



City of Watsonville

Meeting Agenda

Parks & Recreation Commission

Ana V. Hurtado, District 1
Paul De Worken, District 2
Brando Sencion, District 3
Jessica Carrasco, District 4
Abel Sanchez, District 5
Frank Barba, District 6
Wayne Hayashibara, District 7

Monday, November 2, 2020

6:30 PM

<https://zoom.us/j/91053093798>

Remote Teleconference Meeting

Notice of Remote/Teleconferencing Meeting

This meeting is being held in accordance with the Brown Act as currently in effect under the State Emergency Services Act, the Governor's Emergency Declaration related to COVID-19, the Santa Cruz County Health Officer Extended and Modified Shelter in Place Orders, and the Governor's Executive Orders N-25-20 and N-29-20, that allows attendance by members of the City Commission, City staff, and the public to participate and the Commission to conduct the meeting by teleconference, videoconference, or both.

HOW TO VIEW THE MEETING: There is no physical location from which members of the public may observe the meeting. Please view the meeting which is being televised by video streamed at Facebook Live.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE BEFORE THE MEETING: Members of the public are encouraged to submit written email to pcs@cityofwatsonville.org. All comments will be part of the meeting record. Emails received two hours before the meeting will not be uploaded to the Agenda and may not be seen by the Commission or staff. They will be added to the agenda the day after the meeting.

*HOW TO PARTICIPATE DURING THE MEETING: Members of the public are encouraged to join the meeting through Zoom Webinar from their computer, tablet or smartphone:
<https://zoom.us/j/91053093798>*

or iPhone one-tap :

US: +12133388477,,91053093798# or +16692192599,,91053093798#

or Telephone:

Dial(for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):

US: +1 213 338 8477 or +1 669 219 2599 or +1 669 900 9128

Webinar ID: 910 5309 3798

*You will access the meeting as an attendee; when you are ready to make a public comment, if joining by computer audio, please click on the "Raise Hand" button and the Clerk will unmute your microphone; by phone please press *9 on your keypad. If you want to enable your camera, please let the Clerk know when you start speaking.*

The City of Watsonville, in complying with the Americans with Disabilities Act ("ADA"), requests individuals who require special accommodations to access and/or participate in City Council meetings to please contact the City Clerks Office at (831) 768-3040, at least three (3) business days before the scheduled meeting to ensure that the City can assist you.

1. ROLL CALL

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. COMMUNICATIONS

(This time is set aside for members of the general public to address the Parks & Recreation Commission on any item not on the Agenda, which is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Parks & Recreation Commission. No action or discussion shall be taken on any item presented except that any Commissioner may respond to statements made or questions asked, or may ask questions for clarification. All matters of an administrative nature will be referred to staff. All matters relating to Parks & Recreation Commission will be noted in the minutes and may be scheduled for discussion at a future meeting or referred to staff for clarification and report. Any Commissioner may place matters brought up under Oral Communications on a future agenda. ALL SPEAKERS ARE ASKED TO FILL OUT A CARD & LEAVE IT AT THE PODIUM, ANNOUNCE THEIR NAME AND ADDRESS IN ORDER TO OBTAIN AN ACCURATE RECORD FOR THE MINUTES.

3.1 Oral Communications from Members of the Public

3.2 Oral Communications and Commissioner Liaison Reports from the Commissioners

3.3 Director's Report

4. CONSENT AGENDA

All items appearing on the Consent Agenda are recommended actions which are considered to be routine and will be acted upon as one consensus motion. Any items removed will be considered immediately after the consensus motion. The Chair will allow public input prior to the approval of the Consent Agenda.

4.1 [MINUTES, SEPTEMBER 21, 2020](#)

Attachments: [MINUTES - SEPTEMBER 21, 2020- Final](#)

5. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

6. PRESENTATIONS & REPORTS

7. NEW BUSINESS

a) [PUBLIC ART APPLICATION, MURALS ON UTILITY BOXES](#)

Attachments: [Staff Report - Utility Boxes](#)
[Attachment A-Images of art on Freedom Blvd](#)

b) Commission Questions & Input

c) Public Input

d) Appropriate Action

a) [PUBLIC ART APPLICATION, MURAL ON MADISON STREET.](#)

Attachments: [Staff Report - Madison St. Mural](#)
 [Attachment A- Watsonville History Mural](#)

b) Commission Questions & Input

c) Public Input

d) Appropriate Action

a) [ACTION REGARDING THE GEORGE WASHINGTON BUST](#)

Attachments: [110220 George Washington Bust - Report v2](#)
 [Letter](#)

b) Commission Questions & Input

c) Public Input

d) Appropriate Action

9. ADJOURNMENT

The next Commission meeting will be held on December 7, 2020



**MINUTES
REGULAR PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING**

September 21, 2020

**CITY OF WATSONVILLE
REMOTE TELECONFERENCE**

1. ROLL CALL

COMMISSIONERS: **BARBA, CARRASCO, DEWORKEN, HAYASHIBARA,
HURTADO, SANCHEZ**

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: **SENCION**

PCS STAFF: **PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR NICK
CALUBAQUIB
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
BENJAMIN HEISTEIN
RECREATION SUPERINTENDENT IMELDA NEGRETE
SENIOR ADMINISTRATIVE ANALYST ADRIANA FLORES
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT II DESIREE MOYA**

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. COMMUNICATIONS

3.1 WATSONVILLE PRC MEETING ZOOM WEBINAR INSTRUCTION- Admin Assistant Moya went over the instructions for ZOOM webinar.

3.2 ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC – NONE

3.3 ORAL COMMUNICATIONS AND COMMISSIONER LIAISON REPORTS FROM THE COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Sanchez welcomed Frank Barba to the Commission

Commissioner De Worken requested that the Commission be able to provide new topics for the commission meetings and would like to see more art topics in the parks and create open walls for art to minimize graffiti.

