



**CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH
CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION MEETING
Monday, November 21, 2022
4:00 PM
Location: Manhattan Beach City Hall and
Hybrid virtual**

A G E N D A

A. CALL TO ORDER

B. ROLL CALL

Commissioner Marcy	Commissioner Tokashiki
Commissioner Karger	Commissioner Rubino
Commissioner Spackman	Commissioner Attam

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

September 19, 2022
October 17, 2022

D. CEREMONIAL

E. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (3-Minute Limit)

The public may address the Commission regarding City business not on the agenda.

F. GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Presentation from Jackie May – proposed plaque
2. Presentation from NMB BID – proposed plaque
3. Presentation from staff – proposed Polliwog Pavilion Building
4. Work Plan Item updates
 - a. MBAC Revamp Project
 - b. Other work plan items
5. Future work plan items for 2023

G. STAFF ITEMS

Cultural Arts Division updates
PATF Budget update
City Council updates

H. COMMISSION ITEMS

I. ADJOURNMENT

Pursuant to Governor Newsom's Executive Orders No. N-25-20 and No. N-29-20, City Council Chambers is not open to the public. In the interest of maintaining appropriate social distancing, the Cultural Arts Commission encourages the public to participate by submitting comments on agenda items or other subject matter within the jurisdiction of the Library Commission via email to both estewart@manhattanbeach.gov and lrobb@manhattanbeach.gov, no later than 3:00 PM, the day of the meeting, if you are unable to join the meeting via Zoom.

Zoom Meeting Instructions: There are multiple ways to join the meeting. Please Note - the Cultural Arts Commissioners and Staff will be visible via video, members of the public may choose to turn on their video during public comment during their turn.

If you plan to speak during the meeting, join via Zoom at 4:00 PM in order to request to be on the speakers list.

1. Join Zoom Meeting via the internet (download app if needed): Direct URL: <https://comb.zoom.us/j/92330757540> , Meeting ID: 923 3075 7540
Please name yourself to include the item(s) you wish to speak on, and your First & Last name. Example: G.1 – Jane Smith.
2. Join Zoom Meeting via Phone Application (download app if needed): Download Mobile Apps: <https://zoom.us/download>, Enter Meeting ID: 923 3075 7540
Please name yourself to include the item(s) you wish to speak on, and your First & Last name. Example: G.1 – Jane Smith.
3. Join Zoom Meeting via Phone Conference (Voice Only): Phone Numbers: +1 669-900-6833 or +1 346-248-7799. Meeting ID: 923 3075 7540.
Find your local number: <https://comb.zoom.us/u/aByWMRmYK>. Upon calling in, you will be "muted" until you are prompted by the Host to state which item you wish to comment on. Your mic will be unmuted when it's your turn to provide Public Comment.

Please Note - All microphones for non-Commissioners or Staff will be muted during the meeting, except during Public Comment periods for which you have requested to speak.

The City strongly advises you of the following:

1. Download the Zoom app to your respective device well ahead of the meeting time. Visit <https://zoom.us/> for the download link. Please make sure you have downloaded the most recent version available.
2. Familiarize yourself with the Zoom application prior to the meeting.
3. Check the condition of all personal electronic equipment, internet and phone connections, and microphone/speaker functionality. The City is unable to support this equipment.
4. Join the meeting prior to the start time. Due to security or technical limitations, admittance to the meeting may not be possible after the meeting begins.
5. Every effort will be made to "rename" participants on Zoom as quickly as possible, so that phone numbers are hidden, however, phone numbers may be partially visible for a brief time.

CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH
MINUTES OF THE CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION

September 19, 2022

Meeting by teleconference (Zoom) and in person in accordance with procedures on agenda
1400 Highland Avenue
Manhattan Beach, CA 90266

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Rubino called the meeting to order at 4:15 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

Present: Karger, Marcy, Tokashiki, Vice Chair Spackman, Chair Rubino

Absent: Attam

Staff present: Eilen Stewart, Cultural Arts Manager, Rosemary Lackow, Recording Secretary.

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – August 15, 2022

It was moved and seconded (Karger/Marcy) to approve as submitted.

Roll Call:

AYES: Marcy, Karger, Vice Chair Spackman, Chair Rubino

NOES: None

ABSENT: Attam, Tokashiki

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed 4-0-2.

D. CEREMONIAL - None

E. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (3-Minute Limit) – None

F. GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Work Plan item updates

a. MBAC Revamp Project

Wayfinding sign committee (Karger/Spackman): Commissioner Karger, using slides, showed four locations where new wayfinding signs be installed to direct visitors onto and around the site:

1) entrance driveway, 11th Street, facing east-bound cars (1 sign)

2) entrance driveway, Manhattan Beach Boulevard facing west-bound cars (1 sign)

3) on the site, near a palm and facing the parking lot, directing pedestrians to building entrance (1 sign)

4) 3 street light poles in median on Manhattan Beach Boulevard (banners/pennants hung from stanchions)

Regarding number 4 (light pole banners), Commissioner Spackman indicated that, while these types of signs may not be currently included in “Phase 1”, it seems reasonable to include them in the current project, as a package.

