# **Chinatown Connections**

Gateway Subgroup Meeting #5 – 03/20/2025



### Agenda

Gateway Subgroup Meeting #5: March 20, 2025

- Welcome and Process Overview 10 min
- Follow-Ups from Last Meeting 30 min
- Finalizing Design Brief 20 min
- Overview of Gateway Engagement at March Public Workshop 10 min
- Additional Discussion and Q&A 20 min



## **Process Overview**



### **Subgroup Meetings**

### Subgroup engagement and next steps

May 2024	August 2024		Fall / Winter 2024		February 2025		March 2025
<u>Goals and</u> <u>themes</u>	<u>Design</u> Principles		<u>Draft design</u> <u>brief</u>		<u>Review design</u> <u>brief</u>		<u>Review, finalize</u> <u>design brief</u>
Identify themes and values associated with the Welcome Gateway	Discuss principles and guidelines for the gateway	<b>→</b>	Develop draft design brief based on discussions and community engagement	<b>→</b>	Discuss Selection Process Sign off on the final design brief	_	Sign off on the final design brief



We are here!

### **Ground Rules**

Today, we aim to identify themes and values associated with the Welcome Gateway. Which means we will brainstorm more than make decisions.

Here are some ground rules to set us up for success:

- & Communicate openly; share the air-time and make room for everyone to participate
- & Respect diverse viewpoints and experiences in the group; together, we know a lot; alone, we don't know much at all
- & Be present as much as possible
- & Build each other up; create a culture of encouragement so folks are confident to express themselves

& Avoid the use of acronyms as much as possible



## Follow-Ups from Last Meeting (2/28)



### Follow-Ups from 2/28 Meeting

**Design Brief Updates:** adding Memorial Arch language, removing plan images, including BID photos of gatherings in Chinatown

**& Call for Artists:** more details on plans for release

**& Gateway Project and Artist Engagement on Design:** guidance on how the artist and Gateway design fit into the larger Chinatown Connections timeline

**<u>k</u> DoS involvement on the Artist Selection Panel** as a voting or advisory panelist



### **Call for Artists Outreach**

**DCLA Call for Artists** will be shared and distributed through:

### **& DCLA Artist Network**

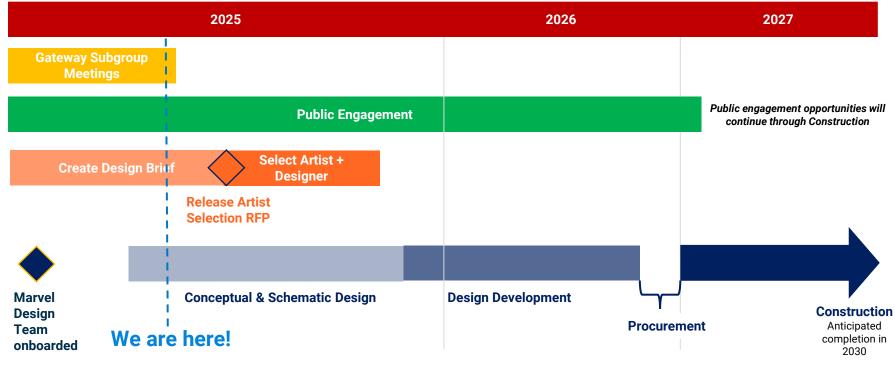
- 🔀 DCLA Website
- 🔀 DCLA Social Media
- 🔀 DCLA Newsletter
- ✗ Informal Network of Artists

### **& Chinatown Community Network**

- 🔀 Local Newspapers: Singtao Daily and World Journal
- ✗ Community Stakeholder Newsletters
- **X** Posted in Local Schools/Senior/Community Centers/Libraries/Post-Offices
- ➢ Posted in High Traffic Areas (Nearby Subway Stations/Public Spaces)

