

June 24, 2014



Mr. Mohammed Nuru  
Department of Public Works  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place  
City Hall, Room 348  
San Francisco, CA 94102

Dear Mr. Nuru,

I am writing this letter to seek a major encroachment permit for a public art installation called LightRail. It is the world's first subway-responsive light sculpture, illuminating two miles along San Francisco's Market Street, from Van Ness Avenue to The Embarcadero. It is being presented by Illuminate the Arts, the organization that produced THE BAY LIGHTS.

By beautifully visualizing the real-time movement of underground trains, LightRail will transform San Francisco's preeminent thoroughfare into a scene of wonder and awe for millions of people. It will visually connect Market Street's long-fragmented communities and further fuel efforts aiming to revitalize Market Street--while reinforcing the corridor's historic creative essence. The artwork will be temporary, lasting four years--being installed in late 2014 and lasting through 2018, the year Market Street is slated to be reconfigured to better serve and inspire our city's residents and visitors for generations to come.

Parsons Brinckerhoff, one the world's leading engineering firms, and the designers of THE BAY LIGHTS, have created the project's technical design. Public safety has been the design's main priority. The installation consists of LED light tubes suspended from the MUNI overhead catenary system (OCS). This rail of energy-efficient LED lights sips power from components contained in boxes mounted onto the exterior of the 23 cabinets on Market St that power the Path of Gold lights. All electrical wiring is run through the interior of the poles. LightRail is temporary and reversible. The entire installation, maintenance, and de-installation will be privately funded and managed by Illuminate The Arts.

We are very eager to work with the various city departments as necessary to move forward with permitting. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Ben Davis



Project Drawing - LightRail