



To: City Planning Commission
From: Public Art Commission
Date: August 10, 2016
RE: **Section 17.05 Review Riverfront Public Art PAC 14-004**

- I. **APPLICANT** Josh Wiener

- II. **LOCATION** Adjacent to or within the project site for the T Tyler Potterfield Bridge south embankment and Southbank Pathways Project. See attached location map.
Property Owner City of Richmond

- III. **PURPOSE** Section 17.05 Review approval of a public art installation in the form of eight 17 ft. tall core-ten steel circles that are integrated into the landscape in the project site area on the south side of the T. Tyler Potterfield Bridge.

- IV. **SUMMARY & RECOMMENDATION** The public art proposed at the south river area bank of the T.Tyler Potterfield Bridge is part of the larger Riverfront Area Plan that passed in Sept 2014. The artist has conducted extensive work to develop appropriate locations for his vision that will integrate with the environmental conditions and integrate with the landscape in a way that complements the natural environment and will use materials that will not create a disturbance to wildlife or watershed features. The use of core ten steel as a material as it will be a durable material that should not require upkeep and will be resistant to weather conditions and easily cleaned if subjected to graffiti.

Staff recommends approval of the proposal. This project was given approval by Public Art Commission at the Aug 9, 2016 meeting.

- V. **FINDINGS OF FACT**
 - a. **Site Description and Surrounding Context** The Site consists of the south embankment of the James River and the areas defined near the pathway areas leading from the T Tyler Potterfield Bridge to the SunTrust Bridge. The areas surrounding the project included the Resource Protection Area, as designated by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality and the Floodwall area as designated by the Army Corp of Engineers. The sites identified have been approved by the project site team, architects and civil engineers for the T Tyler Potterfield Bridge. The artist has vetted the location of the sculptures to ensure that they are in compliance with all existing restrictions and prohibited spaces within the greater project site.

- b. Scope of Review** The project is subject to review as a public art –Section 17.05 of the City Charter. The Public Art Commission is an advisory body to the City Planning Commission.

C. Project Description and background

This project was allocated by the PAC in 2014 after the approval of the Riverfront Master Plan and T Tyler Potterfield Bridge.

The Request for Qualifications for an artist was released in 2014 with input from a site team consisting of stakeholders from the city, riverfront and neighborhood. The artist was selected based on quality of prior work, place making experience, project management ability, technical expertise and statement of approach. Site team findings during their initial outreach meetings concluded that the project needed to be something that integrated with the natural environment and that the following themes should be reflected. The art was identified as needing to enhance the natural elements of the James River, create a destination or gathering place to draw people to the river, stimulate thought, conversation and creativity.

The circles will be 17 foot tall 1 ' x 1" core ten rolled steel tubing. The foundations will be placed below grade and not visible.

The circles will weave throughout the landscape to create a visual line of continuity.

The artist has selected the locations in coordination with the project team to integrate with the landscaping and site parameters.

Please see attached renderings and diagram of placement within the project area.

D. Attachments

1. Proposal
2. Site Map
3. Foundation