3.4 DIRECTOR'S REPORT- Director Calubaquib updated the commission on various tasks that took place within the month.

- The Department led the efforts on setting up a shelter and assisted with the donation center for evacuees from the fires that were spread across the counties.
- Excel in Place program was launched for the year and is serving a great number of youth that are in need of support with distance learning along with providing youth with enrichment recreational activities.

- The school district adopted a joint use agreement with the City of Watsonville to provide community access at three school sites: Ann Soldo, EA Hall and Radcliff. This agreement allows the community access to fields and playgrounds during the time school is not in session, these sites are planned to be opened in the next few weeks.
- The City Council adopted an agreement with a contractor to begin the construction of the permanent restrooms at the City Plaza. This project is expected to be completed in early spring.
- A request for proposal (RFP) was released to find a new operator for Pinto Lake City Park to help run the RV Park along with water access and use of the park. The RFP ended a week ago and interviews will be conducted within the week.
- A few events will be coming up in the next few weeks: A Town Hall meeting will be held on September 23rd for the Landscape and Lighting Maintenance Assessment District (LLMAD) at Vista Montana, this meeting is to help inform residents what the LLMAD is about and what it covers along with discussing solutions for the future.
- A drive up Ice Cream social for our older adults in our community will be held, at the Senior Center on September 26, 2020.
- National Night Out will be taking place on October 6th, our Police Activities League and recreation team are planning fun activities.
- Plans for Halloween to host a drive through event and further plans for the holidays and will be posted on social media soon with further information.

Assistant Director Benjamin Heistein provided an update on the pump track at Ramsay Park. The Mountain Bikers of the Santa Cruz (MBOSC) organization will enter in an agreement with the City to build and maintain a pump track at the Ramsay Park old skate park area. The City Parks and Community Services Department will maintain the landscaping and surrounding utilities. Once the construction is completed, the MBOSC will donate the track to the City. Currently the plans are being finalized through permitting and approval by City Council. Construction will begin in October and plan to open the track by the end of December, weather permitting.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

4.1 PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES August 3, 2020

MOTION: It was moved by Commissioner Hurtado, seconded by Commissioner Carrasco and carried by the following vote to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting on August 3, 2020.

AYES: BARBA, CARRASCO, DEWORKEN, HAYASHIBARA, HURTADO, SANCHEZ
NOES: NONE
ABSENT: SENCION
ABSTAIN: NONE

5. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA – NONE

6. PRESENTATIONS & REPORTS

6.1 SUMMER CAMP 2020 REPORT – Imelda Negrete, Recreation Superintendent, reported on the summer camp offered over the summer. Due to COVID-19, the camp had to comply with the CDD and Santa Cruz County guidelines. In collaboration with the County of Santa Cruz Parks Department, a summer camp was able to be provided to the community and consisted of a 9-week program offered at seven different sites and ran from June 8th through August 7th.

6.2 GEORGE WASHINGTON UPDATE – Director Calubaquib updated the Commission on the the process for determining a plan of action for the George Washington bust. There have been three community initiated petitions released in July, two sit ins and demonstrations in front of the bust. The sit ins and the petitions expressed desire for two opposing actions: one to keep the George Washington in the City Plaza and the other to remove the bust. In addition to the sit ins and petitions, many letters and emails where submitted to the City Parks Commission, City Council, and City Manager’s office in regards to the removal or to keep the George Washington Bust in place. A study session was provided at the last City Parks Commission meeting in August, where the community was able to provide their opinions. A community survey was opened on September 1st and will stay open to the public until September 30th. The survey asks for community if the bust should be removed or not and their reason why. On Tuesday, October 20th a town hall meeting will be held and on November 2nd a number of options will be presented to the Parks and Recreation Commission for consideration and action. Commissioners asked questions and voiced their opinions on the subject.

7. NEW BUSINESS

7.1 PUBLIC ART APPLICATION - COMMUNITY BRIDGES MURAL – Sr. Admin. Analyst Flores reported on the application for public art, submitted by Community Bridges, for restoration of a mural located at 18 W. Lake Avenue at the La Manzana center office building. The artist is Guillermo “Yermo” Aranda who created the mural concept design and created the original work. Mr. Aranda will be restoring the mural. It was recommended that the restoration of the existing mural be approved.

a) **COMMISSION QUESTIONS & INPUT** – Commissioners asked questions about the art piece and Flores and Artist Guillermo Aranda responded for clarification.

b) **PUBLIC INPUT** – None

c) **APPROPRIATE ACTION: MOTION:** It was moved by Commissioner De Worken, seconded by Commissioner Hayashibara and carried by the following vote to approve the application for Public Art for restoration of the existing Mural at 18 W. Lake Avenue.

