



Public Market Stairwell Proposals

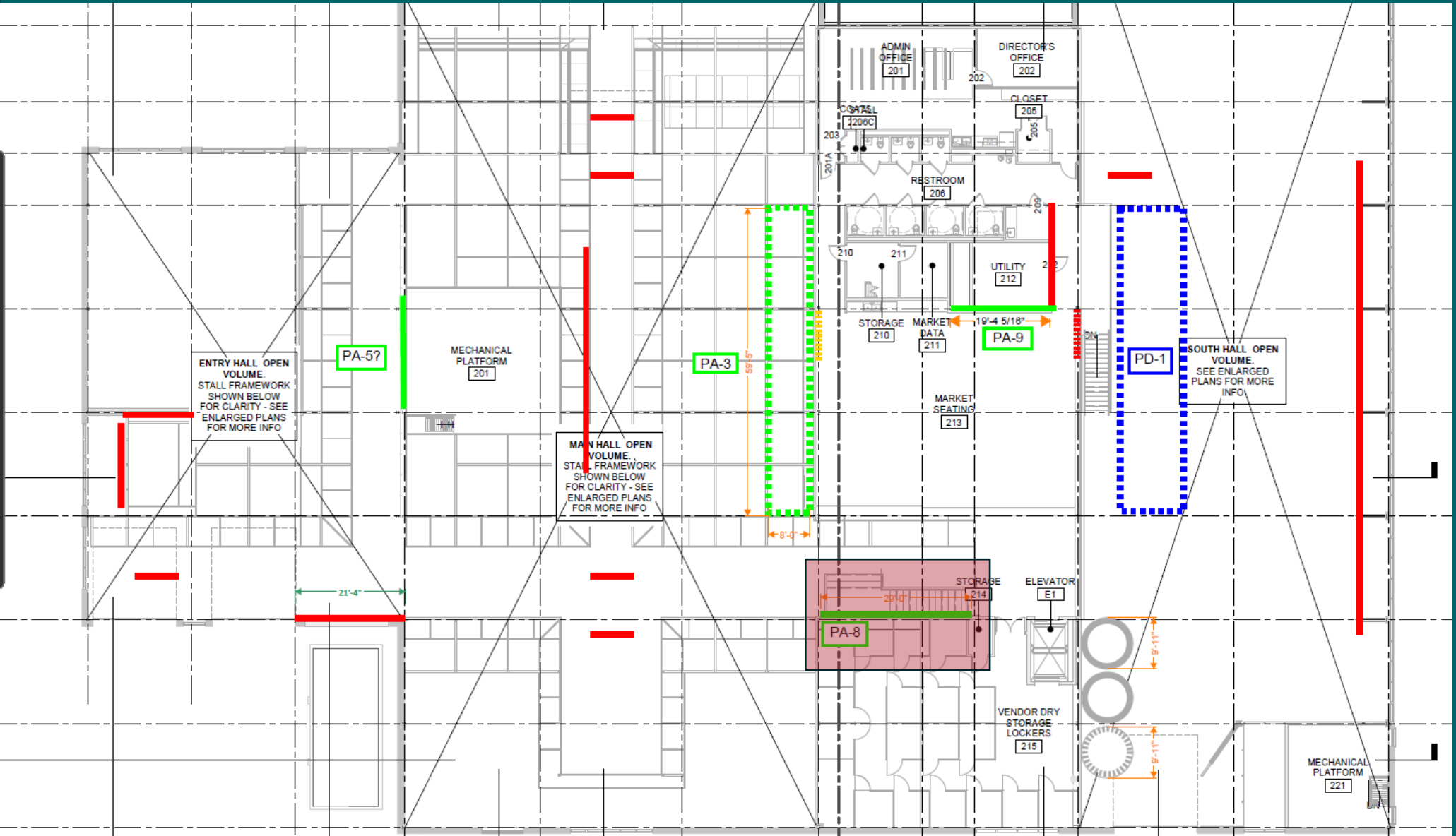
May 2026

Karin Wolf, Madison Arts & Culture Administrator

Meri Rose Ekberg, Community & Cultural Resources Planner

City of Madison Department of Planning & Community & Economic Development

Stairwell Site – PA-8

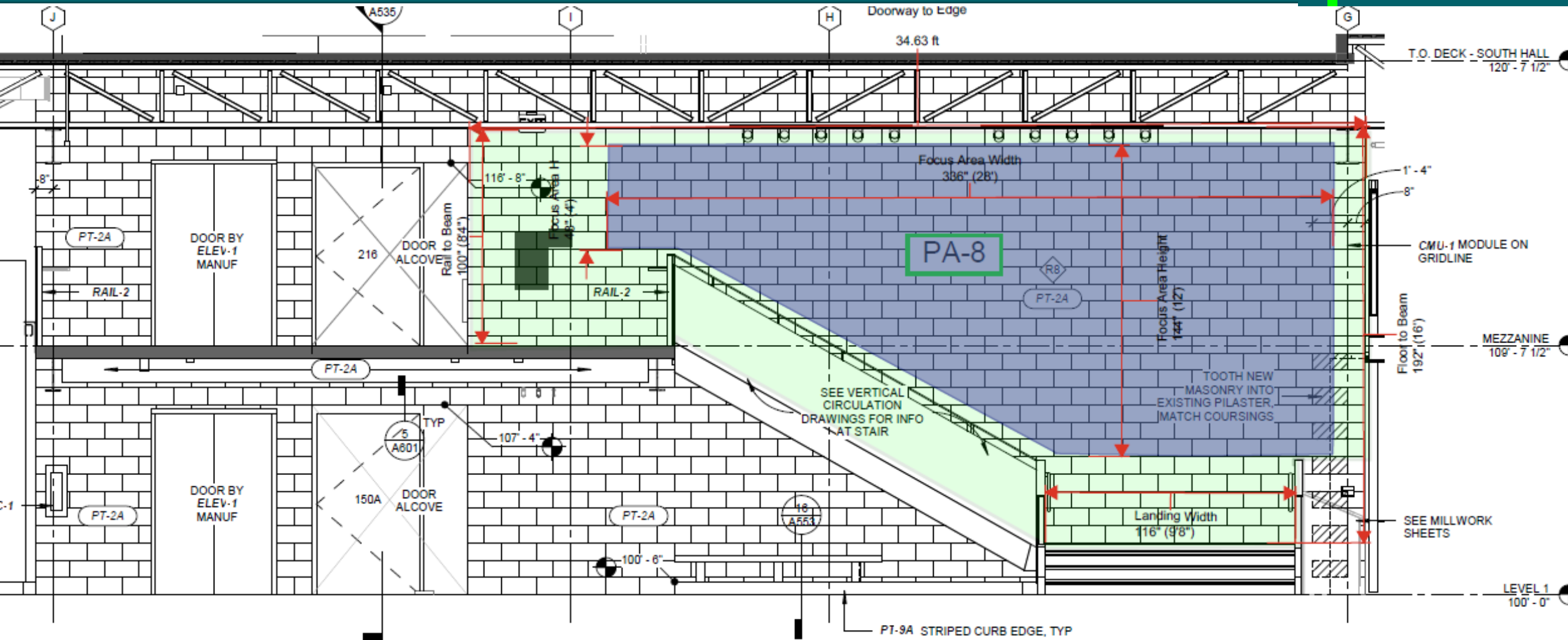


PA =
Public Art



Signage

Stairwell Elevation



INT ELEVATION - CORRIDOR 134 - W

Stairwell Wall Proposal

- Artist requested to have their mural withdrawn from consideration for this project.
- Staff propose commissioning a custom design for this site to better fit the layout and fill the space.
- Staff solicited designs from 3 artists with work on the approved Existing Art Call list.
- The selected design will be licensed and installed as vinyl to fast-track installation and provide an easy to clean surface with minimal maintenance needs.

Original proposal: *Mother Nature* by Mike Lroy



Existing mural on plywood from the
2020 Downtown State Street Mural Project

Tyanna Buie

<http://www.tyannajbuie.com/>

A native of Chicago and Milwaukee, Tyanna Buie earned her BA from Western Illinois University and an MFA from the University of Wisconsin–Madison. She has participated in residencies at the Joan Mitchell Center, Women’s Studio Workshop, Vermont Studio Center, Project 1612 AIR, and Hotel Pupik. Her accolades include the 2012 Mary L. Nohl Fellowship, the Love of Humanity Award from the Greater Milwaukee Foundation, the 2015 Joan Mitchell Painters & Sculptors Grant, the 2019 Kresge Artist Fellowship, the 2019/2020 Grant Wood Fellowship, the 2020 Fellowship art award, and the 2023 Ruth Arts/Mary L. Nohl Alumni Award. Most recently, she was commissioned for a work for the Obama Presidential Center.



Sharon Bjyrd









<https://www.bohemianblackart.com/>

Sharon Bjyrd is a visual artist working primarily in acrylic and mixed media whose practice centers the beauty, dignity and humanization of Black life through portraiture and symbolic visual narratives.

