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**NEWS RELEASE – OCTOBER 5, 2009**

**LOCAL ARTISTS SELECTED AS FINALISTS FOR MBTA PROJECT  
IN TWENTYNINE PALMS**

Four Morongo Basin artists are vying for the honor of being named the designer and creator of an outdoor public art installation for the new Twentynine Palms Transit Center. The Morongo Basin Transit Authority (MBTA) facility is set to begin construction this fall at the corner of Adobe Road and Cactus Avenue, across from the Senior Center and the Twentynine Palms Fire Department.

The facility will serve as an outdoor bus transfer station, with bus shelters, landscaping, and a prominent space reserved on the site for a public art sculpture or multi-dimensional art piece.

Following a call for artists this summer, 10 applications were received from local artists for the MBTA project, which carries a budget of \$20,000 for public art. At a special meeting on Sept. 23, the City of Twentynine Palms Public Arts Advisory Committee reviewed the applications received from MBTA General Manager Joe Meer and conducted a preliminary selection process.

The four artists selected as finalists are: Randy Addy of Pioneertown, David Falossi and Steve Rieman of Yucca Valley, and John Whytock of Joshua Tree.

Each of the finalists has extensive public art experience, and each will receive a \$500 honorarium from MBTA for developing and presenting a detailed proposal, project schedule, cost estimate, formal design concept and scale model to the MBTA Art Committee, headed by board members Steve Flock and Lori Herbel, for final selection.

The formal presentations will take place on Thursday, Oct. 22, at 2 p.m., at Twentynine Palms City Hall, 6136 Adobe Road. The meeting is open to the public.

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