AYES: BARBA, CARRASCO, DEWORKEN, HAYASHIBARA, HURTADO, SANCHEZ
NOES: NONE
ABSENT: SENCION

ABSTAIN: NONE

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

8.1 PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION WORK PLAN REVIEW - Director Calubaquib updated the Commission on the work plan for the Commission. Director Calubaquib asked the Commission to provide ideas on how to update the work plan, knowing some areas of the work plan are not able to move forward due to the current pandemic situation. A few items in the work plan were updated and changes in responsibilities made due to Commission membership change.

- a) **COMMISSION QUESTIONS & INPUT** - Carrasco for the outreach and subcommittee stated she likes the idea to get information to the community especially now and would like to keep this idea in the work plan.

De Worken commented on the Community engagement and well being and expressed that we can still engage the community via zoom.

Barba volunteered to take over any subcommittee roles previously held by Commissioner Florez.

- b) **PUBLIC INPUT** – None

- c) **APPROPRIATE ACTION** - It was moved by Commissioner Hurtado, seconded by Commissioner Deworken and carried by the following vote to approve the updates on the Commission work plan.

AYES: BARBA, CARRASCO, DEWORKEN, HAYASHIBARA, HURTADO, SANCHEZ

NOES: NONE

ABSENT: SENCION

ABSTAIN: NONE

9. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 8:54 pm

ATTEST:

/s/ Desiree Moya
Admin Assistant II

Parks and Recreation Director

Parks and Recreation Chair

**City of Watsonville
Parks and Community Services Department**

M E M O R A N D U M



DATE: October 29, 2020

TO: Parks and Recreation Commission

FROM: Adriana Flores, Sr. Administrative Analyst

SUBJECT: Approve the Application for Public Art, Submitted by Jaime Sanchez and the City of Watsonville, for two (2) murals located on Utility Boxes at two (2) locations along Freedom Boulevard.

AGENDA ITEM: November 2, 2020

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Parks and Recreation Commission approve the Application for Public art, submitted by Jaime Sanchez and the City of Watsonville for two (2) murals located on two separate locations on Freedom Boulevard

DISCUSSION:

The Project

This project consists of two (2) small murals to be painted on utility boxes located on Freedom Boulevard, the first to be located on the corner of Alta Vista and Freedom Boulevard and the second to be located on Crestview Dr and Freedom Boulevard. The artist, Jaime Sanchez received a CARES Act grant award from the Community Health Trust of Pajaro Valley to raise awareness on COVID prevention and to empower people to use proactive measures to prevent COVID. Mr. Sanchez believed that the utility boxes on Freedom Boulevard would make an excellent choice for a blank canvas to be able to apply his designs. Working in collaboration with the City of Watsonville's Public Works Department, Mr. Sanchez received approval to apply his designs to City-owned utility boxes.

The Artist

Jaime Sanchez has been a local artist in the Community for over 12 years. He is a graduate of California State University Monterey Bay with a BA in Visual and Public Art. Mr. Sanchez has been part of many murals in Watsonville including the following: The Pajaro Valley High School quad mural (2008), The Triumph mural in downtown Watsonville (2016), The Pajaro Valley Community Health Trust mural (2017), The Watsonville Library mural (2019), and most recently the Watsonville Science Workshop mural (2020).

Project Design

According to the artist, both designs are meant to be positive reminders that we do not have to live in fear of the virus, but rather, that we can live in courage to do what is necessary to overcome this virus in a way that shows us cooperating in unity and understanding.

The first mural that will be located at Alta Vista and Freedom Boulevard named *Young People Taking Action for Health*, depicts two children wearing masks and shows how young people don't just have to do as they are told but can become leaders and be proactive in their own protection.

The second mural to be placed at Crestview Drive and Freedom Boulevard named *Family United in Protection* shows a family all wearing masks showing the importance of taking proper protections to defend all family members from contracting the virus.

Project Timeline

If approved, the project would start immediately and the estimated completion would be four weeks for a final completion date to be on or about November 30, 2020, weather permitting.

Project and Facility Maintenance

Both murals will be applied to metal utility boxes that will be prepared by the artist by lightly sanding the surface to allow paint to adhere. A coat of primer will also be applied to allow for adhesion and for longevity of the mural prior to execution of the design. The artist will use water-base gloss outdoor paint for the design. A final clear coat will be applied upon completion of the artwork installation to protect the design from the elements.

The artist estimates the lifespan to be 15-25 years due to the protective coat that will be applied will protect the artwork from graffiti and will allow for any damage to be easily removed without damaging the mural.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

None.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment A: Image of proposed Art on Utility Boxes at Freedom Blvd.