CAM Stewart provided input: it would be appropriate to merge similar signage items so that the council can review similar items together, and she noted that the current street banner policy is that display is limited to two weeks maximum. Council has authority to approve a longer period; concerns for street banners have included potential traffic impacts due to lane closures needed when banners are

installed/removed by Public Works. She has started to work with Public Works on the on-site directional signs and it seems possible that the driveway entrance signs may fall within approved wayfinding sign types, however, the building entrance sign (number 3 above) may need to be treated separately.

Vice Chair Spackman felt the banners would be relatively simple to implement and could be useful in drawing attention to the MBAC as a stop-gap measure until the permanent front pole sign can be fabricated and installed. He sees the banners/pennants more as semi-permanent, displayed for months, not just days or a couple weeks.

It was moved and seconded (Karger/Marcy) that the CAC work plan for the MBAC Revamp go forward to finalize with City Council, the wayfinding signs for the front and rear driveway entrances, and pedestrian building entry, and at a later date, the Commission will consider the Manhattan Beach Boulevard median light pole banners.

There being no public input, Chair Rubino called for a vote.

Roll Call:

AYES: Marcy, Karger, Vice Chair Spackman, Chair Rubino

NOES: None

ABSENT: Attam, Tokashiki

ABSTAIN: None

CAM Stewart noted this motion passed 4-0-2.

CAM Stewart advised the committee that the installation of the wayfinding signs cannot occur until a full recommendation for the entire MBAC sign program (recommendations from both committees) is finalized with City Council approval. The next step is for the committee to solidify the building door entrance sign specs; she will check to see if there is an available approved catalogue or style guide that would apply to any or all of the proposed wayfinding signs and will report her finding at the next (October) meeting.

Front free-standing sign committee: (Tokashiki, Marcy, Rubino) CAM Stewart noted that, for clarity the signs types being considered could be consistently and uniformly named, consistent with city sign regulations. For example, a free-standing sign that is up to six feet in height would be a “monument sign” while a free-standing sign exceeding six feet would be a “pole sign” or “pylon sign”.

Community Development staff has advised that the center’s front sign should conform to zoning standards, however, zoning regulations applicable to the MBAC site do not allow “pole signs”, and limit the site to lower profile “monument” signs only unless a sign exception is granted (review and approval by Planning Commission, to be affirmed by City Council).

The existing sign, supported by two posts, is believed to be approximately 6 feet or perhaps a little taller, if taller than 6 feet, it would fall into a category of a “legal, non-conforming” sign. If determined to be non-conforming, there would be constraints as to what improvements can be made or what can be replaced without obtaining special (“sign exception”) approval. CAM Stewart will continue to work with planning staff for a final determination of applicable code parameters. Once she gets this, she will contact the committee to discuss hopefully in advance of the next meeting.

CAM Stewart noted the next step for the front sign committee is to get a final determination from Community Development on sign parameters. She emphasized that the zoning constraints apply to physical (height, size, setback, etc.), not creative/aesthetic attributes.

2. **Other work plan items.** CAM Stewart reported:

- Red “O” sculpture-“Tranquil lounge”- in Polliwog Park (City purchase and replacement): Staff is working with the artist to fabricate an entirely new piece that will be more durable in the city’s marine climate (price tag: \$25k). City Council will consider at its meeting on October 18.
- The rainbow surface treatment at the Polliwog Park gazebo will be installed in time for October recognition of LGBTQ history month and will inform of ribbon cutting, if planned.

G. STAFF ITEMS

Cultural Arts Manager Stewart reported:

- Cultural Arts Division: updates were provided: Concerts in the Park (ended; encouraged participating in online survey); MBAC Community exhibit: (ending soon, will prep for next Time 4 Art, opening October 21); 50th Old Hometown Fair: (October 1-2, staff to host open house); North End sculpture: (proposal to come to CAC soon); Bo Bridges mural (timeline expected very soon); Bruce’s Beach art piece: (APPC being formed, to convene in October); MB Education Foundation commemorative wall: (planning begun).
- PATF update: no significant change, detailed update in October.
- Council updates: nothing beyond already reported.

H. COMMISSION ITEMS

1. Chair Rubino inquired and it was clarified that the Concerts in the Park program is funded through the General Plan (with commercial sponsors) and not the PATF.
2. Commissioner Karger requested status; discussion followed on two follow up issues from the last meeting: 1) the physical maintenance of the MBAC and 2) whether/how the CAC can incorporate diversity/inclusivity policy into the MBAC project through signing.
 - MBAC maintenance: CAM Stewart reported she has discussed with Public Works; non-operable visible wiring has been removed; the Public Works has a schedule for weekly maintenance (lawn mowing).
 - Diversity: CAM Stewart shared the existing Cultural Arts mission statement wording from the city website and shared her understanding that the statement wording is strictly handled at the staff level and is not within the oversight of the commission. She does not believe modifying and then applying the statement to the signs of the MBAC is within the scope of the approved MBAC work plan item, therefore it cannot be agendaized for a regular meeting. Commissioners Rubino, Karger and Marcy expressed support pursuing, if possible, incorporating language promoting diversity into the current sign update program of the MBAC (to enhance a welcoming feeling of the site). Vice Chair Spackman suggested, following established process, the CAC could propose an amended or new MBAC work plan item that captures this intent at the next joint workplan meeting with city council. CAM Stewart will investigate further and report back.
3. Vice Chair Spackman requested clarification regarding meeting start time; CAM Stewart affirmed all meetings, now hybrid, will start at 4:00 p.m. Staff will correct two agenda/minutes typos: 1) August 15 minutes - in Adjournment section – change the adjournment time to the September 19 meeting from 6:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. and 2) On page 2 of the agenda template, change start time to 4:00 p.m.

