



## PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION AGENDA REPORT

December 12, 2019  
Item 5

**TITLE: REVIEW AND RECOMMEND THE DONATION AND LOCATION OF THE PUBLIC ARTWORK, "EVENTIDE," AT ALVISO ADOBE COMMUNITY PARK**

### **SUMMARY**

On December 6, 2011 at its regular meeting, City Council approved the purchase of several public art pieces as part of the Harrington Public Art Acquisition Plan Phase II.

The Harringtons recommend "Eventide," a cold welded steel replica of a mountain lion, be purchased as part of this plan, and that it be installed at the Alviso Adobe Community Park. City staff, the Public Art Selection Subcommittee (PASS), and the Civic Arts Commission agree with this recommendation and have selected the northwest of the orchard at the Adobe for the location. If recommended by the Parks and Recreation Commission, the piece will be shared with the City Council for review and final decision at an upcoming meeting.

### **CIVIC ARTS COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION**

Recommend the donation and location of the public artwork, "*Eventide*," at the Alviso Adobe Community Park, Northwest of the orchard.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Review and recommend the donation and location of the public artwork, "*Eventide*," at the Alviso Adobe Community Park.

### **FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

The artwork, "*Eventide*," which is valued at \$1,000, will be purchased through the Public Art Acquisition Fund #50550110-430107. Pursuant to the terms of the Harrington Art Partnership, it is the City's responsibility to coordinate and pay for the installation of the public artwork. The cost of installing the piece is estimated between \$4,000- \$6,000 and will also be funded through the Public Art Acquisition Fund #50550110-430107.

## **BACKGROUND**

Through the Harrington Art Partnership (Another Harrington Arts Partnership Piece for You), Nancy and Gary Harrington donated funding to the City for several public art pieces. They recommend the cold welded steel sculpture “*Eventide*”, created by artist Parker McDonald, be added to the City’s public art collection as part of this partnership. An image of this piece is included as Attachment 1.

On December 6, 2011 at its regular meeting, City Council approved the purchase of several public art pieces as part of the Harrington Public Art Acquisition Plan Phase II. Five of the pieces approved in this phase are yet to be donated to the City. Due to the time that has passed since original approval, the Harringtons have indicated that, for a variety of reasons, it is becoming increasingly difficult to donate the remaining pre-approved pieces. In October 2014, city staff agreed to allow the Harringtons to find suitable replacements for the remaining five pieces. The Harringtons would like to donate “*Eventide*,” a cold weld steel replica of a mountain lion, to be installed the Alviso Adobe Community Park located at 3465 Old Foothill Road, instead of one of the remaining pre-approved five pieces.

In accordance with the City’s Public Art Program, “*Eventide*” was reviewed by the Public Art Selection Subcommittee on September 28, 2018. The donation and location were approved by the Civic Arts Commission at the November 5, 2018 commission meeting.

The matter was then forwarded to the Parks and Recreation Commission at the January 11, 2019 commission meeting where the commission requested that staff find another location at the Alviso Adobe Community Park or at another Pleasanton park with the concern that the original location would be scary for young school children.

## **DISCUSSION**

Staff (including representatives from Landscape Architecture, Library and Recreation, and Parks) visited multiple sites within the Alviso Adobe Park as well as sites in other City parks. These locations were all discussed with the Harringtons. Augustine Bernal Community Park was considered for the mountain lion’s natural connection to the environment. However, this location was determined to be too secluded for the greater public to enjoy and too difficult for the art conservators to maintain. Val Vista and Bernal Community Parks were both considered, but it was determined that the mountain lion was too out of place for these locations. The entire property at the Alviso Adobe Community Park was explored. The area northwest of the orchard at the Adobe (Attachments 2 and 3) was recommended as the preferred site to bring back to the commissions for review. This site has great appeal due to its approachability by patrons, its connection to the natural environment, and its invisibility to street traffic. Staff believes that locating the piece northwest of the orchard and making minor modifications to the original proposed piece will limit the fear factor of young patrons. This location has ample open space around it, the pedestal for the piece will be lower, and the color of the piece will be bolder.

The Public Art Selection Sub-Committee (PASS) and Civic Arts Commission recommend acceptance of this donation and placement at the Alviso Adobe Community Park as noted in Attachments 2, 3 and 4. PASS and the Civic Arts Commission agree

that this location is preferred because of its location away from Foothill Road. During their research, PASS also thought the amount of dense evergreen Oak trees would prevent the piece from being seen from Old Foothill Road. Limiting glimpses from roadways prevents drivers from mistakenly identifying the art as a real mountain lion. The PASS committee agrees that this location is accessible by trails for the public to enjoy. The committee also prefers that the piece not be lit to not create a shadow. The committee would like the piece to be placed on a lower pedestal where you must be in the park to view the piece. The PASS committee suggests that the pedestal be a concrete or boulder shaped base so the piece would be off the ground.

Staff met with the Alviso Adobe Naturalist, Recreation Supervisor, and Recreation Manager to discuss this specific location. They agree this location is best suited for educational opportunities, interpretation, and for the overall flow of the park to all programs and users.

The public art piece provides a strong connection to the location and helps enhance this particular location of town. The Harringtons, the City's art conservator, and City staff all believe that the proposed location and installation details will showcase the artwork.

#### **ALTERNATIVE ACTION**

Any other action as determined by the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Submitted by:



Tamara Whitney  
Recreation Manager, Civic Arts & Special Events

Attachments:

1. Photo of the public art piece
2. Overview map of the Alviso Adobe Community Park
3. Current photo of proposed location
4. Mockup of the public art piece in the proposed location