



## PUBLIC ART ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMO

**Meeting Date:** January 8, 2024

**To:** Public Art Advisory Committee

**From:** Caroline Cheung, Assistant to the City Manager

**Subject:** Community Park Star Donor Wall

### Purpose

To increase citizens' appreciation of art, to improve quality of life, and to enhance Brisbane's identity as a unique community within the greater Bay Area.

### Recommendation

Consider taking on the project of revitalizing the Community Park seat wall and approving a not-to-exceed amount for the project.

### Background

In 2012 the Community Park playground underwent a significant renovation. In order to fill a funding gap for the project, more than 210 community donors or "star supporters" made tax-deductible donations amounting to \$33,400. The cast-in-place reinforced concrete seat wall located adjacent to the swing area proudly displayed commemorative donor stars acknowledging these contributions for the last 11 years. Unfortunately, in recent years, many of the donor stars have gotten chipped, scratched, faded, or have fallen off the wall entirely. City staff has handled replacing them as needed. Recently, a concerned citizen brought safety concerns to the attention of the City Council, after a small child picked up a sharp star that had fallen off the wall. Upon inspection and consideration of various alternatives the City decided it was best to remove the stars which will occur later this month. In the meantime, in lieu of a physical wall, the City has published a virtual wall on the City's website: [brisbaneca.org/2012stardonors](http://brisbaneca.org/2012stardonors). There will also be a framed print-out of the virtual wall posted in a publicly accessible space (such as the Library or new City Hall annex).

### Discussion

The Committee is being asked to weigh whether they are willing to support revitalization of the donor wall with a more permanent long-term solution using money from the Public Art Fund. One way this could be accomplished is by hiring an artist to paint the donor star inscriptions on the wall. The Committee may also propose alternate solutions if desired. If the Committee were to undertake this project, all procedures governing contracting an artist would need to be followed in accordance with the Public Art Implementation Guidelines which are as follows:

1. The Public Art Advisory Committee will recommend to the City Council the amount of money from the Public Art Fund to be used on any publicly installed public art pieces and the breakout between Administrative and Maintenance costs of the project. The Public Art Advisory Committee will also

recommend a location for the art project, type of artwork when appropriate, process for involving the community in the process, and method of calling for artists.

2. The Council will approve available funds for the artwork and solicit members to be part of an Art Selection Committee, if needed.
3. The Public Art Committee shall select an artist, or group of artists, through a public process using one of the following methods:
  - a. Request for qualifications (RFQ)
  - b. Request for proposals (RFP)
  - c. Invitational competition.
4. The City Council shall make a decision on the Public Art Committee's recommendations on the artist or artist group.
5. The Public Art Committee, any outside professional hired by the City for assisting with the selection of the artwork, and the appropriate City staff (as needed for the particular project) shall meet regularly with the selected artist, or group of artists, in developing the Conceptual Design Plan that meets the artwork and location criteria.
6. Once the Conceptual Plan has been approved by the Public Art Committee, the artist or artist's team shall refine the project objectives and the Conceptual Design Plan according to the direction of the Public Art Committee.

The Final Design will be approved by the City Council.

### **Fiscal Impact**

The initial request would be for the Committee to designate a not-to-exceed amount for the project (approximately \$10,000 - \$15,000). However, routine maintenance would also be necessary in the future to preserve the painting as is the case with any mural.

---

Caroline Cheung, Assistant to the City Manager