I. ADJOURNMENT

At 5:53 p.m. with no objection, Chair Rubino adjourned the meeting to September 19, 2022 at **4:00** p.m., via a hybrid format (Zoom and in person).

CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH
MINUTES OF THE CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION

October 17, 2022

Hybrid format: by teleconference (Zoom) and in person in accordance with procedures on agenda
1400 Highland Avenue
Manhattan Beach, CA 90266

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Rubino called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

Present: Karger, Marcy, Tokashiki, Chair Rubino

Absent: Attam, Vice Chair Spackman

Staff present: Eilen Stewart, Cultural Arts Manager, Linda Robb, Senior Management Analyst, Rosemary Lackow, Recording Secretary.

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – September 19, 2022

Due to lack of quorum of commissioners who were also present at the September meeting, this item will be calendared on the November agenda.

D. CEREMONIAL - None

E. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (3-Minute Limit) – None

F. GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Presentation from NMB BID– proposed sculpture

CAM Stewart provided an introduction and advised of the Commission’s advisory role. After reviewing the proposed sculpture, “Surf Ascension,” in terms of aesthetic and physical elements, the Commission will make a recommendation to the City Council.

CAM Stewart noted this project is privately funded by the NMB BID. It is subject to city review because it would be located in the public right of way (Highland Avenue at 35th Street, a walk-street), adjacent to the North End Café. In September, a postcard survey was mailed to residents within 1000 feet (see staff report).

Peter Kim, Chairperson, NMB BID, covered the physical attributes (materials and lighting) and fabrication process and artist Domisi Parham’s inspiration. Mr. Parham, having recovered from cancer, took up sculpting and created this artwork that is meant to inspire others to rise up and face great personal challenges.

Responding to the Commission, Mr. Kim clarified: 1) Location: the sculpture will be installed off the public sidewalk on Highland, facing south bound pedestrians, where a BID directory kiosk used to be located. 2) The sculpture will be powered by an external battery. 3) A plaque will be installed. 4) Structural integrity: the design has been approved by a private engineer; the 11-ft tall, 1,500 lb. sculpture is supported by an internal I-beam and cannot topple; Quartzite inserted between the spiral steel is designed to make the surface smooth and prevent it being climbed. 5) Maintenance will be done by private party (no cost to city). 6) Programmable LED lights will be on once a month, about 3 hours after dusk. 7) Approval is for one-year loan; upon removal of sculpture, attachment bolts will be cut flush. 8) Vandalism: to mitigate, the structure has been wrapped with a material that can be handily cleaned and scratches can be polished out.

CAM Stewart shared the wording of the plaque which will be simple pertinent information.

Domisi Parham, artist, looked into potential glare; after checking sunlight levels; he concluded that at no time would glare be expected to be a problem for drivers. He clarified that after the year is over, he will donate the sculpture to the BID and at that time the future of the sculpture will be handled by the BID.

Peter Kim concluded by stating that the goal is to enliven and attract visitors to the north end of Highland while stimulating interest in art.

Chair Rubino invited public comment, seeing none, invited commission discussion.

Commissioner Marcy recognized that the responses received from the community survey were spirited but he believes that, having seen more detailed info on the proposal, the postcard rendering does not do the piece justice. He feels it is beautiful and fully supports this proposal.

Commissioners Karger, Tokashiki, and Chair Rubino joined in supporting the proposal. Commissioner Tokashiki suggested that the Commission's recommendation could include a requirement that the project be reviewed by the City's Traffic Engineer prior to installation and, when the project comes before the City Council that the details on the plaque and lighting be provided.

It was moved and seconded (Tokashiki/Karger) that the Cultural Arts Commission recommend that the City Council approve the proposed "Surf Ascension" sculpture installation, and that prior to installation, the project be reviewed by the city's Traffic Engineer.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Karger, Marcy, Tokashiki, Chair Rubino

Noes: None

Absent: Attam, Vicechair Spackman

Abstain: None

The motion passed 4-0-2-0

2. Work Plan Item updates.

a. **MBAC Revamp Project.** CAM Stewart confirmed that mission statements are handled by staff. While the Cultural Arts Division has value statements, the Commission, does not have an official mission statement and to have one would require approval by the City Council, possibly as a new work plan item.

Front sign committee (Tokashiki, Marcy, Rubino) CAM Stewart outlined three options for the front sign, given applicable zoning regs: 1) Refurbish the existing sign as a "grandfathered" structure without increasing the height or making more nonconforming; 2) Install a new conforming "monument sign" per code (maximum 6 feet tall from ground); and 3) Apply for a "sign exception" to allow replacing with a new "pole sign" that exceeds 6 feet measured from the ground.

CAM Stewart suggested as a next step that the committee, herself, and Community Development staff to discuss these options.

Wayfinding sign committee (Karger/Spackman): Commissioner Karger stated that she is waiting to see the City's approved sign catalogue, to understand what signs can be ordered for the front and back entrances. CAM Stewart will email the PowerPoint (portion with applicable information) to the Commission.

b. **Other work plan items.** CAM Stewart advised, looking towards the joint meeting in January, the Commission should look at priority projects (e.g., murals, utility beautification grants.) The Commission

should be thinking about any changes for next year's plan. November and December meetings will be devoted to the 2023 work plan proposal. Chair Rubino asked that everyone bring all information to the meeting in November as the plan will be finalized in December.

