

VKB ART IN PUBLIC PLACES - ARTISTS BENCHES PROJECT

DRAFT Project overview for discussion

The concept is to commission 4-6 artists to create benches/chairs for public spaces. Multiple details have to be worked out, including procurement of artists, engineering considerations, code compliance, suitability of materials and long-term maintenance requirements.

ARTISTS PROCUREMENT & SELECTION

The Board has the following options:

1. Based on its experience and familiarity with artists from South Florida, the Board can recommend artists to a pool of candidates.
2. An advertisement could be placed in *The Islander News* and posted on social media seeking qualifications from artists. Responses would be reviewed to arrive at selections.
3. VKB can contract with the county's APP Department for them to do the formal announcement to their lists. This will likely result in a very large artist pool, requiring the responsibility to address all responding artists.

Final Artist Selection

The Board would review the pool of artists, images of completed work, their qualifications and demonstrated ability to carry out a project. A group of 6-8 artists would be commissioned to produce formal proposals.

These would be reviewed for feasibility, functionality and structural requirements. The process would also include transportation to the sites and installation. At this point, the Board could inform the Council about project status.

The selected proposals would be moved forward to contracting and fabrication.

POTENTIAL SITES

With input from Todd Hofferberth, the following sites were identified for consideration:

1. Village Green, North East corner
Desirable to have sitting and rest areas, including water fountain
2. Village Green, East side
3. Village Green, West side (south of the ceiba tree)
4. Lake Park, multiple possible locations
5. Beach Park, various locations
6. Library Pond Park
7. In front of Community Center – bench for people waiting for buses and a meet and greet space

Other potential sites include:
Butterfly Park and Butterfly Path
Mashta Bridge
Crandon Park access path from Harbor Drive

PROJECTED PROJECT BUDGET

Technical Support (Engineering)		\$5,000
Artists Proposals		
Commission 5 proposals-	\$2,000 ea	\$10,000
Project construction 5	\$25,000 ea	\$125,000
Installation support		\$15,000
Contingency		\$15,000
Project total		\$170,000

PUBLIC INFORMATION AND EDUCATION

Artists would be asked to provide materials for the program's Education Resource files. Appropriate announcements, including a Dedication Ceremony would be scheduled as the project moves forward.

DRAFT for discussion
Submitted by César Trasobares, Artistic Advisor to VKB APP Board.

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