



Fire Station #4 Public Artwork Theme- Community Opinion Survey

Survey Results
FINAL

06/23/2026

Q1. How interested would you be in seeing artwork at Fire Station #4 that focuses on wildfire, community resilience, and fire adapted landscaping?

Number of votes per option:

Very interested	47% (74)
Somewhat interested	22% (35)
Neutral	13% (20)
Not very interested	5% (8)
Not interested at all	13% (21)

Q2. How important are the following elements to you in the artwork for Fire Station #4?

Percent of votes per option:

Question	Essential	Very important	Somewhat important	Not at all important	Don't know
A design that is meaningful for the firefighters who work at the station	36%	31%	19%	11%	2%
Educational elements about living with wildfire	13%	33%	28%	23%	3%
Themes of reflection, healing, or resilience	10%	26%	28%	34%	1%
Interactive or hands on features	3%	8%	27%	55%	8%
Fire adapted landscaping or natural components	18%	31%	30%	18%	3%

Expand all / Collapse all

Essential Very important Somewhat important Not at all important Don't know

A design that is meaningful for the firefighters who work at the station

36% 31% 19% 11%

Educational elements about living with wildfire

13% 33% 28% 23%

Themes of reflection, healing, or resilience

10% 26% 28% 34%

Interactive or hands on features

8% 27% 55% 8%

Fire adapted landscaping or natural components

18% 31% 30% 18%

Q3. In your own words, what aspects of living with wildfire do you feel are most important for this artwork theme to highlight?

Text Responses:

NA

Reflecting on what we went through during all our fires beginning with the first fire that burned LA mountain in the early 50s

Threats to dwellings. Complexity of interventions.

Resilience

Somehow evoke the memory of May, 2000 to never forget the bravery and commitment of our firefighters.

How life continues, and how to prevent them in the future.

Feels funny to focus on wildfire when firefighters are so important

How to harden area around your property.

Appreciating their habits

Be responsible with your own property

Make our houses and gardens fire safe

I've lived through 7 wildfires near here. Every last one of them involved human errors.

Not to spend too much money that could go to the wildfire assistance. Less construction overall would be better all around White Rock

Don't buy art with my tax money!

Survival

The challenge to the firefighters working on a wildfire.

Quit wasting money on artworks, you have more pressing issues to address

the recovery

Artwork about wildfires, really

Fire prevention through landscape, water catchment to preserve public water for firefighting, living at the wildfire interface, go-bag checklist, egress routes

The community's thankfulness to Los Alamos EMTs and firemen keeping us safe.

The service of the firefighters.

Co-existing with fire

There is no memorial to the post-Cerro Grande fire community recovery effort and this might be a chance to create one.

Camp fires need to be stressed

I believe the artwork should emphasize coexistence with wildfire through respect for the natural role of fire, stewardship of the land, and community preparedness. Rather than focusing on destruction and recovery, it should highlight the knowledge, planning, and collaboration that help people live safely in a fire-adapted landscape. The theme should reflect respect for both the environment and the firefighters and land managers who help communities prepare for and respond to wildfire.

Regrowth

Wildfire is a natural occurrence that we need to live with - prepare for, help nature recover in appropriate ways, and mitigate the because of fire suppression that has increased potential for large fires.

Resilience and regrowth

The indigenous people had this figured out long ago. the white man is still learning.

How best to keep informed?

Ready, Set, Go

Regrowth of nature after a wildfire. Destructive yet necessary.

Live with it without drama. It's part of life in Los Alamos.

If it's art, none at all.

Thinning brush and vegetation close to buildings

Fire is natural.

Preparedness, renewal

Understanding the different stages of fire restrictions or defensive landscaping.

property maintenance to prevent spread

prevention and resilience

You're asking the wrong question. It should be "Should there be any artwork?" Answer: NO.

Being prepared today but also plan for future needs such as evacuation routes

Fire-adapted landscaping and defensible space.

