



CITY OF POMONA

CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION

SPECIAL MEETING

STAFF REPORT

Date: May 22, 2017 Agenda Item No. H.2

To: Chairperson and Members of the Cultural Arts Commission

Submitted by: Brad Johnson, Development Service Manager

Prepared by: Catherine Lin, Senior Planner

Subject: Discussion on RFP for the Restoration of Downtown Pomona Fountains

SUMMARY

Recommendation – That the Cultural Arts Commission Citizens Advisory Committee direct staff to issue an open Request for Proposal (RFP) for the restoration of four fountains in the Downtown Pomona area using the Public Art In-Lieu Fee Fund.

Previous Action – None

Fiscal Impact – No fiscal impact at this time. The ultimate fiscal impact to be charged from the Public Art In-Lieu Fee Fund will be determined at the conclusion of the RFP process, if directed by the Cultural Arts Commission Citizens Advisory Committee.

BACKGROUND

There are four fountains located on Second Street in the Downtown Pomona Area that bear national and local historic significance. These fountains are described below:

1. “Horses” mosaic panel fountain by artist Millard Sheets, located on the north side of 100th block of East Second Street.
2. Dolphin sculpture fountain, located on the south side of 100th block of East Second Street.
3. “Merman” sculpture fountain by Betty Davenport Ford, located on the south side of 400th block of West Second Street.
4. “Goddess of Pomona” mosaic panel fountain by Jean and Arthur Ames, located on the north side of 400th block of West Second Street.

These four fountains have weathered and become dilapidated overtime and work are needed to restore them. However, since all four fountains are art pieces made with intricate mosaic tiles or sculptures, specialized knowledge and technique will be required to properly restore them. Photos of the four fountains are shown in Attachment 1.

DISCUSSION

Recently, Spectra Company, an established firm specializing in nationwide restoration of historic buildings, monuments, and public art has contacted staff. Spectra Company expressed strong interest in assisting the City with restoration of the four fountains, and submitted a proposal and statement of qualification to the City. Staff has attached the submitted statement of qualification for the Committee's reference. Staff notes that in the interest of fairness for the future RFP process, staff opts not to attach the RFP from Spectra Company with this report but will provide copies for the Committee's reference at the meeting.

Part 2, Section IV. 11 of the City of Pomona Art in Public Places Policy and Guidelines Manual ("Policy Manual") specifies that up to one-third of the total in-lieu fee fund may be spent on the maintenance of existing artwork listed on the City's public art registry. Staff notes that although the City's Public Art Registry has yet to be adopted, these four fountains are included in the Draft Public Art Registry and are anticipated to be included in the final document. Further, Part 3, Section III. C of the Policy Manual defines the procedures for the use of Public Art In-Lieu Fee Fund for public art project including maintenance of existing artworks. According to the Policy Manual, it is the Citizens Advisory Committee's responsibility to select an artist or an artist team to carry out the project through an open RFP, RFQ, or an invitational competition. It is also the Citizens Advisory Committee's responsibility to recommend to the Cultural Arts Commission a final artist or artist team after the conclusion of the RFP, RFQ, or an invitational competition.

In this case, staff believes that an RFP process is best approach. Therefore, staff recommends that the Citizens Advisory Committee discuss the project, and direct staff to issue an open RFP to solicit proposals for the restoration of the four fountains in Downtown Pomona.

Attachments:

1. Photos of the Four Fountains
2. Statement of Qualification from Spectra Company