



BOARD REPORT

NO. 16-204

DATE September 21, 2016

C.D. 11

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: VENICE OF AMERICA CENTENNIAL PARK – INSTALLATION OF PUBLIC ART

<i>fico</i>	AP Diaz _____	V. Israel _____
	*R. Barajas <u>CSD</u>	K. Regan _____
	H. Fujita _____	N. Williams _____



 General Manager

Approved ✓ Disapproved _____ Withdrawn _____

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Grant approval for the installation of a public art project with associated plaques at Venice of America Centennial Park as described in the Summary of this Report; and
2. Direct Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) staff to issue the appropriate Right-of-Entry permit.

SUMMARY

Venice of America Centennial Park is located at 501 South Venice Boulevard in the Venice community. This is a 0.89 acre non-programmed pocket park which is located adjacent to the Venice Branch Library.

RAP has received a request from artist, Ms. Robin Murez, to install a public art project at Venice of America Centennial Park. This public art component is the second phase of a proposed multi-phase project that includes landscaping (phase 1) and the installation of the Venice Heritage Museum (phase 3).

This public art installation under consideration comprises two parts. The first is the installation of five Mosaic Spheres. These concrete spheres are designed with iconic Venice designs fabricated as a mosaic to be used as sculptural seating. The second is a series of Dance Steps fabricated from waterjet cut stainless steel and mapping out the Cha Cha Cha, the Mambo and the Swing affixed to the walkways. These dance steps will replace previously painted steps which have faded over time. Both components of the public art installation, the spheres and the dance steps, will each have an associated expository plaque, approximately 8" x 6" silkscreen on stainless steel, which explains the graphic design and its association with the Venice community. The plaques will be affixed to a low wall at the western end of Venice Centennial Park which allows the reader a view of the library while reading about the art installation. The text for the proposed plaques, as well as a park schematic, project visuals and maintenance agreement, are attached to this Report as Exhibit A.

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There has been extensive community outreach regarding this proposal. This Project has been presented to, and has the support of, the Venice Neighborhood Council (who provided funding for the landscaping portion of the Project), Friends of the Venice Library (who provided a letter of support for the Project) and the Venice Heritage Foundation. Over one hundred fifty (150) citizens have registered support for this Project. Ms. Murez has installed several other public art pieces throughout the Venice community, and her work is familiar to many local residents.

The fabrication, installation and maintenance of the artwork and plaques are the responsibility of the artist. The sculptures will receive an anti-graffiti coating and are to be constructed and installed in a manner that allows for removal with relative ease.

Prior to receiving a Right-of-Entry Permit for the installation of the public art project, the applicant shall provide proof of the required insurance as well as documentation showing approval of this Project by the Cultural Affairs Commission.

This Project was presented to the Facility Repair and Maintenance Commission Task Force at their regularly scheduled meeting on April 6, 2016 for conceptual approval, at which time the Task Force recommended that the Project be forwarded to the full Board for review. Since that time, RAP staff has met with the applicant on site to review and finalize the installation locations. Maintenance staff has assured that the installation of this art project will not hinder the ongoing maintenance of the park.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

RAP staff has determined that the subject Project is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), pursuant to Article III, Section 1, Class 11 (6), of the City CEQA Guidelines.

Councilmember Mike Bonin, Eleventh Council District, and RAP management and staff have no objection to this Project at Venice of America Centennial Park.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Installation of the sculptures and associated plaques will have negligible impact on the RAP's General Fund, as the cost of the sculptures, plaques and maintenance will be funded by the applicant.

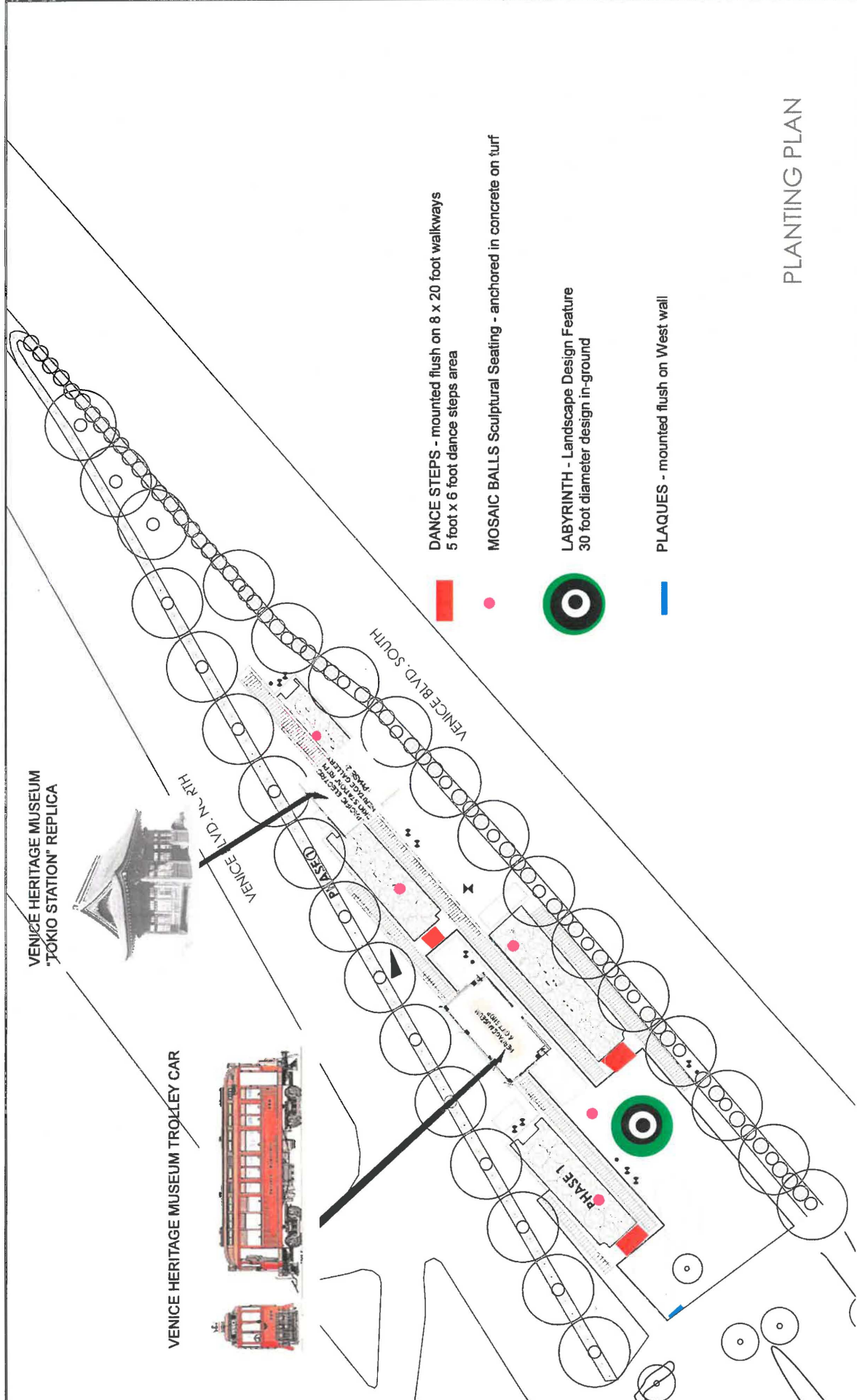
This Report was prepared by Melinda Gejer, City Planning Associate, Planning, Construction and Maintenance Branch.

