

Agenda Statement

Meeting Date: November 18, 2025
To: City Council
From: Jackie C. Wilde, City Manager
Agenda Item: Authorization to Gift Wooden Whale Sculpture to Huna Totem Corporation for Indoor Display



BACKGROUND, JUSTIFICATION, & INTENT:

The City of Whittier has long held a large wooden whale sculpture that was gifted to the City many decades ago. The sculpture, currently stored on the mezzanine of the Public Works facility, was intended for indoor display but cannot be accommodated within the City's existing facilities. Outdoor exposure would accelerate deterioration of the wooden structure, which has already begun to show signs of age.

Huna Totem Corporation has expressed interest in receiving the sculpture for indoor display within the Glacier Creek Cruise Terminal, where it would remain protected from weather and visible to residents and visitors. This location offers the best opportunity for continued preservation and public enjoyment of the artwork.

Under Whittier Municipal Code § 3.36.410(A)(5) and (B), personal property no longer required for municipal purposes and valued at less than \$25,000 may be disposed of by City Council resolution. The proposed gift meets these criteria and is consistent with the City's authority to dispose of surplus personal property serving a public purpose. The transfer will be documented through a Gift and Transfer Agreement executed by the City Manager and attested by the City Clerk, in accordance with WMC § 3.36.120.

CONSISTENCY CHECKLIST:

	Yes	No	N/A
1. Legislative Priorities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2. Comprehensive Plan	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3. Whittier Code: <i>WMC 3.36</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

FISCAL NOTE: To be provided verbally.

ATTORNEY REVIEW: Yes No Not Applicable

RECOMMENDATION: Administration recommends adoption of Resolution 2025-039.