

Project History

33 competition entries globally
3 different finalist designs

20,653 online responses on the three finalist designs

70% of respondents considered the Perkins Eastman proposal positively



Winning competition idea: View of Market Street and Castro Street intersection



Winning competition idea: Castro Station entry



Winning competition idea: Castro Station entrance from Collingwood Street

Project History

- 2 community meetings in 2017
- 5 months of participatory design with the community in 2018
- 4 community meetings in 2018
- 4 different design approaches



Community members share their ideas at a community meeting in the Castro



Design Approach #2, Castro Station entry at ticketing level



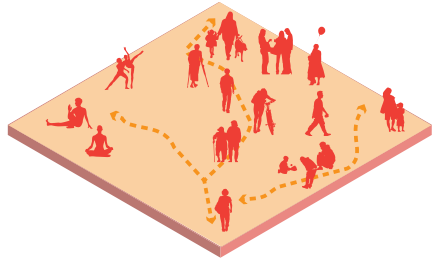
Design Approach #1, corner of Market Street and Castro Street



Design Approach #4, standing on top of the platform

Project History

What we learned through the participatory public design process....
the community has 4 overarching goals for the reimagined Harvey Milk Plaza



Inspiring Memorial Experience

An inspiring memorial means an iconic, memorable, and transformational place that appropriately honors Harvey's legacy and attracts visitors from the global community.

Universal Access

Improved universal access means making the site more than just ADA accessible. It means enabling all people to experience and access their environment to the greatest extent possible, regardless of age or ability. Universally accessible spaces are safer, easier, and more comfortable for the pregnant, elderly, injured, or young.

Public Health, Safety, and Security

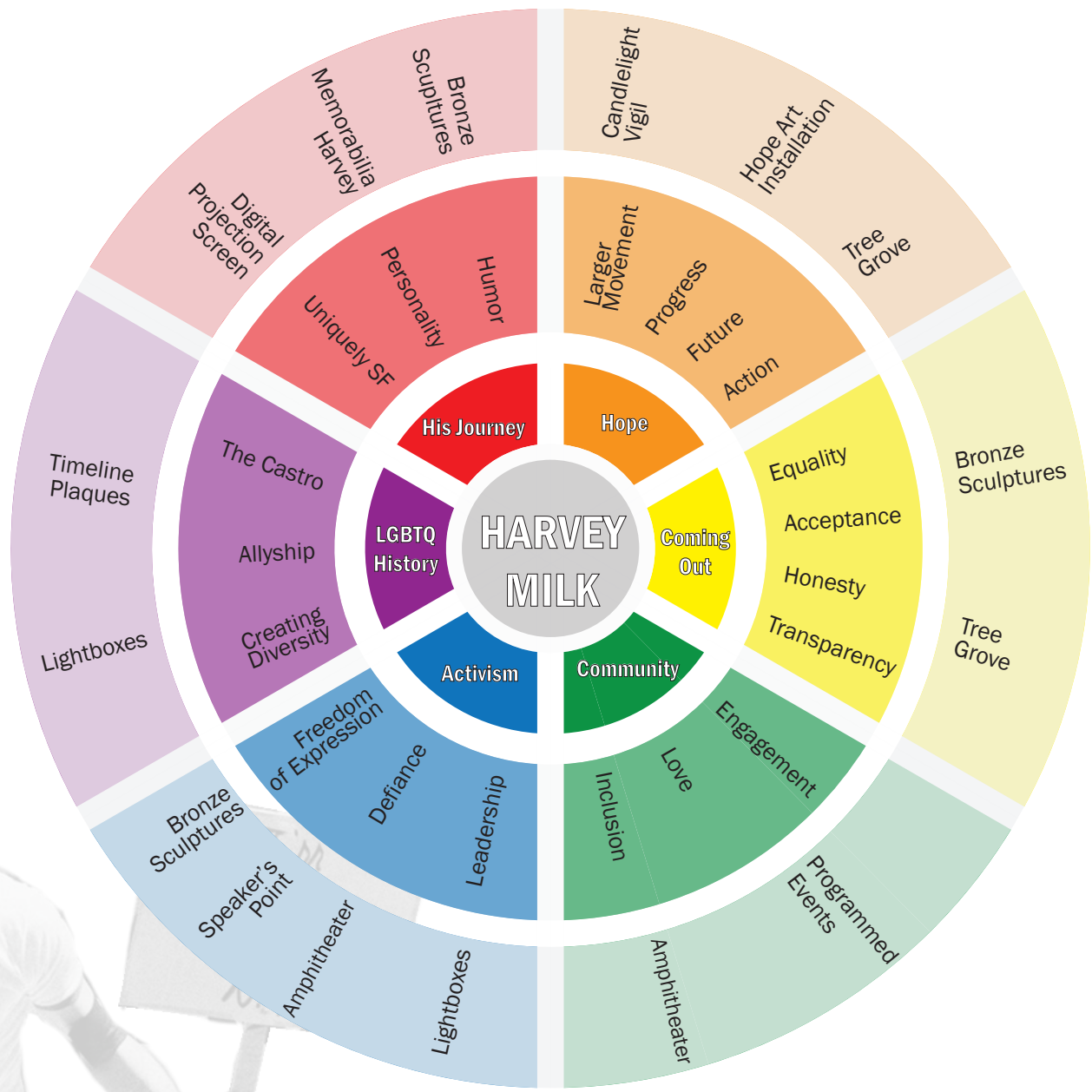
Improved safety and security means making the site safer during all hours of the day. It means providing architectural and operational design solutions that make the site comfortable, clean, healthy, and safe.

