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# **CITY OF POMONA**

## **CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION**

### **CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

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**DATE:** August 13, 2019

**TO:** Cultural Arts Commission Citizens Advisory Committee

**FROM:** Anita D. Gutierrez, AICP, Development Services Director

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS, MILLARD SHEETS FOUNTAINS – POMONA MALL**

#### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends the Cultural Arts Commission Citizens Advisory Committee recommend approval of the Request for Proposals (RFP)(Attachment 1), Millard Sheets Fountains – Pomona Mall to the Cultural Arts Commission.

#### **PROJECT/APPLICANT INFORMATION**

**Project Location:** City of Pomona, Second Street Public Right-Of-Way  
Between Park Avenue and Gibbs Street

**Associated Addresses:** 158 E Second Street, Pomona, CA 91766  
197 E Second Street, Pomona, CA 91766  
400 W Second Street, Pomona, CA 91766  
409 W Second Street, Pomona, CA 91766

**APN Information:** Not Applicable  
**Property Owners:** City of Pomona, Public Right-Of-Way  
**City Council District:** District # 2  
**Historic/CBD:** Not Applicable  
**Specific Plan:** Downtown Pomona Specific Plan  
Mixed Use – Central Business District  
**General Plan:** East: Activity Center  
West: Transit Oriented District: Core

#### **BACKGROUND**

In 1962, local artist Millard Sheets designed and executed the Pomona Mall public improvements along Second Street to create a pedestrian mall in downtown Pomona. The Pomona Mall public

improvements local designation runs along Second Street in Downtown Pomona between Park Avenue and Gibbs Street. Established in 1962, the Pomona Mall was one of the earliest examples of a pedestrian mall in the United States. Some of the public improvements associated with the pedestrian mall included the placement and design of planters, fountains, benches, street signs, and mosaics. As the executing artist, Sheets worked with other local artists to aid in the design of the pedestrian mall with individual pieces included in the five fountains. Over the last few decades the fountains have been altered and only four fountains remain (Attachment 2). The four remaining fountains to be restored include the following pieces, the Diving Porpoise by Edward John Svenson, The Pomona, Roman Goddess of Fruit Trees by Jean & Arthur Ames, Sea Urchin by Albert Stewart, and Blossoming Trees and Horses by Millard Sheets himself. The Pomona Mall, including the planters and four remaining fountains were locally designated as a historic landmark in March 2003.

## **PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The Pomona Cultural Arts Commission seeks proposals from a team of artists to restore the four Millard Sheets Fountains located in the Pomona Mall - public improvements, a locally designated historic landmark.

The proposed restoration budget is estimated between \$150,000 and \$175,000. Each fountain in the RFP (Attachment 1) has a list of mandatory elements to be addressed in the restoration proposal. Artists will create an itemized list and cost estimate for restoration of each fountain and the process by which the restoration will occur in line with all relevant historical guidelines. Artists will not be limited to the list of mandatory elements and may propose additional restoration work on the fountains, but should not exceed the budget maximum of \$175,000.

## **COMMISSION AND COUNCIL CONSIDERATION**

After all Cultural Arts Commission and Citizens Advisory Committee recommendations and approvals have been received, the selected proposal's Final Restoration Plan will go before the Historic Preservation Commission for a Major Certificate of Appropriateness (MAJCOA) for alterations to be conducted on a historic landmark. Following the approval of the MAJCOA the Final Restoration Plan will be considered by City Council, who will ultimately allow for the disbursement of funds from the Public Art Fund.

**Historic Preservation Commission:** Due to the local historic landmark designation, staff determined it prudent to bring the proposed restoration project as a discussion item before the Historic Preservation Commission prior to the release of the Request for Proposals. On August 8, 2019, the Historic Preservation Commission, reviewed and discussed the proposed restoration of the Millard Sheets fountains and recommended future exploration of full restoration of the fountains including the front pillars and original lighting.

Respectfully Submitted:

Anita D. Gutierrez, AICP  
Development Services Director

Prepared By:

Alina Barron  
Assistant Planner

**ATTACHMENTS:**

- 1) Draft Request for Proposals, Millard Sheets Fountains – Pomona Mall
- 2) Millard Sheets Fountains Map