Before fully dedicating herself to art, Sharon worked in advocacy roles supporting women affected by poverty and domestic violence, experiences that continue to inform the emotional and social grounding of her work. Self-taught, she rediscovered a long-standing creative voice during a season of physical stillness caused by chronic illness.

The lived experience of standing at the intersection of race, sex, and ableism informs her exploration of rest, resilience, belonging, and collective healing.



	Cream		Bright Green
	Red/Orange		Leaf Green
	Burnt Sienna		White
	Mocha Brown		Black

This design explores growth, connection, and transformation, with the figure emerging from and intertwined with the natural world. Flowing hair transitions into tree and vine forms, symbolizing continuity and resilience. A warm, earthy palette with vibrant floral accents creates visual movement while maintaining a calm focal point. Pattern and vine elements are designed to extend into the edges and adapt to the architectural space.

Alice Traore

<https://www.instagram.com/ayjay09/>

Alice Y. Traore currently resides in Madison, WI, but was raised in Peoria, IL. She works at the University of Wisconsin-Madison as a facilitator and curriculum designer of learning communities that assist faculty and staff in the exploration and implications of their social and cultural identities. Traore describes herself as a self-taught watercolor artist. Her artist-life adds an additional layer of depth to her full-time work as it provides her further space to explore her own socio-cultural journey. Alice was a 2021 Forward Art Prize winner.

“The figure's lovely face will be forward facing to give the illusion that she is sharing her wise, warm, and confident smile with everyone who looks at her. She is positioned under a tree as day turns to night, releasing seeds to the wind in one hand, and resting her fan made of collard green leaves in the other.”



Alice Traore

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Artist noted the final work will be done in acrylic with significant detail in the seeds, flowers, moths, collard green leaves, etc. The final elements can be rearranged to meet the exact site specifications.