Successful Public Space

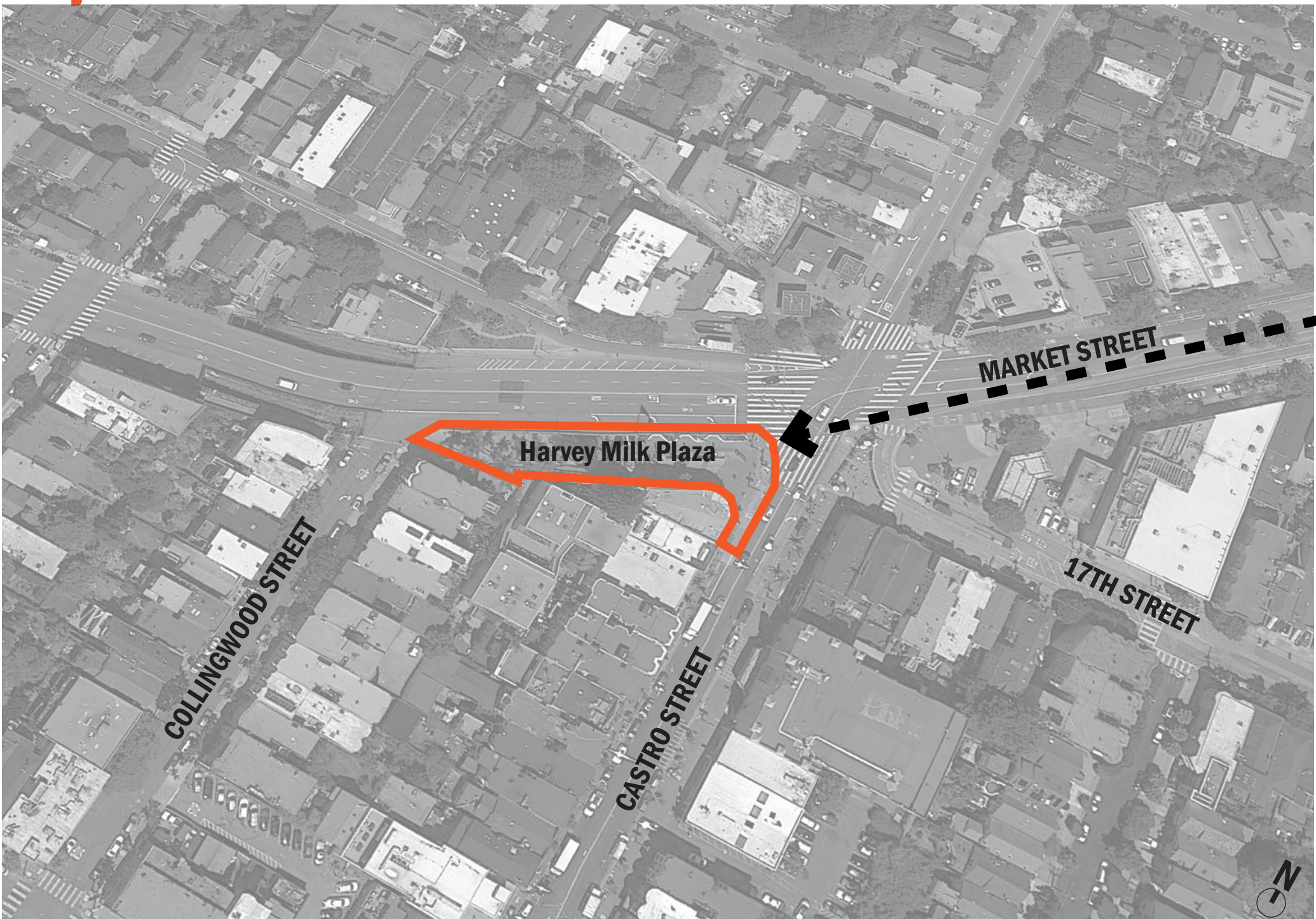
Successful public space means creating a place that is active and energized with people and events, is pleasant to be within, is desirable to spend time in, and is a destination.

