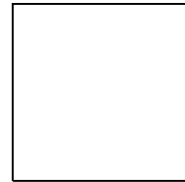


**Economic
Development**
CITY OF AUSTIN



MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and Council

FROM: Kevin Johns, Director
Economic Development Department

DATE: October 5, 2017

SUBJECT: Artwork Donation—Leslie Memorial sculpture

This memo is to provide information on an artwork donation that has been proposed, reviewed, and recommended, according to the City of Austin Artwork Donation and Loan Policy. Information on the donation includes relevant policy parameters, proposed artwork description, a brief summary of the review process, recommendations by the Arts Commission and other Board and Commissions, and installation/maintenance as follows:

Policy Parameters: Per the City of Austin Artwork Donation and Loan Policy, a recommendation to accept a proposed artwork donation is forwarded to the User Department Director and City Manager's Office. Additionally, per the policy, the City Manager will forward to City Council any recommendations for accepted donations to be sited in a prominent location. Prominent location is defined as *"an exterior location that is accessible to the public, enjoys high visibility, and is used or visited by a large number of visitors and/or city residents."* The sculpture is to be installed on an existing City of Austin bench located at 600 Congress Avenue, on the northwest corner of 6th Street and Congress Avenue.

Proposed Artwork and Review Process:

In August 2015, the Cultural Arts Division received an application for a donation of an artwork entitled "Leslie Memorial," submitted by Remembering Leslie, a non-profit organization dedicated to the memory of Leslie Cochran. The artwork has been designed and will be fabricated by Bob Coffee. The project is being funded by the Remembering Leslie organization, through fundraising efforts currently underway (no City funding is involved). The proposed artwork is a seated bronze sculpture of the late Leslie Cochran, approximately 60" x 32" x 55". The proposal review process was extensive, and was conducted in accordance with the review process set forth in the City of Austin's Artwork Donation and Loan Policy.

Departmental Reviews:

A Departmental Review Committee meeting was convened on November 12, 2015, to review the project for public safety, business needs, and regulatory requirements. A second Departmental Review Committee meeting was convened on April 18, 2016 at which the donor and artist addressed concerns raised in the initial Departmental Review Committee meeting. The committee included representatives from the following City departments: Public Works, Planning & Development Review, and Economic Development with Public Works as the lead department. The Departmental Review Committee recommended accepting the donation. The Public Works Department's recommendation to accept the loan was submitted on January 9, 2017.

Board & Commission Review and Actions:

On July 25, 2016, Historic Landmark Commission voted 9-0 to approve installation of the proposed artwork within the Sixth Street and the Congress Avenue historic districts at the northwest corner of 6th Street and Congress Avenue. The proposal was presented to the Austin Arts Commission on January 23, 2017. The Arts Commission approved the staff recommendation to accept the donation. The motion carried on a vote of 7-0, pending Art in Public Places Panel approval that the sculpture is appropriate for the City's permanent public art collection. On February 6, 2017, the Art in Public Places Panel voted 6-0 to approve the sculpture as appropriate for the collection.

Installation and Maintenance:

Final notice to proceed with installation will be subject to execution and compliance with the agreement between the City of Austin and Remembering Leslie. A plaque will be affixed on or near the sculpture to attribute artwork information. Artwork maintenance will be provided by the Economic Development Department with 2% of the artwork value (\$3800) being contributed by the donor to the City, in accordance with the City of Austin Artwork Donation and Loan Policy.

Please contact Susan Lambe, Art in Public Places Administrator at 512-974-7952 or Meghan Wells, Cultural Arts Division Manager at 512-974-9314 if you have any questions.

xc: Elaine Hart, Interim City Manager
Greg Canally, Interim Chief Financial Officer
Richard Mendoza, Director, Public Works Department
Greg Guernsey, Director, Planning & Development Review Department
Sylvia Holt-Rabb, Assistant Director, Economic Development Department