



Cultural Arts Programs

Cultural Arts & Marketing Dept.

PUBLIC ART ADVISORY COMMITTEE AGENDA ITEM V.

Title: Measure DD: Gardens at Lake Merritt Entry Gates
Submitted by: Kristen Zaremba, Senior Public Art Project Manager
Committee Date: May 2, 2011

SUMMARY

Staff requests that the Public Art Advisory Committee (PAAC) review and take action on the selected design by artist Shawn Lovell for the Gardens at Lake Merritt Entry Gates.

BACKGROUND

In May 2010 the PAAC awarded artist Shawn Lovell a commission of \$86,000 for the Measure DD: Gardens at Lake Merritt Entry Gates.

Ms. Lovell, an Oakland-based blacksmith, has developed preliminary designs for two gates, one to be located adjacent to the Garden Center on Bellevue Avenue, the second at the entrance adjacent to the sensory, community and bonsai gardens. Public Art staff convened with the Friends of the Gardens at Lake Merritt, Oakland Parks & Recreation and Public Works Agency representatives to review the designs in March, 2011, and presented refined designs to the Oakland East Bay Garden Center Inc./Friends of the Gardens at Lake Merritt monthly committee meeting on April 18, 2011. Friends of the Gardens committee members expressed enthusiasm for the artist's designs and expressed a preference for the design with the most intricate detail, which they noted would make the gates most distinctive and unique to this site. Staff now requests design review and approval by PAAC.

As previously conveyed, the artist's design intent is to raise awareness and encourage park users to visit the gardens. She will use traditional blacksmithing techniques and materials to forge the gates, which will attach to an existing chain-link fence and will replace the existing standard gates.

Staff recommends that the artist proceed with refinement of the selected design, including any additional PAAC design feedback and unanticipated technical requirements, for presentation to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission (PRAC) at their June 2011 meeting, for final approval before commencing fabrication.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There is no direct financial impact associated with this design review and approval.

REQUEST

Staff requests that the PAAC review and take action on the selected design by artist Shawn Lovell for the Gardens at Lake Merritt Entry Gates.