

Centre in the Park – Public Art Sculpture (Volunteer Plaza)**Report Purpose**

To provide Council with an update on the Public Art Program for Centre in the Park, and to seek Council's support to proceed with commissioning the art sculpture for the Volunteer Plaza area.

Recommendation

THAT the commissioning and completion of the art sculpture for the Volunteer Plaza area, as identified in the Centre in the Park Public Art Program and as portrayed in Enclosure 3 to the July 19, 2016, Transportation and Agriculture Services report, be approved.

Council History

November 27, 1990 – Council adopted the Centre in the Park Area Redevelopment Plan

October 3, 2001 – Council approved the creation of the Centre in the Park Development Plan

December 3, 2002 – Council approved the Centre in the Park Business Plan

December 10, 2002 – Council approved the 2003 Capital Budget

November 22, 2006 – Council approved the Community Centre component of Centre in the Park

Strategic Plan Priority Areas

Economy: The Centre in the Park project is an innovative, mixed-use development integrating public and private investment. Costs to complete the art project have been identified in the Centre in the Park Capital Project.

Governance: n/a

Social: The Volunteer Plaza area is to be a focal point, with a sense of identity that establishes a place and an opportunity for community interaction.

Culture: The Centre in the Park Public Art Program is an integral component of the public open space urban design for Centre in the Park.

Environment: Centre in the Park's vision is to achieve a walkable, pedestrian-oriented community that supports sustainable development.

Other Impacts

Policy: n/a

Legislative/Legal: n/a

Interdepartmental: Recreation, Parks, and Culture; Transportation and Agriculture Services; and Facility Services

Summary

In 2004, the County created a vision for public art and programming of open spaces for Centre in the Park. This "Art in the Park" program contemplated art/open space installations to begin in 2005/06. Prairie Walk and Volunteer Plaza were two of the first components (Phase I) that moved towards the 2004 public art and open space vision for Centre in the Park.

In 2008, the Centre in the Park development program focused on design and integration of the public art and open space program in conjunction with the development of the Christenson Development lands and the Community Centre. By 2010, the County had engaged an artist team (Tricycle) and ISL Engineering to design and integrate art into the public open spaces in order to meet the cultural and art objectives for Centre in the Park.

Although the open space art program for Phase II contemplated three significant art pieces that collectively would relate to and strengthen each other, only two components of this program have been completed to date (Enclosure 1).

In August 2011, four stainless-steel screens were assembled in the west plaza area of the Community Centre (Enclosure 2). This screen sculpture was entitled Momentum and was included within the Community Centre budget.

In May 2013, the Tricycle group of artists introduced the third component of the open space art program, which included a concept/image as well as a 3-D model of the proposed Volunteer Plaza sculpture (Enclosure 3). At that time, an estimate to complete the sculpture was approximately \$700,000, which is currently included in the Centre in the Park budget.

In July/August, 2014, public art was integrated into the open space area along the south side of Prairie Walk, stretching from Festival Place to Volunteer Plaza (Enclosure 4). This installation consisted of groupings of large boulders, cut and placed to create seating areas and to capture the reflection of the prairie sky. Sounds recorded from the prairie landscape were also integrated amongst selected rock groupings. This portion of the open space art program was included in the funding for the completion of Prairie Walk.

The Public Art Program for Centre in the Park was initiated prior to approval of the Public Art Plan, which requires 1% of the total budget to be allocated to public art. The total cost for the three Centre in the Park art installations is 3.1% of the total budget.

Enclosures

- 1 Centre in the Park Public Art Program
- 2 Momentum (Steel Screens)
- 3 Volunteer Plaza Sculpture (Model/Concept)
- 4 Prairie Walk Rocks and Sound
- 5 Centre in the Park Public Art – Summary of Costs
- 6 ppt Public Art and Open Space Program