



TO: FRUITA CITY COUNCIL AND MAYOR

FROM: MARC MANCUSO, PARKS AND RECREATION DIRECTOR
CARLEE BURNETT – FRUITA ARTS AND CULTURE BOARD

DATE: JANUARY 16, 2024

AGENDA TEXT: PRESENTATION – The Fruita Arts and Culture Board will give a presentation regarding the Reed Park merry-go-round art

PURPOSE

The Arts and Culture Board would like to share the Reed Park Merry-go-round art concept and artists that were selected through an evaluation process at the December meeting.

Through the RFQ process, the City was looking to select an artist or artist team to create original artwork for Reed Park utilizing the existing Merry-Go-Round that was no longer functional. We asked that the artist or artist team should be experienced in working on projects of similar scale. The artwork must be made of durable, permanent, media that is safe and requires little to no maintenance. The artwork shall exhibit lasting qualities that are not trendy or subject to change within a short period of time.

There were submissions from three local artists presenting different ideas on how to use the Merry-go-round as art. One artist submitted 8 different concepts, while the other two artists submitted one concept each. The board evaluated each of the concepts and scored them based on quality, durability, safety, does the sculpture enhance the public’s experience, and will the sculpture have continued appeal throughout the year. Pavia Justinian and Shanachie Carroll’s concept of turning the merry-go-round into Adirondack-style chairs was selected by the board. The artists envision this to be functional art as a place where adults, kids, and kids-at-heart can gather comfortably around a table together and experience community.

The Arts & Culture Board is an advisory board to the City Council and recommends to the City Council that City staff contract with the selected artists to complete this project.

FISCAL IMPACT

The cost to create this functional art out of the existing Merry-go-round is \$15,000 and is budgeted in the 2024 annual budget within the Reed Park project budget.

APPLICABILITY TO CITY GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

This process is applicable to the City's goals of Quality of Place and Lifestyle. This project will provide another venue for community members to gather and view art. The City values a diversity of cultural and recreational opportunities.

RECOMMENDATION

It is the Arts & Culture Board's and City Staff's recommendation that the City Council support the Arts and Culture boards selection and to move forward with the Merry-go-round art presented by Pavia Justinian and Shanachie Carroll.

Visual Concept:

Adirondack-style chair with armrests and legs made from the handlebars.