3. Future allocations of PATF funds discussion.

CAM Stewart advised that the Commission should be thinking about which items should be kept on the next work plan.

G. STAFF ITEMS

Cultural Arts Manager Stewart reported/updated:

- Cultural Arts Division events: Time4Art Exhibit “Fly High Dive Deep” (Lynn Aldrich) opening is this Friday October 21 at MBAC; Bruce’s Beach art piece: APPC first meeting held October 11th; Rainbow Gazebo painting event on October 29, 10:00 a.m; October 30 at 4:00 pm: pumpkin race and Commissioners are encouraged to enter a pumpkin in the race.
- PATF update: Total fund – \$2.2 million; fund amount allocated – \$1.2 million; fund amount un-allocated – \$1 million. The earliest that funds will expire is end of 2023 (\$123k) and then more in 2024. It was noted that if a Sculpture Garden is to be done at MBAC, this would qualify for a PATF allocation.
- Council updates: none

H. COMMISSION ITEMS

Commissioner Marcy thanked staff for great presence at the Hometown Fair. CAM Stewart noted the whole event was fantastic with a lot of foot traffic; a lot of art was sold at the open house.

CAM Stewart noted that the Bruce’s Beach APPC will be forwarding a recommendation for the art Request for Proposals to the CAC in spring, 2023.

The Commission discussed the January, 2023 meeting date noting that the joint meeting will be on the 9th. Suggestions included January 30th, skipping the regular January meeting and merging the January and February meetings. The Chair suggested that this decision be made at the November meeting.

I. ADJOURNMENT

At 5:42 p.m. with no objection, Chair Rubino adjourned the meeting to November 21, 2022 at 4:00 p.m.

TO:

Cultural Arts Commission

FROM:

Eilen R Stewart, Cultural Arts Manager

SUBJECT:

Request from Manhattan Beach Residents Jacquelyne May, Bing Copeland, and Matt Velzy to Install a Commemorative Plaque in the Public Right of Way, Identifying the Putative First Surf Shop (Cultural Arts Manager Stewart).

DISCUSS AND PROVIDE DIRECTION

RECOMMENDATION:

Discuss and provide direction on a request from the Manhattan Beach Residents Jacquelyne May, Bing Copeland, and Matt Velzy (Requestors) to install a Commemorative Plaque in the public right of way (sidewalk at 117 Manhattan Beach Blvd), identifying the putative first Surf Shop in the world. The installed plaque will be donated to the City of Manhattan Beach.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:

The Requestors for this project are committed to fully funding it, including but not limited to production of plaque, installation, delivery and repair/maintenance as needed.

BACKGROUND:

In 1949 Dale Velzy, who had been shaping surf boards under the Manhattan Beach Pier, was told by the City that he could no longer pursue this action due to the discarded debris left in a public area. Following this communication, Velzy opened a retail shop at 117 Manhattan Beach Blvd, in 1950. The Daily Breeze, Encyclopedia of Surfing, and Surfer's Journal each reference Surfboards by Velzy as the first know retail surf shop in the world.

Velzy was the pioneer at the forefront of a new industry which has become a multibillion-dollar industry today.

On January 8, 2018, California state legislators Al Muratsuchi and Ian Calderon introduced a bill to establish surfing as the official state sport which was signed by Governor Brown later that year.

DISCUSSION:

The Requestors met with the management of the Strand House, located at in the place Velzy's was located, who expressed that they do not desire to place the plaque on their building, nor in any location that could impede any future development plans. It is,

therefore, requested that the plaque be placed in the concrete sidewalk adjacent to the fire hydrant outside of 117 Manhattan Beach Blvd. (current location of The Strand House).

The Requestors are seeking recommendation from the Cultural Arts Commission to City Council to move forward with this project.

PUBLIC OUTREACH:

A petition was circulated, gaining 700+ signatures in favor of installing this plaque.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Additional comments received by staff

Attachment 1
Additional Comments Received by Staff



November 18, 2022

TO: CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION
FROM: RUSS LESSER

I would like to express my support for the plaque recognizing the Velzy surf shop which would be located on the sidewalk in front of where his first surf shop was located.

We have other plaques recognizing our first city hall, the start of the MB 10 run, etc.

Surfing is a huge part of the history of Manhattan Beach and the South Bay. Regardless of what Huntington Beach and Santa Cruz both claimed in their lawsuit about who could be called "Surf City" the truth is that surfing started right here in the South Bay and most of the first surfing legends lived or worked in Manhattan Beach.

My family has owned property in Manhattan Beach since 1917. When I started kindergarten at Grand View in 1945, Dewey Weber was two years ahead of me in school. Greg Noll's mom and my mom were best friends. Bing Copeland lived on 4th Street in Manhattan Beach for years. Bill Meistrell, who along with his brother Bob manufactured the first commercially viable neoprene wetsuits, owned Dive N' Surf and developed the brand Body Glove lived in Manhattan Beach. (I admit at being a bit prejudiced here as I have worked for Body Glove and Dive N' Surf for many years.)

Greg, Dewey, Bing along with Dale Velzy and Hap Jacobs, (who later partnered together and became Velzy and Jacobs) all hung out together at the Manhattan Beach pier and that was one of the reasons Velzy opened his first shop right above the pier.