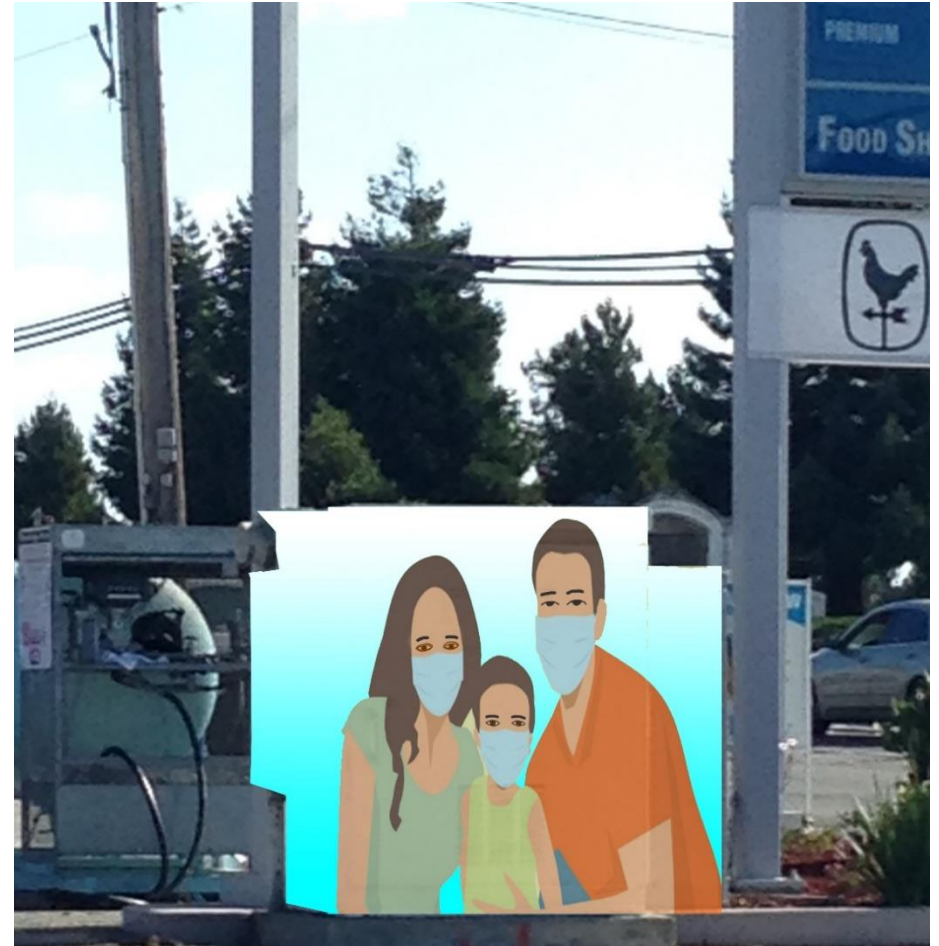
Parks & Recreation Commission

November 2, 2020

Attachment A: Images of Art proposed on Utility boxes at Freedom Blvd.



Young People Taking Action for Health - Corner of Alta Vista and Freedom Blvd (in front of restaurant) – Faces Freedom Blvd



Family United in Protection- Corner of Crestview and Freedom Blvd (near gas station) - Faces Crestview Ave.

City of Watsonville
Parks and Community Services Department

M E M O R A N D U M



DATE: October 29, 2020

TO: Parks and Recreation Commission

FROM: Adriana Flores, Sr. Administrative Analyst

SUBJECT: Approve the Application for Public Art, Submitted by Ome Garcia for *The Watsonville History Mural* located at the First Christian Church at 15 Madison Street.

AGENDA ITEM: November 2, 2020

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Parks and Recreation Commission approve the Application for Public art, submitted by Ome Garcia for an existing mural *The Watsonville History Mural* located at First Christian Church at 15 Madison Street.

DISCUSSION:

The Project

This project consists of a mural on the church bell tower of First Christian Church located on Madison Street. The mural is on the wall facing East Lake Avenue and has been named by the artist *The Watsonville History Mural*.

The Artist

Ome Garcia is an accomplished local artist in Watsonville with over 10 years' experience working in the community on various projects. Ome is described as a dynamic organizer, educator and artist with experience designing, coordinating, facilitating and evaluating arts education programs with an emphasis on self-efficacy, creativity, collaboration and transformative justice for youth and families in BIPOC & LGBTQ+ communities.

Project Design

The mural is described by the artist as a celebration of 250 years of local cultural, political, and agricultural movements.

Project Timeline

The mural is complete and located on the church bell tower of the building facing East Lake Avenue on the property of First Christian Church.

Project and Facility Maintenance

The mural measures 22.5' by 40 ft. and was painted using exterior house paint along with clear coat.

The artist estimates the lifespan to be 10 years and both the artist and owner are committed to the maintenance of the design.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

None.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment A: Image of existing Mural *The Watsonville History Mural*, 15 Madison Street.

Watsonville History Mural
First Christian Church
15 Madison St, Watsonville, CA





DATE: October 26, 2020

TO: Parks & Recreation Commission

FROM: Nick Calubaquib, Parks and Community Services Director

SUBJECT: Action Regarding the George Washington Bust in the City Plaza

AGENDA ITEM: November 2, 2020 Commission

RECOMMENDATION

In accordance with feedback received from Watsonville residents through a community survey and further input collected during a Town Hall meeting, staff recommends that the Parks and Recreation Commission make a recommendation to the City Council:

1. That the George Washington Bust remain in the City Plaza, and
2. That a bilingual plaque that outlines a broad historical perspective about George Washington be added to the bust.

DISCUSSION

Background

On May 25, 1999, the City Council adopted a resolution approving the acceptance of a monetary gift of approximately \$100,000 from the Estate of Lloyd F. Alaga, for the purpose of placing a bust of George Washington in the City Plaza and using any excess funds to refurbish the historic fountain, also in the City Plaza. This donation represented five percent of the net residue of the Alaga Estate. During the same meeting, the Council also accepted a monetary gift of approximately \$200,000 (10% of the net residue of the Estate) from the Estate of Lloyd F. Alaga for the acquisition of reference works of general interest. Mr. Alaga passed away on June 7, 1997.

