



Agenda Report

MEETING DATE: Monday, October 18, 2021

TO: PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

FROM: ADRIANA FLORES, SR. ADMINISTRATIVE ANALYST

SUBJECT: APPROVE APPLICATION FOR PUBLIC ART FOR A MURAL
LOCATED AT 120 SECOND STREET, SUBMITTED BY AUGUSTINE
ESCOBEDO

STATEMENT OF ISSUES:

Public Art Application submitted for approval.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Staff recommends that the Parks and Recreation Commission approve the Application for Public Art at 120 Second Street, submitted by Augustine Escobedo.

DISCUSSION:

The artist Augustine Escobedo proposed the project to Science Workshop Recreation Coordinator Darren Gertler as a way to place art at Marinovich Park. Gertler agreed that the mural on the basketball half court was a good place for this piece of art for the public to enjoy.

The Project

This project consists of placing a 50' X 54' Humpback Whale Mural on the blacktop of the basketball court at Marinovich Park. This mural will help to serve as an educational tool for residents to have an understanding of how the Pajaro River is a direct conduit to the Monterey Bay. Actions, behaviors, and pollutants that Watsonville residents and businesses allow to enter the watershed end up very quickly into the Monterey Bay. There are many species that inhabit the Monterey Bay that citizens do not know about or their personal impacts upon them. Humpback Whales are highly migratory species that are well known and recognized around the world. Some humpback whales migrate up to 3,000 miles per year. A significant connection between the whales and residents of Watsonville is that many of these same whales migrate between the pacific coast of Mexico and pass Watsonville on their way to Alaska each year. This mural will also beautify a well-used park and Community Center in our community.

The Artist

The artist of this piece is Augustine "AugieWK" Escobedo, who is a local muralist that has worked on many projects throughout the Monterey Bay in the last 8 years. He is committed to providing touch up and will help with maintenance of the mural if necessary.

Project and Facility Maintenance

The project consists of power washing and sweeping the blacktop prior to priming, sketching and painting the mural on the location. After the mural is painted it is sealed with paint sealer and will take a full week to cure but will be dry within two hours. City Staff on site at the Science Workshop are committed to helping maintain the mural with the help of the artist if needed. The expected lifespan is 5 to 10 years.

If approved, installation is expected to be completed by November 2021.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

None. City staff will provide materials already on hand and Artist will be donating their time for installation.

ATTACHMENTS AND/OR REFERENCES (If any):

Attachment A: Proposed Mural Design-Humpback Whale