



CITY OF POMONA

CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION

CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

DATE: October 28, 2019

TO: Cultural Arts Commission Citizens Advisory Committee (CACCAC)

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

SUBJECT: Ad-Hoc Committee recommendation to the CACCAC for *Pomona Millard Sheets Fountains – Pomona Mall*

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the CACCAC recommend approval of the proposal submitted by Brian Worley and Spectra Historic Construction for the *Millard Sheets Fountains – Pomona Mall Proposal*, with conditions; and to request the applicant submit a Final Restoration Plan to the Planning Division for Cultural Arts Commission (CAC) consideration.

BACKGROUND

On August 13, 2019, the Cultural Arts Commission (CAC) approved the release of a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the restoration of the Millard Sheets Fountains located within the Pomona Mall, a locally designated historic landmark (Attachment 1).

The recommended budget by the CAC was a maximum range from \$175,000 to \$230,000. Any restorative work proposed to exceed \$175,000 may be considered but should not exceed \$230,000 with a contingency (10% of Final Budget) to pay for unforeseen costs or changes associated with the agreed upon scope of work.

On August 19, 2019, the Planning Division released the approved RFP to the selected artists from the qualified artist shortlist ("Artist Shortlist") with a submittal deadline of September 10, 2019.

ARTIST SHORTLIST

All artists on the Artist Shortlist have been pre-qualified by the CAC to apply for projects advertised through the Art in Public Places in-lieu fund. This includes non-profit organizations that may submit proposals as partners with both established and unestablished artists in the community, who are not individually identified on the Artist Shortlist. The RFP was by invitation only to two non-profit organizations and 11 artists on the pre-qualified short list that demonstrated advanced skills in mosaic, sculpture, or fabrication.

AD-HOC COMMITTEE REVIEW

On August 13, 2019, the CACACC established an ad-hoc committee consisting of members David Oliver, Joy McCallister, and Nancy Tessier to evaluate proposals submitted in response to the RFP and to provide a recommendation for a finalist. On September 17, 2019, Planning Division staff met with ad-hoc committee members McCallister and Tessier to evaluate the single proposal submitted by Brian Worley in association with Spectra Historic Construction, based on appropriateness, responsiveness to the scope of work, proposed budget, provided narrative, and restoration concept as outlined in the released RFP.

Based on the RFP goals and criteria, the ad-hoc committee was unable to recommend the proposal move forward without further review. Prior to the review of the proposal, staff determined that prevailing wage requirements would not be applicable to projects funded by the Public Art fund, thus altering the cost estimate for the proposal. Nonetheless, the ad-hoc committee members expressed concerns with the proposal and concluded the following:

1. The proposal does not satisfactorily address the minimum restoration elements as requested, specifically: lighting and replacement of aging plumbing equipment.
2. The proposal is primarily focused on the cleaning of elements in line with all relevant historic guidelines; however, the cost proposal exhausts the majority of the allocated budget without element replacements.

On September 23, 2019, at the CACACC meeting, the ad-hoc committee requested additional review time and to instead bring forward a recommendation to the October 28, 2019 CACCAC meeting. The additional time was requested to allow the ad-hoc committee to research cost estimates, best practice cleaning methodologies, and to conduct a site inspection and in-person interview with the applicant, Brian Worley and Spectra Historic Construction.

AD-HOC COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION AND CONDITIONS

On September 23, the ad-hoc committee and staff met with Larry Egan of the Downtown Pomona Owner's Association (DPOA) to conduct on-site inspections of all four fountains, including the mechanical and plumbing equipment located in the rear sheds. The DPOA currently maintains the plumbing of all four fountains. On October 7, 2019, the ad-hoc committee and staff conducted an in-person interview with the applicant and discussed methodologies, cost estimates, and other items required to be addressed. Prior to the in-person interview, the applicant submitted a revised proposal without prevailing wage, which reduced the cost estimate (Attachment 3).

Upon completion of this additional research, and after review of the submitted revision, the ad-hoc committee is recommending approval of the conceptual restoration plan submitted on September 10, 2019 (Attachment 2), with the following conditions:

1. The total cost proposed by the applicant remains under \$200,000, not including the 10% contingency (\$20,000 maximum), as the proposed work does not call for the replacement of materials in excess, but rather cleans what material is existing.
2. Address the required solar lighting and provide specifications.
3. Address the required plumbing equipment cleaning of all four fountains.
4. Address the replacement of the pump on Fountain #1 (*“Diving Porpoise”* by Edward John Svenson).
5. Address the replacement of the pressure gauge on Fountain #3 (*“Sea Urchin”* by Albert Stewart)
6. Address the required cleaning and/or replacement of the fountain fixtures.
7. Address the required cleaning and/or replacement of the drinking fountain plumbing and tiling.
8. Provide a protective element (i.e. stoppers) for the fountains.
9. Provide plaques adjacent to the fountains to not impede on the general display.

Upon approval by the CACCAC, the applicant will prepare a Final Restoration Plan, incorporating the aforementioned conditions, for CAC consideration at its next meeting on November 12, 2019.

Respectfully Submitted By:
Anita D. Gutierrez, AICP
Development Services Director

Prepared By:
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Assistant Planner

ATTACHMENTS:

- 1) RFP Millard Sheets Fountains – Pomona Mall
- 2) Conceptual Restoration Plan – September 10, 2019
- 3) Revised Conceptual Restoration Plan – October 7, 2019