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LIST OF ATTACHMENT(S)

- 1) Exhibit A – Proposed Plaque Text, Park Schematic, Project Visuals, and Maintenance Agreement



PLANTING PLAN

PLANT LIST



PHASE 1	PHASE 2
100 MUHLENBERGIA capillaris 'Tenca	10 LAVENDULA dentate
50 BACCHARIS pilularis 'Pigeon Point'	10 FEROVSKIA atriplicifolia
	10 ROSMARINUS officinalis
	10 SALVIA apiana compocia
	10 CAREX pania
	20 NASSELLA tenuisima (Mexican Feather Grass)

EXISTING IRRIGATION



LEGEND



Images of Sculptural Elements:

Mosaic Balls

Dance Steps



Mosaic Balls - Sculptural Seating



Dance Steps Sculpture on a Walkway



Venice Labyrinth

MOSAIC SPHERES

Abbot Kinney created Venice of America in 1905 as a mash up of Venice, Italy and Coney Island. He created romantic canals, built Italian architecture, hosted music and literary events and brought wild amusement rides to make this fantastic seaside town of art and amusement.

THE WINGED LION, or St Mark Lion, is the Symbol of The Republic of Venice. Winged Lions were originally sculpted within our iconic colonnade at the entrance of Venice Beach. As in Venice, Italy, the Lion's tablet reads: "Pax Tibi," Peace Be With You.

ROCKET SHIPS & FLYING SAUCERS A tribute to world renown fantasy and science fiction writer and longtime Venetian, Ray Bradbury. You'll find Fahrenheit 451, Martian Chronicles and more of his fantastic writings in the Venice Library.

TONGVA TURTLE STORY The Tongva Native Americans tell a story of how California was created: Great Spirit asked a family of turtle children to come together and hold still. Great Spirit put soil on their backs to form California. But, as siblings tease and play, they move about. And that's why we have earthquakes in California.

CONEY ISLAND OF THE PACIFIC, as Venice was called, had wild rollercoasters, beautiful carousels, giant slides, fun houses, live camel rides, miniature trains, and much more.

LABYRINTH a spiritual walking path. As you follow it into the center, you can meditate on your outside life. In the center, release your thoughts. As you follow the path back out, embrace the new day.

ARTIST: ROBIN MUREZ 2016 VENICE PUBLIC ART

DANCE STEPS

Follow the arrows and DANCE! Just down the road, thousands danced the Mambo, the Cha Cha Cha and the Swing in dance marathons, festivals and everyday, in the enormous Venice Dance Hall on the Abbot Kinney Pier.

ARTIST: ROBIN MUREZ 2016 VENICE PUBLIC ART

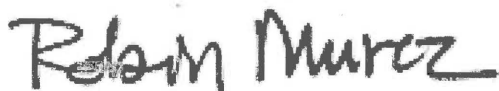
SCULPTURE MAINTENANCE & ANTI-GRAFFITI COATING AGREEMENT

The parties to this agreement are Robin Murez, Artist and creator of the described sculptures, and The City of Los Angeles and Department of Recreation & Parks.

For the right to install these sculptures in Centennial Park, I, Robin Murez, agree to maintain the Mosaic Balls and Dance Steps in good condition for as long as they are installed in the Park.

I agree to apply an anti-graffiti coating the the Mosaic Balls prior to their installation.

Agreed To and Accepted By:



Robin Murez, Artist
robin@robinmurez.com
310 709-7826
2800 Neilson Way 1703
Santa Monica, CA 90405

Date: March 16, 2016

Agreed To and Accepted By:

City of Los Angeles, Department of Recreation & Parks

Date: