



Legislation Text

File #: PAC2023 - 059, Version: 1

City of Richmond

Intracity Correspondence

O&R Transmittal

DATE: January 2, 2024

TO: The Honorable Members of City Council

THROUGH: The Honorable Levar M. Stoney, Mayor

THROUGH: J.E. Lincoln Saunders, Chief Administrative Officer

FROM: Kevin J. Vonck, Director, Department of Planning and Development Review

RE: City of Richmond Public Art Commission Review and Acceptance Policy of Gifts of Art to accept a gift of art to the City of Richmond from The Valentine Museum.

ORD. OR RES. No. PAC2023 - 059

PURPOSE: City of Richmond Public Art Commission Review and Acceptance Policy of Gifts of Art to accept a gift of art to the City of Richmond from The Valentine Museum.

BACKGROUND: The proposed gift of art was created in celebration of The Valentine's 100th anniversary in 2024. The Gift includes a two-piece, interactive sculpture designed by Mickael Broth for installation in front of The Valentine and funded through the Common Wealth Public Art Fund.

The work is composed of two human-scale abstract shapes, each with a hole through its center and each faced with a mirrored surface. The pieces are interactive, drawing passers-by into the works themselves with the reflective surfaces and strategically situated holes that allow audiences of different heights and abilities to connect with the work in amusing and thought-provoking ways. Beyond serving as a playful installation, the work asks us to question what we include in our storytelling, what we leave out and what that says about

ourselves, our surroundings and our history. An apt installation in front of a history museum.

The work consists of powder-coated, welded aluminum used to fabricate the main structures. Mirror-finished stainless-steel plates will be affixed to the aluminum surfaces to create a reflective surface which will include an anti-graffiti coating. Each piece of the sculpture will be raised off the sidewalk with a low-rise pedestal and their positioning will be established in conjunction with the Department of Public Works to ensure maximum safety for both vehicles and pedestrians.

As part of the gift, The Valentine has agreed to take responsibility for the general day-to-day maintenance of the sculpture.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT:

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES AND OTHER GOVERNMENTAL:

FISCAL IMPACT: The Department of Planning and Development Review will not incur any immediate costs. The impact to the City's future fiscal years is estimated at no more than \$1,000 over the next ten years for significant conservation.

DESIRED EFFECTIVE DATE:

REQUESTED INTRODUCTION DATE:

CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING DATE:

REQUESTED AGENDA: Consent

RECOMMENDED COUNCIL COMMITTEE: None

AFFECTED AGENCIES: Office of Chief Administrative Office
Law Department (for review of draft ordinance)
Department of Public Works (permitting)

RELATIONSHIP TO EXISTING ORD. OR RES.: Ord. 97.3.41

ATTACHMENTS: Gift of Art Forms

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Susan Glasser, Secretary to the Public Art Commission, Department of Planning and Development Review, Susan.Glasser@rva.gov