Project History

What we learned through the participatory public design process....
Harvey Milk has a multi-faceted legacy



Project Context



Project location

Project Context



Corner of Castro Street and Market Street, today



Jane Warner Plaza, today



Collingwood Street, today



Sunken plaza, today



Memorial to Milk on the plaza, today



A gathering at the corner of Castro Street and Market Street

Concept Design

His Legacy of Hope -

Candlelight Vigil, Grove of Trees, & Medallion

The night Harvey Milk and Mayor George Moscone were assassinated, the community came together in grief and solidarity, and marched to City Hall with a spontaneous candlelight vigil. At the Plaza, every night, a permanent candlelight vigil will fill the intersection with a similar energizing and warming glow of light, speaking to the sense of solidarity and community energy that was felt on November 27, 1978. This permanent candlelight vigil is accomplished with both sculptural candlelight posts and frosted brick lights which both provide surfaces on which to etch donor names. Scattered throughout, they use light to unite the intersection of Castro Street, Market Street, and 17th Street with the Plaza.

The western end of the plaza is an outdoor room created by a perimeter of 11 ginkgo biloba trees, representing the number of months Milk was in office. Every November, the ginkgos turn yellow, a color which is universally symbolic of positivity, optimism, remembrance, and honor. The visual color change will remind visitors of the month when Harvey Milk was assassinated and the sense of community solidarity that manifested itself afterwards. A series of special artistic elements, like a circular medallion with bronze ripples from its center, reside in the center of this space. Whether visitors choose to use this intimate space for wedding ceremonies, memorial services, marriage proposals, or to come out to a loved one, the outdoor room with special artistic elements creates a special place within the memorial by creating a sense of arrival to a safe, special, contemplative place for introspective, personal moments.



Visitors can find special artistic elements which communicate Harvey's legacy of hope and inspire them

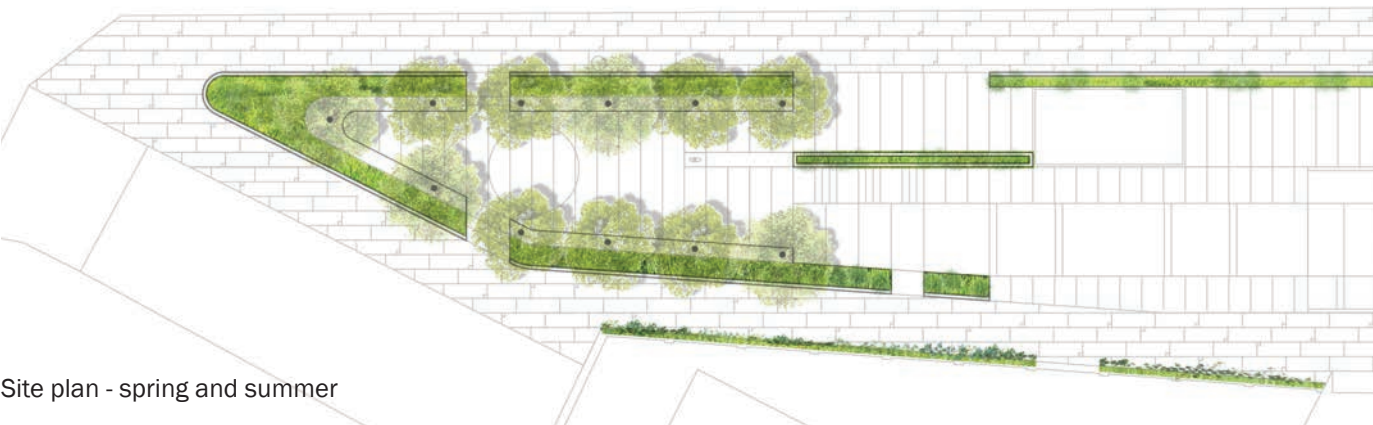


The grove of trees at Collingwood will glow with warm light at night from sculptural candlelight posts and brick lights

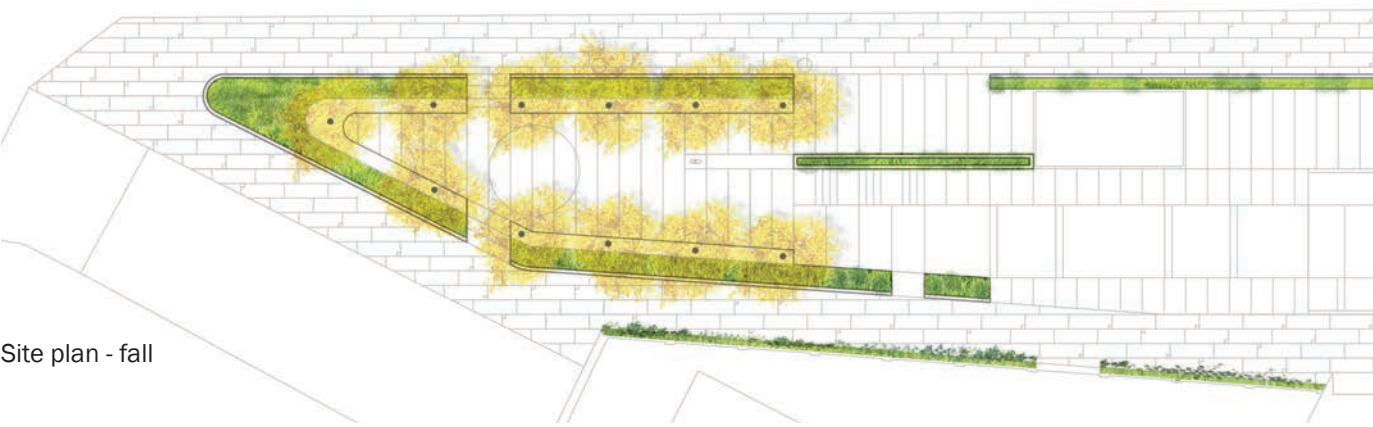
Concept Design - Landscape

The vegetation of Harvey Milk Plaza was designed to help to tell the story of Harvey Milk to memorial visitors but is also used to create a better pedestrian experience by means of a lush vegetated border around the Plaza and an additional vegetated strip as a soft buffer between Market Street and the Plaza. The enhanced street level vegetation at the corner of Castro and Market softens the urban experience and helps soften the urban acoustics.