When I look at it, I see no downside for anyone to placing a plaque in the proposed location and it would bring attention to the importance surfing has played in the history of our city.

Obviously it has been many years since I served as city councilman and mayor in our city, but if I were still involved it would be an easy decision to approve this plaque.

If you have any questions please call me at (310) 612-4962 or email me at russ@divensurf.com.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Russ Lesser". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Russ Lesser

Hello,

My name is Matt Warshaw, and I'm the executive director of the Encyclopedia of Surfing, a nonprofit located in Seattle, and the author of the History of Surfing and other surf-related books.

I'm reaching out today in support of the initiative to install a plaque at the site of Dale Velzy's original surf shop, located at 117 Manhattan Beach Boulevard. The shop itself was tiny and dark and didn't look like much—but it represents a huge development in surf culture, and carries the name of one of the most transformational figures in surf history. The fact that the first-ever surf shop was located in downtown Manhattan Beach is a wonderful feather in the cap of the city, and deserves to be noted and celebrated.

Thank you for reading, and please get in touch with me if you have any questions or comments!

Best,

Matt Warshaw

Executive Director, Encyclopedia of Surfing

<https://eos.surf/>

Good Afternoon,

I'm writing to express support for the proposed plaque commemorating the contributions local surfers have made to the sport, especially Bing Copeland. As someone who grew up in MB I am in support of showcasing our history and contribution to the sport. On a side note, my wife and I are currently in Australia and the Bing name is big in the surfing world here too..!!!

I hope you show support for this minor request..

take care,

John Mair

mammothjohn@yahoo.com

Honoring the World's First Surf Shop

Located in Manhattan Beach



Proposal to Install a Bronze Plaque Honoring a Piece of Local History

- Dale “Hawk” Velzy (1927-2005) is a local legend for the South Bay surfing community, and a legend to the sport itself.
- Velzy learned craftsmanship from his woodworker father who shaped Dale’s first board when he was 8 years old from large wood planks
- In 1949, Velzy was told by the City of Manhattan Beach he could no longer shape balsa boards under the Pier due to the mess of shavings left behind



Proposal to Install a Bronze Plaque Honoring a Piece of Local History

- In 1950, Dale Velzy opened the 1st known retail surf shop in the world located at 117 Manhattan Beach Blvd, Manhattan Beach, CA



Proposal to Install a Bronze Plaque Honoring a Piece of Local History

- [The Daily Breeze](#), Encyclopedia of Surfing, and Surfer's Journal each reference "***Surfboards by Velzy***" as the 1st known retail surf shop in the world.
- The 1950's were a boon time for surfing along the California coast and a decade later the sport exploded to wide spread popularity due to mass media and movies ie., Gidget, portraying this new life style and culture.
- "***Surfboards by Velzy***" was the pioneer at the forefront of a new industry which has become a multibillion-dollar industry today.
- On January 8, 2018, California state legislators Al Muratsuchi and Ian Calderon introduced a bill to establish surfing as the official state sport which was signed by Governor Brown later that year.
- Surf culture and the surf industry began in the South Bay and should be celebrated, as should Velzy's surf shop (the first ever) in Manhattan Beach.

Proposal to Install a Bronze Plaque Honoring a Piece of Local History

- Jacquelyne May (local resident), Bing Copeland (another legendary local surfboard shaper), and Matt Velzy (Dale's son) began this effort 10 years ago and have recently initiated a [petition](#), gaining over 700 signatures, to install a single permanent 10x12 bronze plaque on the sidewalk next to the fire hydrant at the original location of Velzy's surf shop, which is now occupied by The Strand House.
 - The Strand House does not want a plaque installed on its building or any location that could impede any development plans in the future.
- The bronze plaque and its installation will be funded through private donations as a gift to the City of Manhattan Beach
- We are asking for The Commission's approval to pursue this initiative and gain approval from The City of Manhattan Beach to create and install the plaque.

Proposal to Install a Bronze Plaque Honoring a Piece of Local History



Proposal to Install a Bronze Plaque Honoring a Piece of Local History

- Heritage Bronze Foundry will create the plaque
- The 10x12 plaque design will simply show the original logo and the following sentence:
 - *“At this location in 1950, Dale “Hawk” Velzy opened the world’s first surf shop and was granted a California sales tax number for the new product category: “surfboards”.*



Thank You For Your Consideration!

- Jacquelyne May
- Bing Copeland
 - Matt Velzy

TO:

Cultural Arts Commission

FROM:

Eilen R Stewart, Cultural Arts Manager

SUBJECT:

Request from the North Manhattan Beach Business Improvement District to Install Temporary Surfboard Sculpture Commemorating Cancer and Brain Trauma Adjacent to North End Café for a Period of One Year and Allocate Funds from the Public Arts Trust Fund to cover the costs of transportation, installation, and maintenance (Cultural Arts Manager Stewart).

DISCUSS AND PROVIDE DIRECTION

RECOMMENDATION:

Discuss and provide direction on a request from the North Manhattan Beach Business Improvement District (NMB BID) to install a temporary surfboard sculpture for a period of one year, approve statue location, and allocate funds from the Public Arts Trust Fund (PATF) to cover the costs of transportation, installation, and maintenance of the piece.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:

Upon Legal review, staff determined that the NMB BID is not able to use the NMB BID funds, nor fundraise independently to offset the cost this project. The NMB BID is returning to the CAC to seek an appropriation of funds from the PATF to cover the costs associated with moving, installing, and maintaining this artwork.