The Last Will and Testament of Lloyd F. Alaga reads, in part:

The remainder of my estate I bequeath and devise as follows:

Ten percent of its value to the Watsonville Public Library, which I have used much of my life, for the acquisition of solid reference works of general interest and use, to be inscribed as the "Gift of Lloyd F. Alaga...

Five Perfect of its value to the City of Watsonville, which in this testator's opinion suffers from a dearth of public statuary, for the purpose of acquiring a bust of George Washington made by a sculptor of reputation in the style called representational or realistic, to be placed in the City Plaza on a plinth or block, if possible made of the characteristic granite from the Aromas Granite Rock Quarry, with a plaque or carved inscription reading: "George Washington, 1732-1799, Father of His Country" and the old saying "First In War, First In Peace, First In The Hearts Of His Countrymen", and a discreet inscription at the side or back that the monument is the "Gift of Lloyd F. Alaga".

In his will, Lloyd F. Alaga also stated, "I am unmarried, and have never married, and have no children or close living relatives. I am a resident of Watsonville, Santa Cruz County, California." Following the death of his brother in 1996, Mr. Alaga appointed P.W. Bachan as the executor of his will.

Upon receiving the funds from the Alaga Estate, the City released a Request for Qualifications for the design and creation of a bust of George Washington. A selection committee chose Michelle Armitage of Armitage Designs in Santa Cruz as the finalist. The City entered into an agreement with Ms. Armitage in the amount off \$70,000 to create, as stated in her proposal, "a slightly larger than life size (32-36 inches high) bust of George Washington, rendered in bronze, and mounted on a rectangular pedestal (approx.. 54 inch high), of concrete and granite; extracted from the 'Granite Rock Quarry' at Aromas." The bust was "cast using a technique called 'Lost Wax,' a process that dates back for centuries. The original sculpture is molded in clay. A mold is taken from the clay sculpture to cast a wax edition. Through the 'lost wax' process, the 'wax' (becomes) the finished bronze sculpture."

The project was completed in early 2001 and an unveiling ceremony was held on February 19, 2001, featuring the artist and members of the Alaga family.

The remainder of the funds that were gifted to the Parks Department we used to clean, reseal, paint and rewire the fountain on the East Beach side of the Plaza.

The Bust was installed after the City Plaza's inclusion into the National Register of Historic Places (1982) and has not been added as a feature of the Plaza's designation.

Recent Discussion

In July 2020, City staff were made aware that a petition had been created on the website change.org by a group known as Revolunas, calling for the removal of the "George Washington Statue from Watsonville Plaza."

A second petition on change.org was initiated by a community member, calling to "Save the George Washington Statue in our downtown park."

A third petition on go petition.com was initiated by a community member, titled "Save Watsonville George Washington Statue."

Revolunas hosted a sit in on July 17 in front of the George Washington bust that was attended by community members both in support of and against its removal. Another group has organized a sit in to save the bust on July 31. The City Council, City Manager, City Clerk and Parks and Community Services Director have received many emails regarding this matter.

Staff have been in contact with a known descendent of Lloyd F. Alaga, who has requested to move the bust to a safe location, should it be removed from the Plaza. The descendent is also attempting to contact other family members.

During its meeting on August 3, 2020, the Parks and Recreation Commission held a study session concerning the George Washington bust in the City Plaza that was attended by over 190 people. During this study session, staff presented a report providing background information on the bust. Commissioners and members of the public then had the opportunity to ask questions and voice their opinions.

Following this meeting, staff solicited input from the groups that authored the two larger petitions regarding next steps. Staff then developed a survey to solicit broader community input in order to control for several concerns expressed by community members, including that:

- Many of the opinions expressed through petitions and other correspondence were from Non-Residents
- Duplicate responses from individuals may be counted in the petitions and other correspondence
- There was not enough time for many community members to learn about the discussion and weigh in on it

The survey allowed staff to gather community input with greater ability to:

- Account for city residency
- Control for duplicate responses
- Gather broader community input from a widely advertised, neutral source. The survey link was advertised in the City's monthly newsletter, on social media, on the City's website, was emailed to the Parks and Community Services database of over 2,000 emails and was mentioned in an article and op-ed regarding this topic in the Register Pajaronian.

The Survey tool was created using language from the petitions and doubled as an educational tool on the topic.

The survey was open from September 1-30, 2020 and included the following questions:

- Respondents were asked about their option on the placement of the bust
- Respondents were asked how strongly they felt in their opinion of the bust remaining or being removed from the City Plaza
- Respondents were asked about reasons for their feelings
- Respondents were asked about actions they would support

- Respondents were asked for their name and address (for verification of city residency)

Survey Results

A total of 1,231 survey responses were received. Using street addresses submitted by survey respondents, City Geographical Information System (GIS) staff determined that 498 (40%) responses were from City residents.

Survey respondents were asked about their opinion on the placement of the bust and if they desired to see the bust remain in place, be removed or if they were indifferent.

