

Ebinger, Matthew J. - PDR

From: Ernest Mooney [emooney@vabookco.com]
Sent: Wednesday, May 30, 2018 8:01 PM
To: Parker, Ellyn - PDR
Cc: Ebinger, Matthew J. - PDR
Subject: Richmond Art

My comment is simply this: Do not spend one cent of our tax dollars on art until the schools are restored to maximum condition and efficiency. To do otherwise constitutes malfeasance of office.

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Ebinger, Matthew J. - PDR

From: Barbara Glakas [bglakas@verizon.net]
Sent: Wednesday, May 30, 2018 5:55 PM
To: Ebinger, Matthew J. - PDR; Parker, Elyn - PDR
Subject: Comments on Public Art Master Plan

Dear Members of the Planning Commission,

With regards to the proposed amendments to the Public Art Master Plan, I disagree with the proposed removal of the section on page 55 that says the following:

20. Page 55 Remove the 5th paragraph that states "Contextualize Monument Avenue and better connect it to the City of Richmond's Residents. Citizens need to have a direct conversation about its collective meaning. The statues must be contextualized and signage with explanations must be added. This is an important opportunity for community education that should not be overlooked."

I am not sure what statues the City or the State may decide to keep or remove from Monument Drive. However, I believe it is important to contextualize whichever statues remain there. This is especially important with regards to Civil War related statues. To keep these statues in place and not contextualize them would mean that the City leaders and government are being unresponsive to the many residents of Richmond who desire to see these statues either removed or contextualized.

In the end, you may not be able to remove these statues, however, the City should accept the responsibility of contextualization, educating the public about the meaning of these monuments, telling both sides of the story.

Sincerely,

Barbara Glakas