BACKGROUND:

In order to help beautify and bring tourist attention to North Manhattan Beach, the NMB BID has been collaborating with artist Domisi Parham to create a large sculpture of a surfboard.

As a survivor of a brain tumor, the artist has created this piece to commemorate the struggle of all those afflicted with brain disorders and empower all viewers to rise above the challenge.

The proposed artwork (see image in Attachment 1, postcard) is a stainless steel and Quartzite upright surfboard, mounted on a pedestal with a commemorative plaque on one side. The sculpture is outfitted with LED lighting that can be programmed to display flickering light shows. The NMB BID plans to schedule light shows on a monthly basis, when different themes can be incorporated and displayed.

DISCUSSION:

Staff met with NMB BID and artist on multiple occasions to discuss options and challenges for the proposed project. Discussion points included the proposed location of the artwork, ADA needs and concerns, power and technology needs, maintenance plan, and permitting needs for the artwork.

The NMB BID is proposing placing the artwork at the corner of North End Café at 3421 Highland Ave. and 35th street. The artwork would be on loan to the City with the artist and the City absorbing any and all costs for the creation, installation, and maintenance of the piece.

PUBLIC OUTREACH:

Residents within 1000 feet of the proposed sculpture were notified and asked to provide feedback on this proposal, the results of the survey can be viewed in Attachment 2.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Surf Ascension Postcard
2. Surf Ascension Survey Results
3. NMB BID PowerPoint Presentation

Attachment 1 Surf Ascension Postcard



PROPOSED SCULPTURE INSPIRING THOSE AFFECTED BY BRAIN TRAUMA AND CANCER TO RISE ABOVE COMMUNITY INPUT SURVEY

The North End Business Improvement District has proposed a sculpture by artist Domisi Parham to inspire those affected by brain trauma and cancer to rise above. Surf Ascension celebrates the surf culture of North Manhattan Beach and is a beacon of hope not only to the afflicted, but also to anyone who views a challenge as something to rise above.

This stainless steel and Quartzite sculpture stands just over 11' tall and would be placed outside the North End Café on Highland Ave. It is equipped with LED lights capable of displaying an array of colorful patterns and images in a flickering light show that can be programmed for monthly events and celebrations. This temporary sculpture will be on loan to the City for a period of one year.



This item will be presented to City Council on November 15, 2022.



**PLEASE TAKE THIS SURVEY
NO LATER THAN OCTOBER 10, 2022.
WWW.MANHATTANBEACH.GOV/SCULPTURE**



CONTACT

 estewart@manhattanbeach.gov
 www.mbparksandrec.com

Attachment 2 Surf Ascension Survey Results

Result Summary Graphic

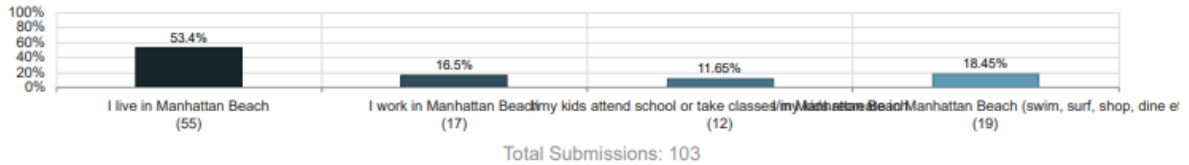
Survey Title North End BID Sculpture Survey
 Start Date 09/13/2022

Question's results to display (Display All Results) ▼
 Results layout Column Chart ▼
 Results order Answer Order ▼
 Date range To [Apply Range](#)

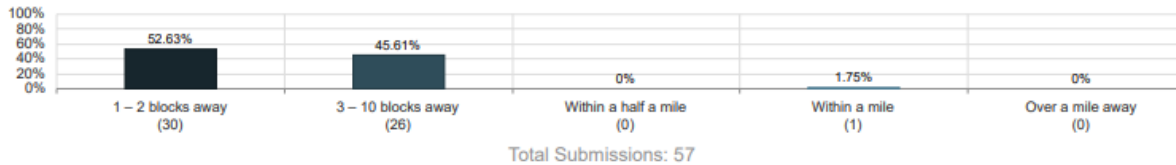
Do you support this project?



What is your relationship to Manhattan Beach? Select all that apply.



If you live in Manhattan Beach, please let us know how close you are to the proposed location of 3498 Highland Ave? I live:



Survey Results

Note: for ease of viewing, the 'yes' replies were highlighted in green and the 'no' in pink