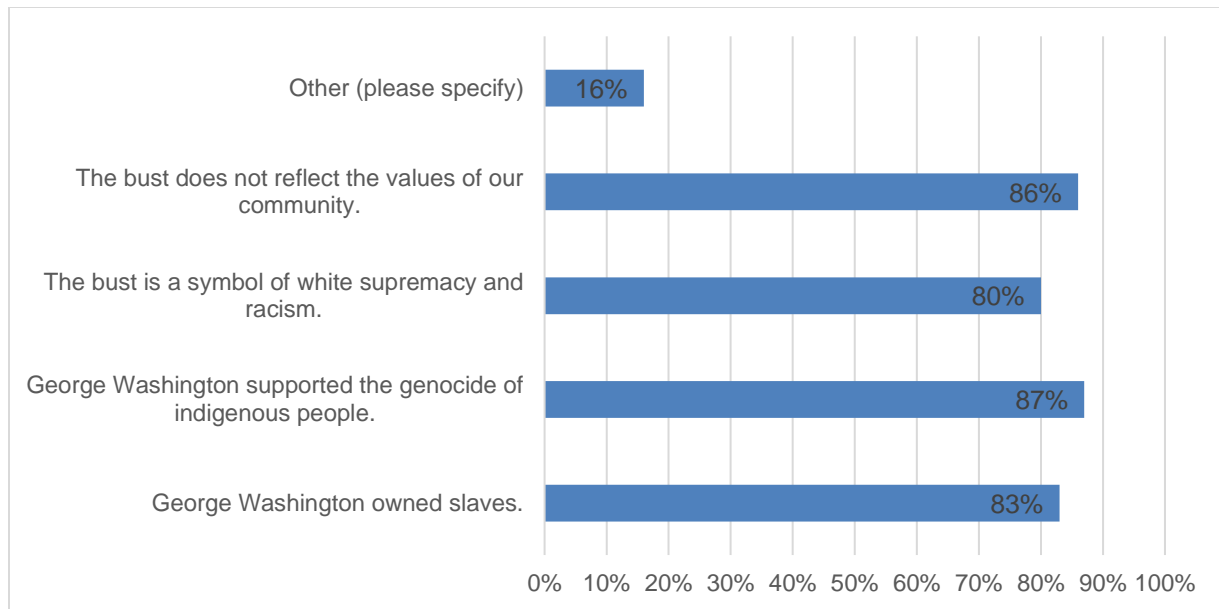
Regarding opinions on the placement of the bust, the survey yielded the following results:

	Residents	%	All	%
Remain	294	59%	733	59%
Remove	180	36%	427	35%
Indifferent	24	5%	71	6%
TOTALS	498	100%	1231	100%

As demonstrated by the above figures, controlling for residency does not significantly change the percentage of respondents that wish for the bust to remain in place, be removed or are indifferent on the subject.

Survey respondents were then asked “On a scale of 1-5, how strongly do you feel that the bust should be removed from/remain in the City Plaza (1 being the least strong and 5 being the strongest)?” The average response from respondents who indicated that they would like to see the bust remain was 4.74. Likewise, the average response from respondents who indicated that they would like to see the bust removed was also 4.74. Respondents felt equally strong in their opinions on the placement of the bust.

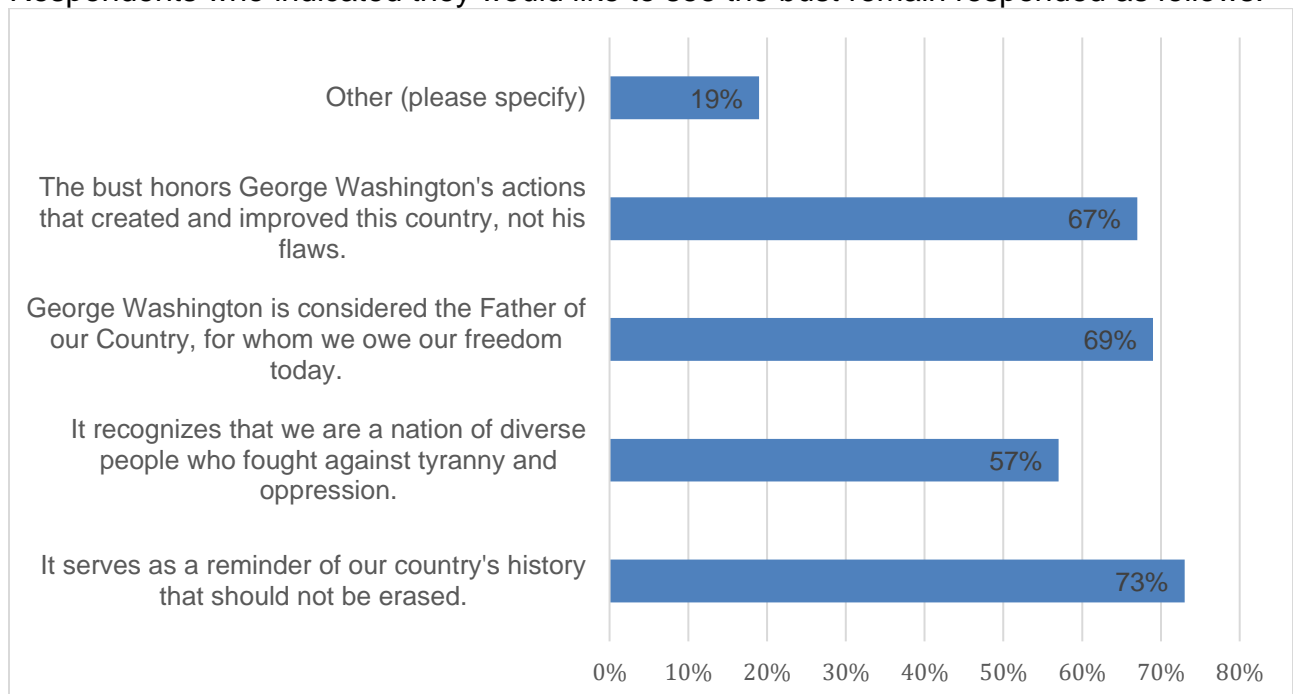
Respondents were then asked about reasons they felt the bust should remain in place or be removed. Reasons listed in the survey were generated from language included in the petitions. Respondents who indicated they would like to see the bust removed responded as follows:



Other reasons cited included:

- Bust ignores other parts of history/tells an incomplete story
- George Washington is irrelevant to local history
- Need a symbol that better represents our community
- George Washington represents oppression, racism, slavery
- It is ugly

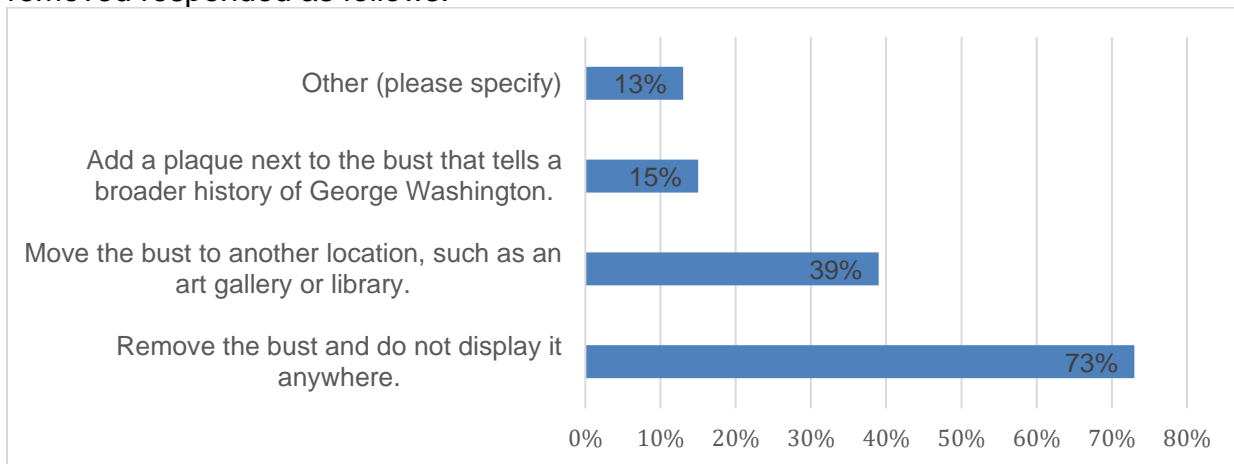
Respondents who indicated they would like to see the bust remain responded as follows:



Other reasons cited included:

- All people are flawed
- Can't apply today's values to the past
- It was a donation that the City Council accepted
- George Washington freed his slaves
- We would not have the freedoms we have today if not for George Washington
- We should learn from history, not erase it
- Slavery was practiced throughout history, including in European, African and Aztec cultures

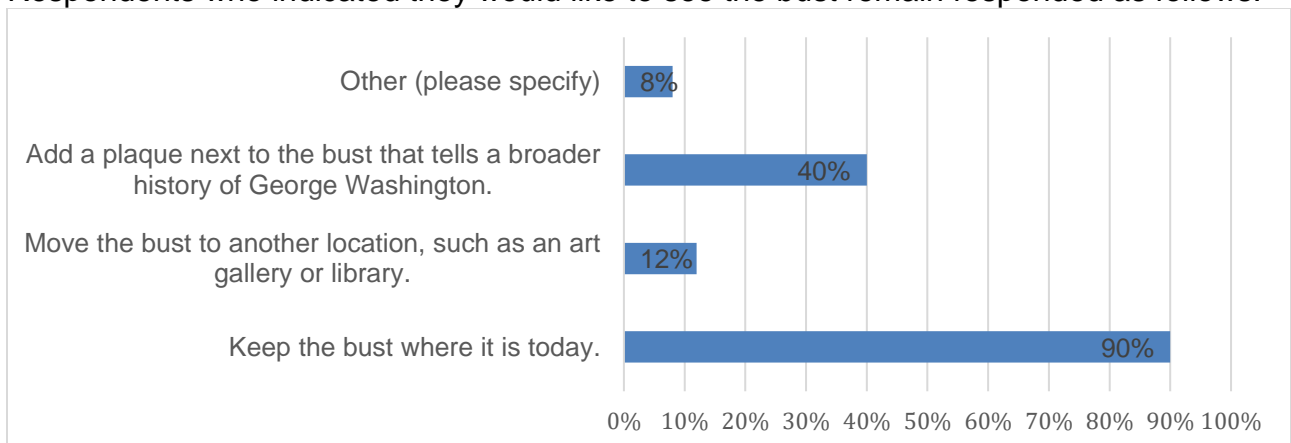
Respondents were then asked whether they supported possible actions regarding the placement of the bust. Respondents who indicated they would like to see the bust removed responded as follows:



Other suggested actions included:

- Replace it with a statue of another historical figure
- Return it to the Alaga Family
- Relocate it **and** add a plaque that tells a broader history
- Add other statues of historical figures to the City Plaza

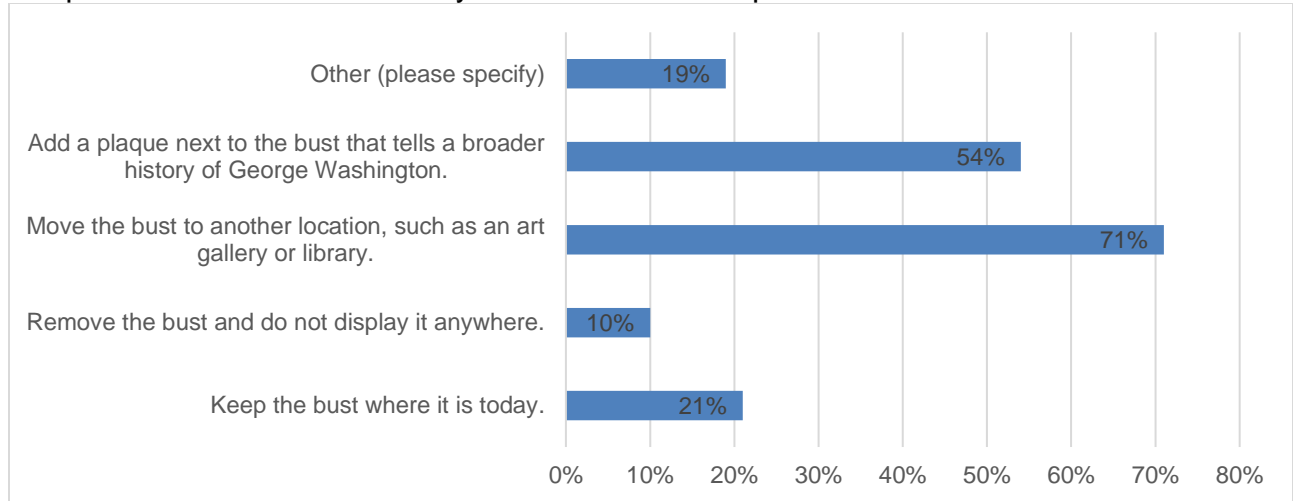
Respondents who indicated they would like to see the bust remain responded as follows:



Other suggested actions included:

- Add statues/art that honor other leaders, heritages
- If it is removed, give the money back to Alaga Family
- If it is removed, do not replace it

Respondents who indicated they were indifferent responded as follows:



Community Generated Options

A virtual Town Hall meeting was held on October 20, 2020 and was attended by 94 individuals. The purpose of the meeting was “To explore constructive ideas/options for the George Washington Bust to present to the PRC that align with the spirit of the feedback received by Watsonville residents.” The intent of the meeting was to focus on the future, work together towards solutions and learn from each other.

During this meeting, survey results were shared and a discussion was held regarding possible actions and next steps, with the goal of generating options to be presented to the Parks and Recreation Commission for action.

Based on the results of the survey, the following options were presented to start the discussion:

1. Remain - Take no action and keep the bust where it is and do nothing else.
2. Remain with Plaque - Keep the bust where it is and add a plaque that tells a broader history of GW
3. Relocate - Move the bust to be displayed in another location (potentially City Hall, Library, PV Arts). Could also add a plaque.
4. Remove - Remove the bust and do not display in anywhere (could be returned to the Alaga Family or kept by the City for safekeeping).

Individuals present during the meeting indicated support for each of these options, with more attendees supportive of the bust remaining with a plaque or relocating it. Some attendees suggested that more time and community outreach should be conducted prior to making a decision.

Recommendation

In accordance with feedback received from Watsonville residents through a community survey and further input collected during a Town Hall meeting, staff recommends that the Parks and Recreation Commission make a recommendation to the City Council:

1. That the George Washington Bust remain in the City Plaza, and
2. That a bilingual plaque that outlines a broad historical perspective about George Washington be added to the bust.

ALTERNATIVES

Parks and Recreation Commission could recommend another path forward regarding the placement of the bust. Based on survey results and community input, options include:

1. Take no action and keep the bust where it is.
2. Move the bust to be displayed in another location. Could also add a plaque.
3. Remove the bust and do not display in anywhere.
4. Do not take action at this time and determine what other information needs to be gathered before deciding on next steps.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Cost associated with this action are dependent on the option that is selected.

ATTACHMENTS

- Correspondence received since the last PRC meeting on September 21

Watsonville, CA

Dept of Parks + Recreation

We would like the statue of George Washington to be left on the Plaza. He is one of the ore important flounders of our country. No man is perfect. He had his good points and bad, but the good greatly outweighs the bad. It is easy to judge a person form 250 years ago by 21st century values. He was a man of his time. If we only erected statues of those who were perfect, we would only have statues of Jesus Christ. "Let he who is without sin cast the first stone".

Michael Homer

Michael D Homer

C.L. Homer

Big Moore

2 Moore

E. Mura Homer

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