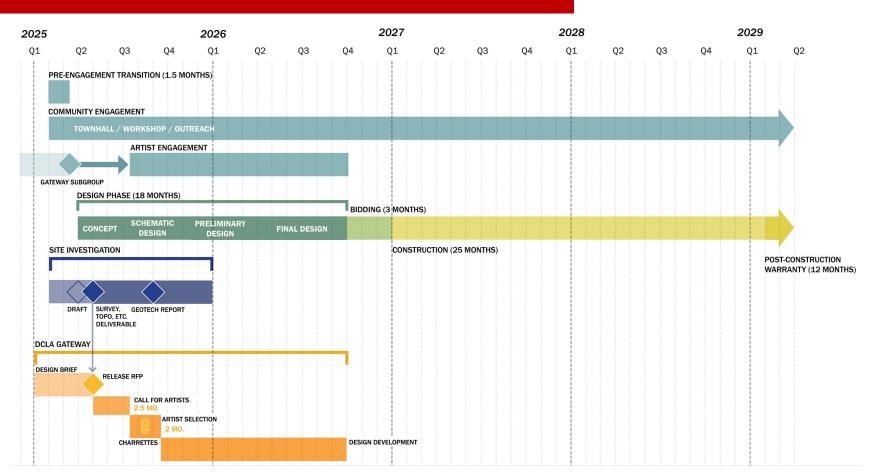


### Welcome Gateway Timeline





### **Chinatown Connections Timeline**



## Finalizing Design Brief



### **Design Brief Structure**

### The Department of Cultural Affairs (DCLA) Process

1 Chambers Street, 2" Floo New York, NY 1000 Prove: 212/513/500 Fax: 212/341.530 **Cultural** www.nyc.gov/culture SHE BUILT NYC OPEN CALL FOR ARTISTS hanbers Stoel, 2" Floor New York, NY 10027 Phone 252,513,800 Fax 232,341,3513 Ends on Tue, Dec 31, 2024 11:59 PM www.ryc.govioaltan SHE BUILT NYC OPEN CALL FOR ARTISTS The City of New York seeks artists interested in creating public monuments that honors tions and create a shortlist of up to five women's history. If you are such an artist, please APPLY to this open call. tions (RFO) is to solicit artists or artist a permanent public monument to the s history that significantly impacted New BACKGROUND up of women, or event from the shortlist sument will be determined through the In 2018. She Built NYC was launched to address the underrepresentation of women in the city's public art collection by commissioning public monuments to honor women and women's history in New York City. The four projects below were initially announced in March 2019, but and must include all project costs. stalled due to the COVID-19 pandemic in and never even got to the initial phase of planning. lesign services, commu Thanks to the Adams administration, these four remains ng pures are now being restarted, entry will NYC will honor Katherine Graham in Manhattan, and no ng Shirley Chisholm in Brooklyn's and an open call is being launched for artists to des traval transportation of the work to Walker in Staten Island, Billie Holiday in Quee of the artwork, and contingency. Dr. Helen Rodriguez Trias in the Bronx. A fifth nirley Chisholm in Brooklyn's Prospect Park is already underway and re oval from the city's Public and all media. legally authorized to Design Commission last year vees of the 2 She Built NYC builds on the reco oral Advisory Commission on City Art Monuments, and Markers to e histories and parratives currently represented on public property sentations have historically failed to reflect the 10. trailblazing wo at have contributed to the City. SHE BUILT NYC WOMEN'S The women being honored in this round of new monuments are: Katherine Walker (1838-1941) pond with samples of past work Walker was the keeper of the Robbins Reef Lighthouse in Staten Island for 35 years. She is She Built NYC commission. The City, in and design professionals (the credited with saving the lives of at least 50 people and maintaining the light that guided vo of the open call (the "Finalists"). countless ships to safe passage through Kill Van Kull, the shipping channel between Staten Island and Bayonne. New Jersey. One of the few female lighthouse keepers in United States history, she broke barriers in a male-dominated field and raised her two children at the Finalists will submit a conceptual lighthouse, rowing them back and forth to attend school on Staten Island. Walker's story sheds ceive a \$1.500 honorarium for light on the largely untold history of women working in New York City's maritime industry. equest for Conceptual Designs. One o to finalize designs, fabricate and install The Katherine Walker monument will be included in the ongoing development planned for Artist"] Staten Island's North Shore being spearheaded by New York City Economic Development Corporation (NVCEDC) ams to submit examples of past work for tic merit as evidenced in previous work, ted a prior permanent public commission

Background & Context	Budget
Potential Locations	Artist Eligibility Criteria
Design Guidelines	Selection Process



### **Design Brief**

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#### Welcome Gateway Design Brief

Chinatown Connections Overview and Project Goal

Crinitation Connections is a three-pair public realm improvement project designed to celebrate the cultural herating of Maniharian's Chinatowin, improve numlificatio diruction the new and subport to build a Christown Network Alongside beautifying Park Row and reimagining <u>Statista</u> Quare, the <u>Eigy</u> parts to build a Christown Network Quare with a structure of the independed quares to high diverse and of the most halons classifies in New York. Or, Character Connections mayned to <u>11</u> a mitlion Dominant Parkatation Initiative (DPI) award from the New Initianymenter.