Yes Do you support this project?	No Do you support this project?	Please let us know if you have any additional feedback:
Yes		Excellent sculpture! We need more sculptures in MB, instead of "cookie-cutter" Bo Bridges murals.
	No	Great cause. But What a tacky eyesore and waste of money, especially for only one year.
	No	I think a surfboard mounted on the side of building that is not flashing but nicely painted would look ok.
	No	What a terrible place to put a sculpture. The crosswalk there is already dangerous as it's terribly hard to see pedestrians that just walk out in front of cars. Now you want to put a piece of art with flashing lights there as well. I can not find any info on the artist either. Is there really any point for this for one year?
Yes		I'm a little concerned that the flashing lights might be distracting to motorists who's full attention should be on the pedestrians in the area. That will all depend upon the plan to light the sculpture.
	No	An unaesthetic piece of of meaningless junk. The only inspiration is to the ego of the artist. We don't need a beachy corruption of a Christmas tree.
Yes		
	No	
Yes		
Yes		I am okay with it and just live down the street as long as the cost is free or a nominal fee.
Yes		This is a beautiful sculpture for a poignant celebration. Please allow it to be displayed in all its glory.
Yes		
Yes		It's ugly, but the sentiment is nice. Still it's ridiculously ugly. It lights up too? Super ugly. The North End doesn't need more ugly. I think you should instead put a rainbow walk on the corner of Rosecrans and Highland and make it a diagonal cross walk. Some road bumpers would be nice too to prevent the speeding cars on the weekends and Fri/Thur nights! Just my opinion and thanks for asking!
	No	I love the cause (brain trauma and cancer), and I love the size and shape of the sculpture. But Highland Avenue is a well-traveled thoroughfare, and there's a pedestrian crosswalk exactly

		at the location of the proposed sculpture. I don't think there would be an issue in daylight, but a light-strobe feature, especially with changing colors (I'm picturing the iconic installation at LAX that was erected for the 1984 Olympics) could be a distraction for drivers. A lot of people are entering Manhattan Beach on north Highland Avenue after a long day at the office or perhaps cocktails in the Marina or El Segundo. It just seems a little Las Vegas, and like I said, a potential safety hazard. I'm curious what the adjacent neighbors / Sea View Inn guests would think about the colors (I'm a couple blocks away so would not see it from my house). I do like that it would be a temporary installation, so always the option to remove it if it proves too distracting. Anyway, my 2 cents. Thanks for asking!
Yes		I think this is a great idea for sculpture!
	No	This sculpture is a great idea but the execution seems lacking. The space that's being considered is very small and surrounded by an unattractive yard area. It's just not a very well developed idea and I live just a few hundred feet from the proposed site. There's got to be a better idea. What about placing the sculpture on the east side of Rosecrans where the N MB sign is. That's another terribly executed sculpture but this would be better.
Yes		I think the proposed sculpture is a good fit for the culture in our town and looks appealing
Yes		
Yes		Looks a cool addition to that spot!
Yes		
	No	Looks like an eyesore
Yes		
Yes		
Yes		I LOVE IT!!!! HAPPY TO GET SOME LOVE FROM THE CITY IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD!
Yes		
Yes		
Yes		For a great cause, and to draw tourism to North Manhattan Beach.
Yes		
Yes		
	No	Ugly
	No	The proposed sculpture is ugly
	No	It doesn't look like a surfboard; It looks like it should be in Las Vegas not a beach town; the sculpture doesn't seem to relate at all to its theme/purpose; weird looking!!!!
Yes		Although it is oddly colored and with lights that could be distracting, it might be nice in the city. It is also not clear if the statue will exist there after the one year loan arrangement. Even if

		it is eventually not preferred by most, it will be taken away after that year, correct?
Yes		
	No	I do not think it will last for a long time , the way things are right now it will be stolen very fast . Please do not do this and do not attract more thieves to this neighborhood it is not the time for these things any more
Yes		The sculpture will add to the the aesthetics of North Manhattan Beach, and since it is on loan it will not be permanent.
Yes		
Yes		We look forward to having this new art work in El Porto.
Yes		
Yes		I think this would be a great attraction to the North End/ El Porto community.
Yes		
Yes		Love public art, and love the surfing history of North Manhattan Beach and El Porto. Not a huge fan o the LED component of this art as that does not seem to fit the neighborhood, but this is a one-year deal, so willing to have an open mind. THanks for letting me share my opinions.
Yes		
Yes		
Yes		
	No	I have nothing against surfers, surfboards or the idea of beach sports as the theme of some of our city's art however this is not artistic, nor pleasant to look at. There is no aesthetic merit to it. It merely looks like a surfboard lit up with very poor taste. SORRY, but that is what it resembles.
Yes		
Yes		
Yes		
	No	
	No	this is hideous! that area is already overcrowded.....do we need drivers further distracted on Highland? I say no. it's already a hazard crossing the street even with the crossing light that SOMETIMES works.
Yes		
Yes		I think it's great - it shows how both surfing and facing challenges are part of what makes our city the best!
	No	The sculpture is on a walk street. The city has Encroachment Standards. The intent of these standards is to encourage low profile construction on property and maintain vistas of the ocean. Fences maximum height is 42 inches. This sculpture is over 10 feet. I am also concerned with flickering light on the street next to a crosswalk. It will be a distraction to drivers.

