

CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

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REBECCA RHYNHART
Budget Director

April 30, 2014

The Honorable Darrell Clarke
City Council President
City Hall, Room 490
Philadelphia, PA 19107

Dear Council President Clarke:

This letter is in response to a question raised at the March 31st, 2014 hearing before the Committee of the Whole on the Fiscal Year 2015 budget for the Mural Arts Program by Councilwoman Bass and was also asked separately by Councilwoman Sanchez at an earlier meeting. The question was recorded as follows:

Can you provide guidance on what, if any, Mural Arts work could be capital eligible?

The Budget Office has reviewed this and has come to the conclusion that Mural Arts planters and benches can be capital eligible and purchased with General Obligation (GO) bonds provided that they are part of a larger capital project that included standard benches and planters in the original project scope. For example, a playground site improvement project may purchase mural arts benches if benches were in the original scope and design of the site improvement project. The benches and planters must be on City-owned property. Mural arts benches or planters are ineligible for GO bonds on a standalone basis. Murals are not capital eligible. All other capital eligibility guidelines apply. Attached to this response are pictures of a planter and two different Mural Arts benches.

When planters or benches are created for the project, Mural Arts will work with the appropriate city leadership on both the design and materials that will be used. Materials will be selected based on a number of factors including considerations of safety, durability and maintenance. Mural Arts will address the maintenance responsibility on a case by case basis in the MOU that is established for each project. For example, if it's a bench or planter that is easily maintained by the Parks and Recreation Department, it will be stated that the Department of Parks and Recreation will absorb those costs and the responsibility into their maintenance budget. If the nature of the project will require specialized

expertise in terms of skill and materials not routinely in the agency's budget, the Mural Arts Program will absorb that cost and the contractual agreement will reflect that role and responsibility. Prior to the purchase of a mural arts structure a defined maintenance plan will need to be established. GO bonds cannot be used for maintenance.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions you may have about the information provided in this response.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rebecca Rhynhart', with a stylized, cursive script.

Rebecca Rhynhart
Budget Director

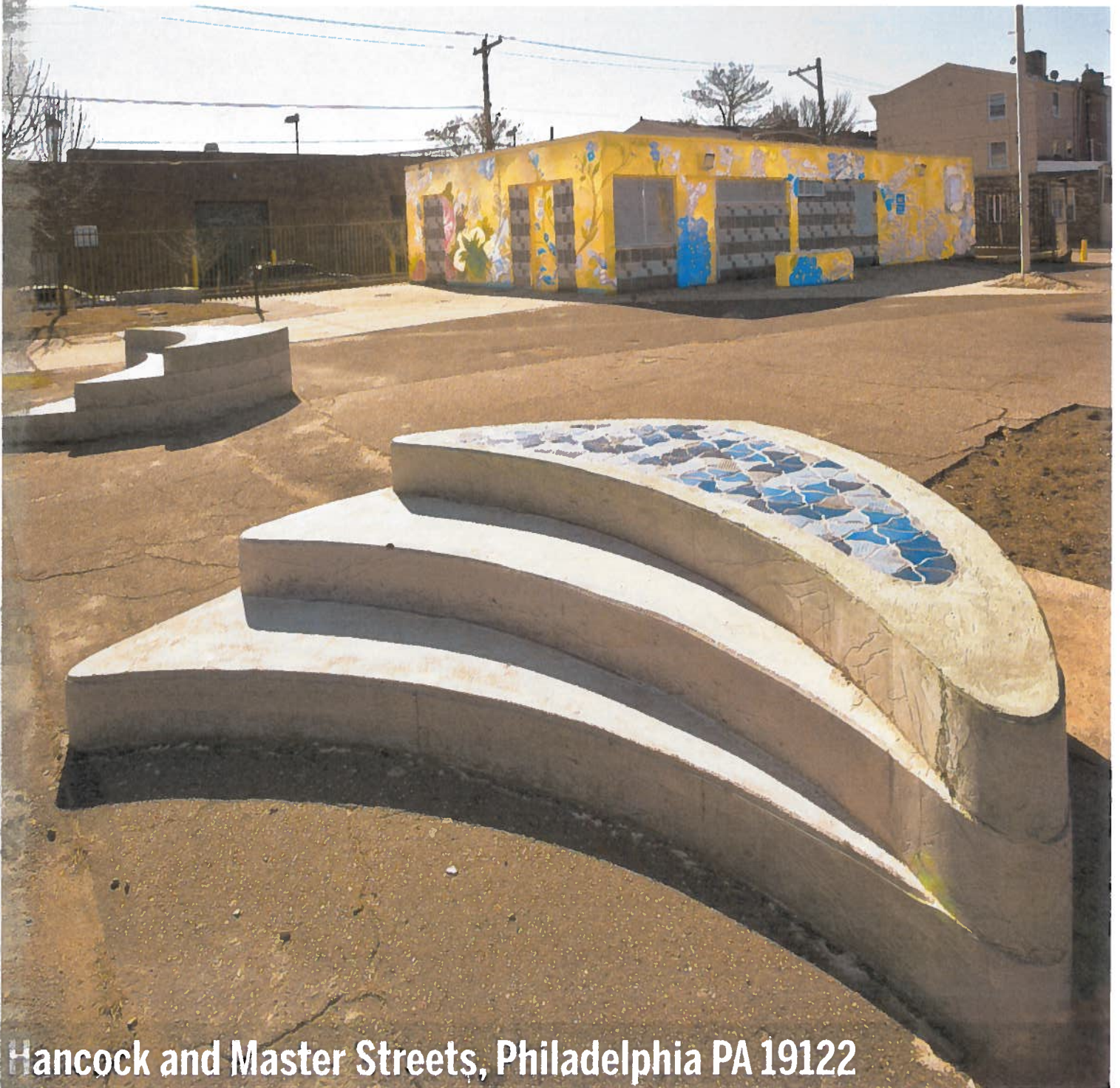
cc: Everett Gillison, Chief of Staff
 Mike DiBerardinis, Deputy Mayor Environmental & Community Resources, Parks and Recreation
 Commissioner
 Rob Dubow, Director of Finance
 Bridget Greenwald, Commissioner Public Property
 Jane Golden, Executive Director, Mural Arts Program
 Nicole McCormac, Deputy Budget Director
 Fiona Greig, Deputy Budget Director
 Patrick Morgan, Chief of Staff for Deputy Mayor Environmental & Community Resources



DECORATIVE BENCHES

\$825 EACH | PLASTIC BENCH | VINYL WRAP





Hancock and Master Streets, Philadelphia PA 19122

CEMENT “STOOP” BENCHES

\$5,000 | CEMENT | MOSAIC



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MOSAIC PLANTERS

\$5,000 | CEMENT | MOSAIC