The New York City Economic Development Corporation ("NYCEDC") is leading Chinatown Connections, in partnership with the New York City Department of Transportation ("NYCEDC") as procured Marvel as the Delagin Team Project Lead to overee the enconfiguration of Rights Square and the creation of a Chinatown Welcome Gateway. The development of the Welcome Gateway will be led by an Artist to form part of the Design Team, collaborating on an overal wision aligned with the scheme of the proposed existin.



The Welcome Gateway will serve as a key gateway to Chinatown and be located in the redesigned Chatham/Kgmigk Source, either on the vest or sourch corner of the square. The size and location of all public areas shown are subject to change based on NYCDOT traffic studies, the Design Team's insights, and stakeholder input.

The following document summittee the project's context and guideposits for the Welcome Gateway design. It resulted from a 7-month community engagement period, including group discussions, tabling events, and two public meetings. The Welcome Gateway Gabgroup was all important correctione of the community engagement process. Composed of local statembolient', the group provided valuable teatback and guidance to determine the principles, publics (in and inpact the Welcome Gateway should ultimately embody and accomplation.

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#### Historical and Contemporary Significance of Gateways

Gateway precedents identified during initial research helped to shape community engagement and design guidelines. Below is a brief selection of findings from precedent research, including details about the historical and contemporary significance of gateways throughout the world.

A Welcome Gateway can have different meanings in various contexts. It may:
 Prepare you, a resident or visitor, for what lies ahead as a marker to move throughout a neighborhood

- Serve as a community gathering place
  Invite you to an experience, a rite of passage, a moment to notice
- Invite you to an experience, a rite of passage,
  Guide you toward a public space
- Serve as a welcoming symbol
- Be the physical manifestation of heritage and cultural tradition.



Patlang in Mount Putus Zhoushan, China Jeft) / Old Town Gateway, Shanghai, China (right) These examples showcase different designs and materials traditionally used in gateways in China, highlighting variations in ormamentation, structure, and materialty.

In China, gateways have historically held significant importance as heritage landmarks in public spaces:

- Wooden gateways have been used to demarcate boundaries or mark significant locations.
  Gateways are often elaborate and decorative structures with intricate carvings, inscriptions, and colorful
- ornamentations that have been placed to commemorate important events or signify entrances to prosperous commercial districts.

- In preparation for this meeting you received the near-final design brief
- The following updates were made based on 2/28 feedback:
  - Adding Memorial Arch language (p. 8)
  - Removing plan images/potential Gateway destinations and, instead, highlighting existing conditions (pp. 7-8)
  - Adding images of people congregating in Chinatown (pp. 8, 11, 12)
  - Adding prioritized considerations for artist selection (p. 16)





ℵDo you have any other questions or comments about the design brief draft?

& Are we missing anything?



Overview of Gateway Engagement at March Public Workshop



### Public Workshop on 3/29

№ Logistics: PS 1 Alfred E. Smith Elementary School (8 Henry Street), 12-2pm
 № Format: open-house / drop-in with gallery boards

**& Goal:** provide project updates and solicit feedback on several Chinatown Connections workstreams, including the Gateway design



### Public Workshop on 3/29

#### Welcome Gateway Design Brief

#### 诵達華埠 CHINATOWN

#### What is it?

The Design Brief summarizes the project's context and guideposts for the Welcome Gateway design. It resulted from a 12-month community engagement period, including group discussions, tabling events, and public meetings. The document outlines the project's context, potential location, budget information, and overview of the artist selection process. Most importantly, the design brief proposes four guidelines that serve as parameters for the selected artist as they develop a Welcome Gateway design.

