I don't like its current location		I think this building is a bit too sterile and it would definitely benefit from something on the walls, display cases, etc. Historical photos and artifacts are a great choice.	Kevin Daley Police Department
Very much so. I feel there is enough wall displays in the main	Only if there are enough historical photos to go around. I prefer his-	On the 2 <sup>nd</sup> floor is ok.	Only if that means in addition to wall décor and if the dis-	Hallways throughout the 3 <sup>rd</sup> floor.	My only concern is the display cases and the size of them.	I like it on the 3 <sup>rd</sup> floor.		Please don't neglect the 3 <sup>rd</sup> floor. I would like to think that the 3 <sup>rd</sup> floor is just as	

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lobby. I would like to see displays of pictures on the 3 <sup>rd</sup> floor because I feel the majority of the staff works on the 3 <sup>rd</sup> floor, and employees other than police are restricted on the 2 <sup>nd</sup> floor.	toral photos in the hallways, especially on the 3 <sup>rd</sup> floor.		play cases match and look nice.					important as the Permit Center and PD.	
Second and third floors only	No	Yes	No	See above (2 <sup>nd</sup> /3 <sup>rd</sup> floors only)	No	Fine	I prefer clean, framed pictures and art. Often we have non-complimentary items leading to clutter.		
Yes	Yes	In some areas	Yes. Someone would need to ensure the displays change frequently or they become an eyesore.	They should be somewhat uniform and changed frequently.	They should be somewhat uniform and changed frequently	No opinion			Ed Wood, PD
Yes	Yes	Depends on type and amount. Who picks? Would it be rotated between different displays?	Yes	It would be good if there were Dept. specific items in or outside that dept (i.e.	Too much or cluttered.			I think that adding these items would make the City Hall less sterile, and re-	

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				old DPW items in/outside DPW)				mind everyone of our history.	
Yes, absolutely	Not a high priority	No	One case would work	Don't overdo it. Maybe start in a specific area, see how it works and expand incrementally.	Have a uniform framing system & don't do it on the cheap.	Fine with me where it is.			Karl Mittelstadt
Yes	Yes	Local artist, maybe	Yes	Throughout	Less is better	Ugly			
Yes	No	No	Yes	Not on the main lobby walls	No "PC"	Great			Michael Gorman, Permit Center
Yes	Yes	No	No	Building maintenance, maybe		Move to library?			
Every day the Permit Center staff receives compliments on how beautiful our lobby and permit center are. I believe what contributes to that opinion is the clean elegance of the wood paneling, tiled floor and generous counter space. In	Relative to the other areas under consideration (2 <sup>nd</sup> floor and 3 <sup>rd</sup> floor), I am in support of the use of those walls for artifacts and photos. I enjoy the photos of the past mayors on the wall outside the Council Chambers. A similar, linear display is appropriate.	I enjoyed the artwork that was periodically displayed on the 3 <sup>rd</sup> floor for several years. I would support such a display on the 3 <sup>rd</sup> floor.	Yes	If the arrangement of the pieces was coherent and space was afforded between each piece, I would support using all the walls on the 3 <sup>rd</sup> floor. In museums, when there is too much on display, it can be overwhelming and your eye has difficulty focusing on any one piece. I		I like the piece and I believe its presence is consistent with this community's commitment to trees, especially native oaks. The one issue I have always had trouble reconciling is how it came to be here, as a result of development. It seems a bit patronizing; having said		That's my two cents, for what it is worth. I really appreciate the opportunity to voice my opinion. It is extremely considerate to involve staff in this way.	

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general, it is the uncluttered appearance that allows one to enjoy the architecture of the space and the good choices the Council made in the selection of materials. Also, additional photographs would diminish the display of the photos of the elected officials. Please leave it as it is.				would limit the 2 <sup>nd</sup> floor to civic related photographs.		that the beauty of the piece overcomes that one negativity.			
Yes, but be careful not to overcrowd the photos.	Yes, but be careful not to overcrowd the photos.	No	Yes, if done with matching cases.	Having one qualified person handle the project. Don't just start hanging photos without a plan.	I would just like to see it done tactfully and thoughtfully.				Tony Psaila – Police Department
Not on the first floor. Only thing there should be are hours of opera-	The walls there? Okay.	No	Yes		Just don't overdo it. You don't have to fill up every wall.	Where else would it go? The library? People don't understand the signifi-		I really liked that seating area when it was set up against the wall and under	Barbara Ebel, Public Works/Permit Center

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tion.						cant of the sculpture (that it is from the old oak tree removed when the Safeway was rebuilt, Ruth Waters was commissioned by the City to make a sculpture of the tree and this is that sculpture), maybe we could have an engraved plaque made.		the television. It's now an obstacle course for people going to the PD. I suggested we move it back there permanently.	
Yes	No	Yes	Yes	I don't think there should be any more items on the 2 <sup>nd</sup> floor or in the lobby on the 1 <sup>st</sup> floor. On the 3 <sup>rd</sup> floor, I like the pristine walls, but to have specified walls with historic photos and/or rotating artwork would be nice. <u>Not all over the walls that would look cluttered;</u> but certain walls	No	I like it... I like where it is on the 3 <sup>rd</sup> floor, I like the angle it sits, and I like the description on the wall next to it. I vote to keep the sculpture			Joni Stallings, City Manager's office

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				only... leaving some walls pristine and white and empty					
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes			It can go away		Anything Ok as long as not cluttered	Kelsey Mathias, Permit Center
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Throughout	No	It is fine where it is located			Public Works
No	No	No	Yes	Display cases only, nothing on walls	Classy display cases	How about the library?			
Yes	Yes	Depending on the style/type, I think it should have some relevance to the area...native American art, Italian mountain/landscape scenes. Belmont in Italian translates to beautiful mountain.	Yes	I like consistency and symmetrical layouts. Same size frames, good lighting, and plenty of white space, to showcase the art.	Not really, just some thought about security/vandalism...should be little to none if this is on the third floor.	Not aware of the tree sculpture...I better pay attention.		I think it's important to create a warm and welcoming atmosphere for our visitors at City Hall... especially in the administrative areas. Historical displays communicate a sense of pride and illustrate progress as our community continues to grow and change from what Belmont was in the past to where we are in the present	Adam Politzer, Parks and Recreation

People who did not fill out the survey but provided comments:

- Good questionnaire. I think art is super controversial right now as far as what is deemed appropriate as 'art'. Who would decide what's appropriate, without offending or discriminating? I think Council needs to be clear on what is the purpose of the display. So what historical photos would be included? Limiting how many would be good. I like the tree sculpture and it has significance, so I vote for it there. Lots of potential issues, but it would be nice to have some interest on the walls.
- I think it's a fantastic idea to have displays throughout city hall. Currently, it looks like an institution and is very stark.
- I think a few historic items and photos would be great. The tree sculpture I couldn't care less about.
- I don't have a strong opinion either way on historic artifacts and photos and public art in City Hall, as long as it's not tacky and doesn't detract from the aesthetics of the interior of the building. Actually, I think it's kind of cool to display items representing our past. The exception is, I think Room 360 is meant for City business meetings and should have none or very limited artifacts, photos and no public art. I'm fine either way with the tree sculpture in or out of City Hall.