The idea of knowing what to do to prevent wildfires and then how to act when there is a wildfire happening nearby. Education of the public will help reduce the feeling of helplessness and confusion when there is an emergency.

The courage of firefighters and resilience of citizens.

leave the artwork out, so it won't be destroyed by fire!

Not necessary

I think artwork has no place in a fire station. It is a waste of money that should go to making the new station as efficient as possible!

I think it's a waste of tax payer's money,

Rebirth and regrowth

Wildfire is an important part of a healthy forest - a forest out of balance (due to fire suppression) is prone to catastrophic fires.

I think themed artwork is a waste of money

Rejuvenation

Clearing the area around your home from flammable materials.

preparedness

Prevention. Perhaps show a healthy forest scene as opposed to an overgrown one.

the work that firefighters do before, during and after wildfires, including Air Tankers, Helitack, Hotshots, Engines, hand crews.

Abstractly include both the safety and protection from wildfire while recognizing the regenerative aspects of wildfire. For example, periodic fires over the millennia have been shown as necessary for healthy forests.

Prevention and fire safety awareness

Recovery and prevention

How to create firewise residential neighborhoods.

Keeping trees alive in an era of drought

Preparedness

Preparedness

Planning, so each Community is kept informed of where the Fire is in relation to their location. Planned wildfire protection and community wide training programs that could include emergency electronic communication systems, county signs identifying planned/timed evacuations/mapped evacuation routes (roads, trails, emergency air lift locations, emergency medical treatment locations), instructions of what happens if children are in schools and parents are at work when the evacuation is ordered, where do the parents pick up their children, do the schools, daycare facilities, eldercare facilities have clear PLANS that align with the County planning? Are the release of children coordinated with the County Planning Program? Plan...Plan... PLAN for each area of town to make sure evacuation of residents starts with the areas that are in the closest path of the oncoming fire to be evacuated first. Cerro Grande Fire (CGF) examples that clearly explain the situations that citizens faced from human emotional and physical responses to illnesses that resulted from the devastation caused by the CGF; to evacuating a familiar County and returning to a totally different County to face the loss of the beautiful natural areas and familiar properties that burned; the damaged or destroyed homes; loss of cherished personal pictures/memorabilia; emotional support was essential for each person/family/friends that experienced the CGF, while rebuilding homes and lives over the next several years.

Prevention — urban planning, interface education, and acknowledgment of climate change, droughts, and rising temperatures.

Informing people about how we can take action to reduce warming and droughts (reduce carbon emissions, support the Climate Action Plan), prevention, education, our beautiful and natural landscapes.

How to live safely in a beautiful area that is surrounded by trees- I would incorporate the trees and trails found near this station

Extinguishing camp fires completely, no fireworks, trimming trees up to 10 ft, keeping areas around homes free of combustible material.

I don't think "wildfire" should be the "art" theme. Elements such as bravery, sympathy, restoration can be subtle reminders of the valiant efforts of the firemen. Like the statue at Ashley Pond on the Central avenue side of the young lady on a tree stump.

I do not feel the artwork needs to or shoule highlight living with wildfire. (We do get enough reminders elsewhere. I prefer nature scenes, natural beauty, etc.

We live in a wilderness and wildfire can be managed well for the health of the environment

Important

NA

Consideration of the wildlife that is effected by threat of wildfire (which tugs at people's hearts) to help encourage folks to adapt their own landscape to prevent spread of fire locally.

we don't need any art work at the fire station. It is not an art gallery.

Resilience

I do not believe the art should focus on wildfire.

That fire is a part of our lives in Los Alamos

I do not support this at all. I think this is a waste of money. No one will ever see this art work. Save the money

Living with wildfire is a normal part of life here

Why can't a fire station just look like a fire station? We don't need it all covered in paintings.

Not about wild fires.

Who and why would anyone besides firefighters see this art??????????????????

Firefighters should be honored first, then community human and wildlife resilience. The new Justice Center-style mosaic for the fire station would honor community by engaging community.

The fire resiliency of the nature here, and the ponderosa pines.

Q4. Thinking about the proposed theme overall, how appealing do you find the direction of this concept?

Number of votes per option:

Very appealing	33% (52)
Somewhat appealing	24% (38)
Neutral	19% (30)
Not very appealing	8% (12)
Not appealing at all	15% (24)

Q5. Is there anything you feel is missing from the proposed theme that should be considered?

Text Responses:

- NA
- No, I think it is fun.
- Nothing missing.
- no
- focus on the work of the firefighters
- Some sort of acknowledgment of the men and women who serve in LAFD.
- Perhaps find ways to illustrate the bonds between wildlife, flora and vegetation, and humanity
- A living/live element (water, plants, sound). And elements that engage all of the senses.
- I would like to see beautiful artwork that captures the essence of our surroundings. The scars are there on the landscape, but as with our bodies, scars heal. We need to help people heal, not reimagine the painful reminders of 25 years ago.
- Celebrate the firefighter
- Fire
- Community is probably more important than individual
- The heroic efforts of our firefighters is lacking in this proposal. They work hard to serve the community and protect everyone
- Why is the county insisting on art displays at all their facilities. How about using this money and clean up county property to reduce fire risks.
- Logic
- no
- Honoring our firemen
- No
- The danger of forest fires and our history in this town of dealing with them.
- Does is have to be a dreary topic like wildfire? Why not something artistic that just enhances the new building sustainability
- forget it. This is a Fire Station, not the Louvre.
- Quit wasting money on artworks, you have more pressing issues to address
- Music on the Rocks
- N/A
- What about the animals that are victims of a wildfire.
- It seems a bit ambiguous.
- Appreciation for cross-cultural nature of our area and cross-cultural cooperation and assistance during disasters
- Los Alamos thankfulness to our EMTs and firefighters! Honoring them.
- No
- No
- I would encourage a greater focus on coexistence with wildfire rather than recovery from wildfire. In particular, I would like the artwork to highlight respect for fire’s natural role in the ecosystem, the shared responsibility of preparedness and stewardship, and the long history of people living with fire in and around our community. I also hope the artwork reflects the unique character of Los Alamos and inspires visitors to see themselves as active participants in creating a fire-adapted community.
- A whole new thing.
- It would be great if, somehow, a depiction could be made of the indigenous teaching the white folk how to take care of the forest.
- Make it simple! Ro much art and signs in town.
- You’re putting resources into a non- necessity. 🙄
- Yes.
- Working with fire department outreach opportunities

Why do we need artwork at the fire station? Do our firefighters want the public coming by to look at the artwork?

No

Firefighter’s interest in the proposed theme. They have to live with it.

Education of wildfires.

Are there any examples to view?

nature

Not having it at all.

Resilience during and after

Some past history and feeling of loss of safety, security, and property that old time residents have had to deal with.

intelligence and common sense!!!

No

No

Not doing it at all and save thousands of \$

A 20 ft tall phoenix

No theme, just a functional fire station

Can we have Smokey Bear in there somewhere? He is a native New Mexican.

Nothing specific.

honoring firefighters in the other roles they perform in our community that are not fire related such as checking on the elderly, first responders to people in distress, encountering mental health issues, and as heroes and in outreach to children

Pride for firefighters and our great nation USA!

No

Don’t know.

It’s a city fire station, not a hot shot station

No

No

I have lived in Los Alamos for over 30 years and commented on many plans for the County. I do not feel "Heard" by many County Government employees on County Projects. This is certainly not true of all County Employees. Many County Employees are very hard working and consistently helpful to County citizens. However, some County Employees certainly seem to feel that they do not actually work for the people of this County, but they actually work for the County Manager, the Community Planners, etc. I propose a Public Artwork Theme that clarifies who all Employees of the County actually work to serve in the Los Alamos County community. When a citizen asks a County employee for clarification on a question about, "How can a citizen participate in their Los Alamos County Government?" The answer should not be, "You need to go hire an attorney and ask that Attorney about how a citizen can participate in their Los Alamos County Government."

Need to remember our fire station staffs do more than wildfire fighting and prevention; they also respond to emergency calls, serve as paramedics, and deal with other safety issues in Los Alamos.

no

instead of a piece of art, it would be good to include possible architectural elements; we don't have anything like that in the collection

Why have art of disaster when art of recovery, enjoyment of a natural beauty and other pleasant thoughts is uplifting and can be mixed with the current sign showing current Fire Threat. It really should be about the people who help when there is a fire.

No. It is the theme itself I do not support.

I don't think it should be about wildfire at all

NA

I'm conflicted because I really like the positive preventative nature of the theme but having lived through the Cerro Grande Fire I remember the devastation which is a huge inspiration to me to do everything possible to prevent wildfires. I don't know that artwork depicting the devastation would have the same effect so hopefully the more educational and preventative theme will be best. I do think that the firefighter's opinion is key here.

There is a trail that runs behind the current station; would love for there to be aspects back there for us weird runners -- and well everyone who uses the trails. Even just something to pose with selfies for haha

Again we don't need the art. Spend the money for something that actually helps the firefighters

Some wildlife sculptures would be nice!

Please do not do this theme. It's a gross reminder of the mismanagement of fire that resulted in the loss of family homes throughout this community.

You need to just cancel this whole thing. It is a waste of money.

Make it related to a fire station and not something weird

Life, saving, forest.

Who and why would see this art besides firefighters???????????????

No

Q6. Is there anything else you would like the Art in Public Places Board or Los Alamos Fire Department to keep in mind as we move forward with this project?

Text Responses:

The cost

I'm a local artist (BrendaFleming.com ! Please reach out. :)

Save the money and do something else with it

Tailor to the fire fighters needs they'll be there everyday

No thanks.

no

think about what you really want - do you want to create a new space for tourism and visitation? A lot of people touring the area with interactive displays all while the firefighters are busy either with firefighting duties or just resting from coming back from a call? Is that what the firefighters want? Are you trying to honor the work the firefighters do? What does that look like? Consider the end goal, and if the art selected meets that goal.

No.

You haven't provided an estimated budget for what this will cost in initial purchase, installation, and ongoing upkeep. Given the County's budget constraints going into the next fiscal year, all non-essential funds like the purchase of art work should be diverted to more critical upkeep of infrastructure and services the County has already invested in but is now having trouble maintaining financially. As a citizen, I do not support this public art project at all at this time.

Interactive elements would certainly be great if there is funding. Kinetic sculpture is one island, but many may be applicable, especially for kids. I ranked it as somewhat important only because it could be sacrificed if needed, but I do believe that it would increase long-term meaningfulness

How can the art be utilized when schools do station tours?

If I am correct, FireHouse #4 is also at the entrance of Guaye Pines. This will be the first thing people see when they inter their loved one and the last to see afterwards. HOPE should be the theme!

na

Fires

How destructive wild fires are.

I very much like the idea of our new community-guilt mosaic.

Honor the hotshots and those in the past too

Please consider spending on county fire mitigation, which will save property and lives.

Do something different with your money.

no

Use a local Los Alamos County resident for the artist

Don't buy art with my tax money!

It could rotate in the wind, perhaps.

Focus the art on being good art, just because it is a fire station doesn't mean it has to incorporate fire in the theme

Build a station that meets current needs & can be easily adapted to future needs. Spend the \$\$ on that, not useless "art" that is politically correct

Quit wasting money on artworks, you have more pressing issues to address

Utilize tile, or if painted, use good graffiti proof coatings.

What is the purpose of this?

Extra-emphasis on featuring NM artists.

I greatly appreciate your goal of receiving submissions from local artists

I want a lifesize statue of a firefighter and an EMT dressed and outfitted to go save property and people.

No

Remember the resilience of the post-fire community in rebuilding, adapting, and forest and trail restoration--about 40,000 volunteer hours in outdoor recovery projects alonge.

Attractive and convey the importance

I appreciate the proposal’s focus on fire adaptation, education, and community engagement. As the project moves forward, I encourage an emphasis on coexistence with wildfire rather than primarily on recovery and resilience. The artwork should help people understand fire’s natural role in maintaining healthy ecosystems and highlight the importance of preparedness, stewardship, and shared responsibility among residents, firefighters, scientists, and land managers. I would also like to see the artwork reflect the unique landscape, history, and culture of Los Alamos, including the long history of people living with fire in this region. Most importantly, the piece should inspire respect for the land, foster curiosity and learning, and leave visitors with a sense of connection to and responsibility for creating a fire-adapted community.

This seems like a weird group therapy topic that is not appealing to me. The whole thing should be reconsidered.

Quality of execution of theme in final art selection

Public poll on the art pieces themselves.

Saving taxpayer money.

This decision should be left entirely with our fire crews. They have to work there and look at it more than anyone, and they should be the ones to choose how best to reflect what they'd like to see. I drive by there maybe once a week, so even if they do something I don't think is all that great, I'd still be happy that they like it.

Community fire prevention projects

This location might be hard to get to, considering the fast traffic on Diamond Drive at the Golf Course. Make it tall enough to be visible from the road.

Include an element to appeal to kids.

Expense

Sensitivity to those who lost lives.

Pay attention to good lighting for proper presentation.

should be inspiring

Art is in the eye of the beholder. Most of it is subsidies for low-grade artists.

Life can continue. Many residents have lived through several wildfires and remain in the community

Thank you for prioritizing New Mexico artists. It would be great to be able to vote proposed art pieces, not that the public would have a final say but to be a part of the process would be appreciated.

there is still time to turn around and so nothing with art!!!!

This money should be spent placing art in more suitable places.

Don't waste our money.

Treat this theme very carefully - Los Alamos has a sensitive history with wildfire; incorporating fire into an art piece could go either way with the public.

Leave it a fire station not an over priced art display.

no anxiety triggers

Keep it simple and non-controversial. It should appeal to all.

Have a space or part that can be changed, updated or added too in the future. Please, enough with the statues. No more statues. We are over run with statues.

I support Art in Public Places.

get fire fighters input as well as input from fire survivors

Provide updates to community as artwork plan progresses. .

Not at this time.

Cost

No

While Art in Public Places is very important, there are critical water and sewer infrastructure projects that have begun in the County that involve new housing development that seem to be adversely impacting existing older water and sewer systems in existing homes in the same area. New infrastructure projects should not be causing damage to existing homes and money should be allocated to prevent damage to existing older water and sewer system infrastructure to prevent damage to existing homes, before the money is used for projects like Art in Public Places. THANK YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT.

See my answer above. Thanks for seeking input!

Fire Dept also plays important role in public health and safety, emergency response, etc. Not sure how to include--- don't want to get all over the map with this, but wanted to consider it.

no

reminder that in general public won't be at this facility

That very expensive building is going to be (or should be) a positive sight to see compared to our current building. That will suit everyone for the foreseeable future!

We get enough exposure to this topic in other places. (I've evacuated twice and was Set in 2022, car packed.) Let's promote the positive sides of nature and natural beauty. Heck, even a golf theme would be better.

A nice piece of public art would be a great feature to the fire station

NA

Please drop this project.

Some metal artwork of a mountain or a wildfire scene that incorporates the sunshine and changes color during the day would be nice.

There is a quote from Edward Croker that I would hope would be considered in lieu of wildfire: "When a man becomes a fireman his greatest act of bravery has been accomplished. What he does after that is all in the line of work."

The fire house isn't really a public space. People don't really visit there often. So art should be for the firefighters who work there

Quit wasting money. This is a waste of money.

Maybe a nice small statue of firefighters

Showing a world where fires are confidently out, children saved, blue sky, lots of trees.

Be a whole lot more informative BUT also concise

No