#### **Design Guidelines**

Multifaceted Experience	Guiding Symbol	Gathering Space	Celebrate Heritage
Ensure the Chinatown Welcome Gateway is not a monolith but an interactive experience that extends beyond its physical structure. The Gateway should create an engaging and multifaceted experience that resonates regardless of the pine.	Design the Welcome Gateway to be a clear and recognizable symbol in Lower Manhattan, sorving as a prominent entry point and wayfinding feature for Chinatown visitors.	Design the Welcome Gateway as an integral part of the community, creating a surrounding space that invites community members to gather, rest, and celebrate.	The Welcome Gateway design should honor Chinatown's rich cultural heritago, celebrat is diversity, and foster a sense of belonging.



#### Welcome Gateway Information

#### What is it?

This is a public art piece intended to celebrate the Chinatown community in an expanded public space while also drawing visitors to the neighborhood. The welcome gateway reflects a longstanding community desire for an iconic symbol that demarcates the entrance to Chinatown, celebrating the community's heritage.

#### Where will it be?

The new structure will be located in a redesigned Kimlau Square. The Welcome Gateway will coexist with two monuments in Kimlau Square: the Kimlau War Memorial Arch and the Lin Ze Xu Statue.

#### How will the Artist be selected?

NYCEDC, in partnership with DCLA, will follow the NYC Percent for Art process for this commission. The artist will be selected through an artist/architect collaboration model, ensuring integration within the Kimlau Square redesign

What are the selection criteria?

Selecting the gateway designer will be heavily informed by the engagement process but will likely include the following criteria:

· At least 18 years of age and legally authorized to work in the U.S. Level of artistic professionalism and demonstrated artistic practice. · Ability to collaborate with a design team.

Interested artists will submit a statement of approach and provide examples of past work that highlight relevant experience. In their application, DCLA and the Artist Selection Panel will

- The artist's deep and meaningful connection to the Chinatown community
- The artist's previous experience working closely with communities
- The artist's capability of creating a design that generates a strong sense of belonging and pride within the Chinatown community

#### E/EDC DOT NYC NYC @



#### Selection Process Structure

#### Selection Panel

local law)

(Marvel).

To guide the artist selection process, a Selection Panel will be formed with:

#### Voting Panelists (in accordance with Advisory Members

- DCLA Commissioner or Designee
- representative of the Percent for Art Program (DCLA)

representative of the Sponsor Agency (NYCDOT)

· representative of the Design Team

- Elected officials
- Community board representatives
  Members from the Public Design representative of the Design Agency (NYCEDC)
  - Commissio
  - Program staff from DCLA, NYCEDC, and NYCDOT

Chinatown Connections Working Group

- Members of the public from local organizations and community groups (who will submit their name, email, address, and affiliation to DCLA to participate)
- 3 members of the public who are arts ssionals (who will submit a short letter of interest to DCLA)

#### Process Summary

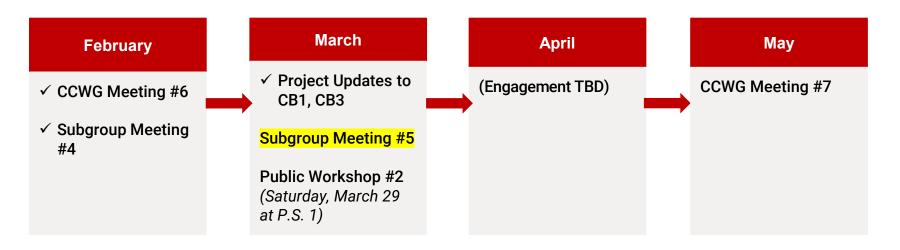
- An open call for artists to express interest will be made public. DCLA will use the call to develop an artist pool. • An Artist Selection Panel meeting will be held to review past works of artists under
- consideration. Voting and Advisory Panelists identify finalists together.
- · Each artist finalist will participate in a design charrette (a collaborative design planning activity) with the design team to discuss their creative practice, working process, and artistic approach and brainstorm possibilities for the project. Panelists (including community members) attend the charrettes virtually and may submit questions to be integrated into the conversation
- At a meeting following the charrettes, the design team, in conversation with the project team and panel members, will decide which artist is best suited to collaborate on this project.



## **Next Steps**



## **Upcoming Engagement in Spring 2025**



We will share the Design Brief with the full Chinatown Connections Working Group once the design brief is finalized by the subgroup.

We will soon thereafter release an RFP to begin the artist selection process.