Extending the landscape treatment across the intersection can help expand the visitor experience at the Plaza. Historic Pink Triangle Park is located northwest to the Plaza. It is the site of a field of sculptural triangular monoliths. In her book, "Harvey Milk: His Lives and Death," historian Lillian Faderman notes that Milk would often bring flowers to his lovers, handpicked from his neighbors' yards. We propose to embed this narrative in Pink Triangle Park, located directly across Market Street from Harvey Milk Plaza, with the idea that the park could become a new front yard for the larger Castro community. Planted below the fifteen granite pylons could be a blanket of blooming dahlias. Chosen as the official flower of San Francisco by the Board of Supervisors in 1926, the dahlia represents both diversity and acceptance. In June, Pride Month, the park would come alive with blooming flowers. Until November, the month Harvey was assassinated, the Castro community would be invited to pick dahlias for their lovers, their friends, their families, or simply to remember Milk and those persecuted for their sexuality. These flowers would extend the experience beyond the boundary of Harvey Milk Plaza, allowing community members and visitors to take a piece of the memorial home.



Site plan - spring and summer



Site plan - fall



Vision for Pink Triangle Park



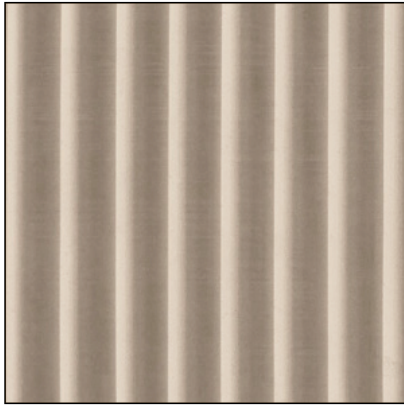
Concept Design - Material Palette



Poured in Place Concrete



Golden Chinese Granite Pavers



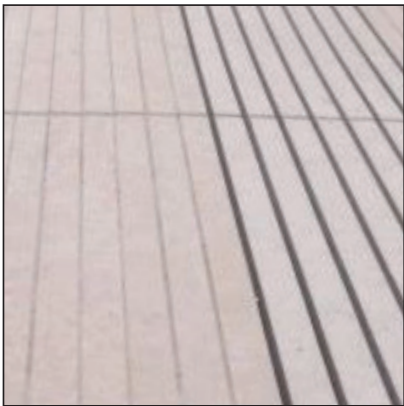
Ribbed Concrete - Tinted



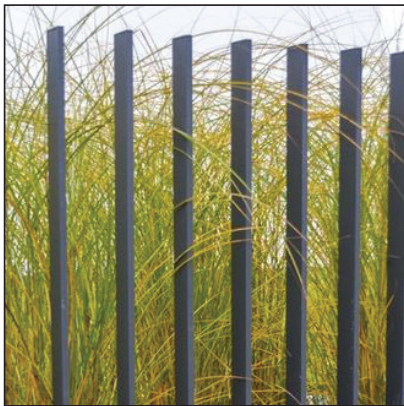
Decomposed Granite - Buff



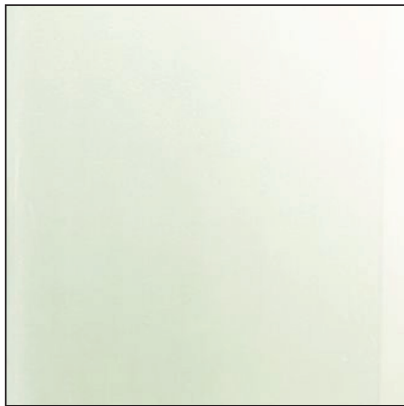
Bronze Signage



Granite Accent Pavers

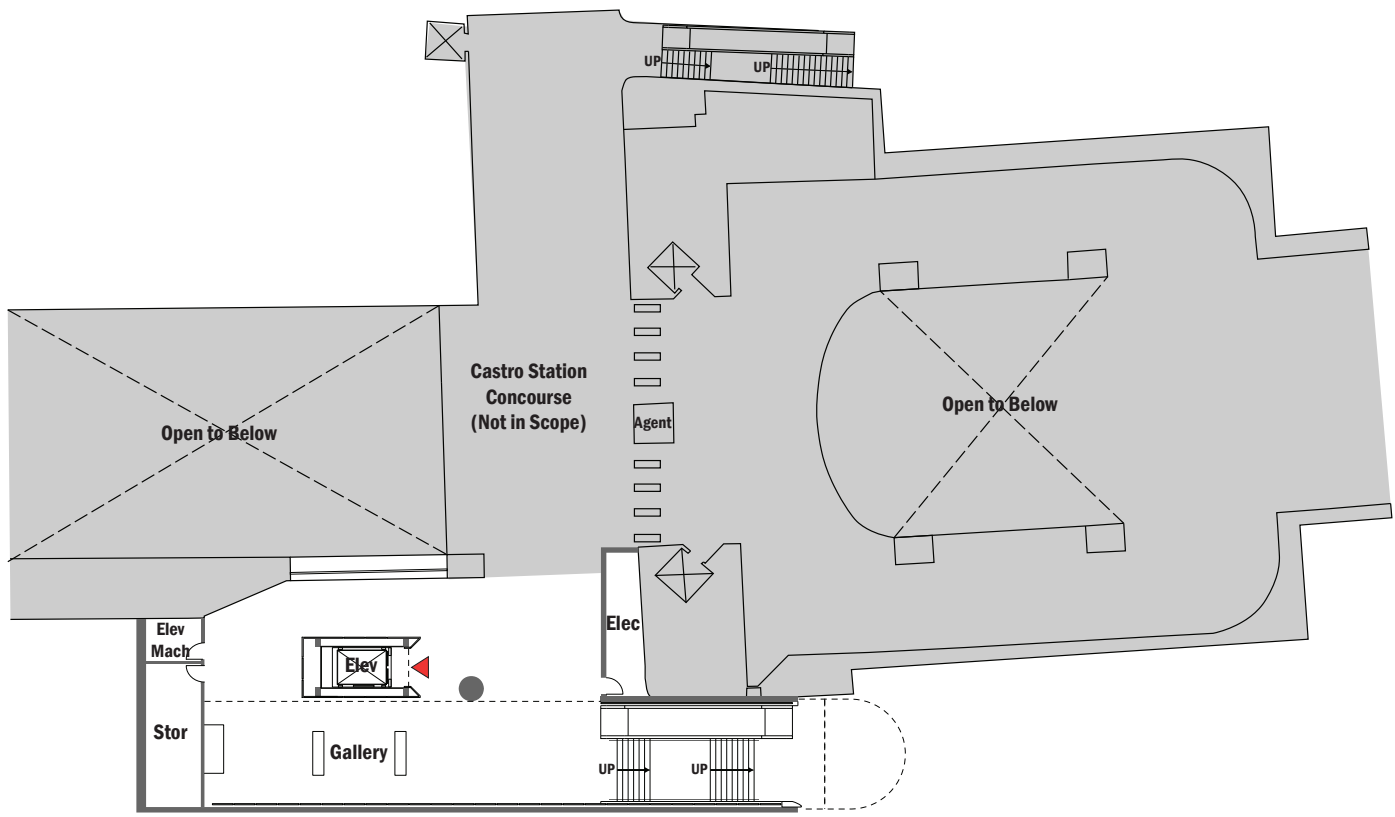


Powder-coated Metal Guardrail



Frosted Glass Sculptures

Concept Design - Muni Concourse Level



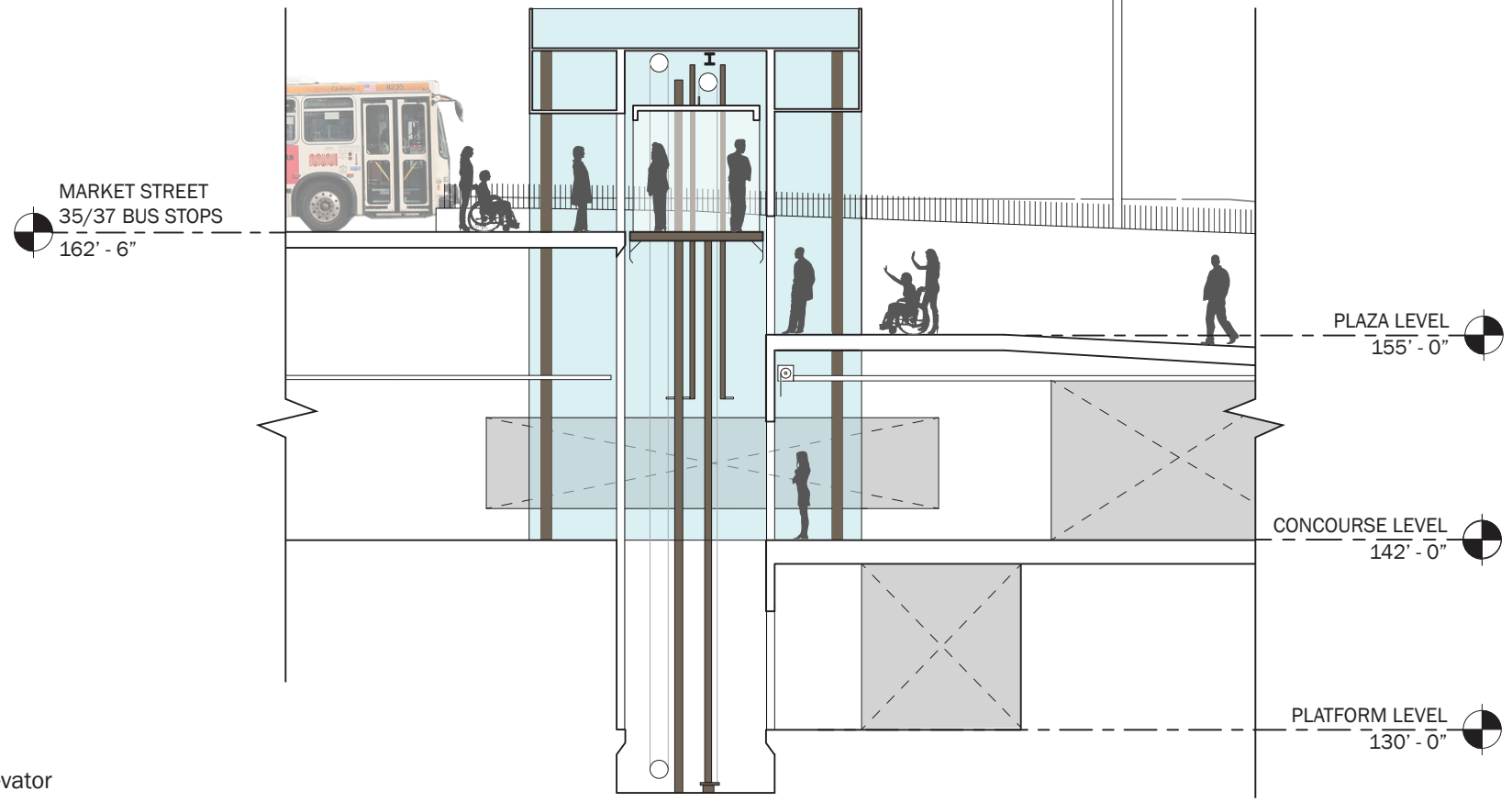
A colorful ceiling and bold graphics greet Castro Station visitors and neighbors



Entering Castro Station, visitors pass through a vibrant, colorful art gallery with memorabilia

Concept Design - Elevator

The elevator specified will meet preliminary requirements set by early SFMTA studies. The elevator will be gurney sized, roped hydraulic, and use a separate machine room which will be located at the Castro Station concourse level across from the elevator. As a four-stop elevator, it provides improved access from Market Street to Castro Station, stopping at Market Street near the bus stops, then plaza level, then concourse level, and, lastly, platform level. The elevator provides direct ADA access from the Market Street bus stops to Castro Station. A glass elevator cab and a glass elevator enclosure provide visibility and increased safety and security for passengers.



Section of elevator



THE FRIENDS OF
HARVEY MILK PLAZA

In collaboration with the Castro Community and

PERKINS —
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P R O P P +
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