Yes		I support this project only if it will be at no cost to the city. I'm not crazy about the lighting, but the BID should be given deference if it pays for all expenses.
	No	<p>This surfboard will be an unacceptable eye sore for the houses in the 300 block of 35th Street - we own 320, 35th Street. This sidewalk is a very busy, cluttered are of north manhattan, especially at the weekends. You have rule around fence heights and trees in order to not block our view of the beach and ocean and therefore approval of this huge surfboard is completely counter intuitive.</p> <p>In addition to this, it is clear that birds will sit on the surfboard, leaving faeces on the board and pavement - in an area of outdoor dining. From my experience as an elementary school teacher, I am also sure that children will try to climb up the board, potentially resulting in accidents. I wrote in before to suggest that a better place for this thing would be at the bottom of Rosecrans as people drive into North Manhattan Beach. This sidewalk between Wild Cafe and North End restaurants is a dreadful site that I strongly reject. Susan Murray and Con Mallon</p>
Yes		
	No	<p>I have two significant objections: Rationale. As a cancer survivor I would be inspired if the tens of thousands this will probably run to were invested with both a suitable cancer and a brain trauma charity. I would implore you to better use the money; with cancer we are getting so, so close significant break-through therapies. Every dollar counts. The North End BID would be better served and better remembered, for using the money in a practical way and not for a vanity project. Aesthetics. The proposed siting for the sculpture will ruin what is already a busy and crowded corner. It singularly fails to add to the look and feel of this end of town. The North End BID are failing in their stewardship of this part of town. It just looks odd, as somehow it has just fallen out from the sky. I am sorry it has to be said: it is ugly, gaudy and will simply invoke the mirth of folk who happen upon it.</p> <p>In talking with neighbors around where I live, we hate the idea. We don't want it, we don't like and we don't need it. As per my point re rationale: I implore you to put the money to a much better use and give it to cancer and brain cancer charities.</p>

Additional Feedback Received via Email

I am very concerned about the placement of the sculpture on a walk street. The sculpture is in violation of the encroachment standards for walk streets. The

height limits are 42 inches for fences and landscaping. The intent of the standards is to encourage low profile construction on property and maintain vistas of the ocean and a sense of openness along pedestrian corridors. This sculpture is as tall as the building next to it so certainly is too tall for a walk street.

Concern number 2 is the flickering lights next to a crosswalk. I have lived on 35th street for 50 years and have seen many pedestrians either hit or close misses. The crosswalk lights have helped but drivers do not need to be distracted by the surfboard LED lights. This is a major concern regarding the safety of residents.

Maybe the sculpture should be placed in one of our great parks.

Attachment 3
NMB BID PowerPoint Presentation

TO:

Cultural Arts Commission

THROUGH:

Mark Leyman, Parks and Recreation Director

FROM:

Melissa McCollum, Senior Recreation Manager

SUBJECT:

Consideration of a Proposed Polliwog Pavilion to Expand Eastside Library Services and Improve Access to the City's Historical Collection (Parks and Recreation Director Leyman).

DISCUSS AND MAKE RECOMMENDATION

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Cultural Arts Commission discuss a concept for a new multifunctional space in Polliwog Park to expand Eastside library services, highlight and improve access to the City's historical collection, and increase programming opportunities for the City, LA County Library, Manhattan Beach Historical Society, and community.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:

There are no fiscal implications associated with the recommended action at this time. Once the City Council directs staff on this matter, future funding appropriations may be required.

BACKGROUND:

The Polliwog Pavilion concept was developed in response to community requests for a second library location in town as well as the need to improve the management, preservation, and access to the City's historical records, photos, newspapers, and artifacts.

The Library Commission's Work Plan for 2022 included a survey to assess East Manhattan Beach Library Services. Survey highlights from the 129 respondents include:

- 48% said a small, satellite location in East Manhattan Beach would improve library services
- 38% said it is difficult to access the Manhattan Beach Library
- Parking (46%) and location (33%) were identified as top challenges to accessing the Manhattan Beach Library
- 62% identified checking out items as their top reason for visiting the library
- 53% reported using digital library services in the past year

City Council directed staff on July 19, 2022 to implement Phases 1 and 2 of an Action Plan prepared by History Associates Incorporated (HAI) to improve the care and management of the City of Manhattan Beach's historical collection. The historical collection, consisting of approximately 1,550 objects and 165 linear feet of archival material, is currently housed at the historical Red House, an external rented trailer, and old restroom facilities in Polliwog Park, the Manhattan Beach Art Center (MBAC), and the Manhattan Beach Library. Collection challenges include:

- Lack of collection policy and procedures
- Out of scope material present in collections
- Backlog of uncatalogued materials
- Limited staffing resources
- Inadequate environmental and exhibit conditions
- Lack of formalized roles and responsibilities for fire protection, security, and emergency preparedness

The five phases of the Action Plan are outlined below. Target completion for Phases I and II is Spring 2023.

- Phase I Policy Development
- Phase II Inventory and Survey Collections
- Phase III Process, Catalog, Rehouse Collections
- Phase IV Digitization
- Phase V Maintain Collections

The City of Manhattan Beach has a branch of the LA County Library system. The property taxes paid into the system by Manhattan Beach residents exceeds the cost of operating the branch, including the debt service on the library building. The surplus funds are accumulated for the benefit of providing Manhattan Beach library services. Currently, there is an accumulated surplus balance of \$9.3 million. LA County Library recently determined surplus library funds may be used to improve access to the City's historical collection and build and operate a second library facility.

DISCUSSION:

In partnership with City staff, LA County Library developed a conceptual drawing for a 2,970 square foot structure comprised of a glass pavilion and a service core with a 1,840 square foot courtyard in Polliwog Park (see Attachment 1). An existing 1,186 square foot building housing electrical and mechanical elements for the park as well as storage space for the historical collection is currently located on the proposed site.

The preliminary budget estimate for this option is \$5 million, with actual costs to be determined. Ongoing operating costs for the new facility are estimated to be approximately \$638,000 per year. Manhattan Beach's library surplus has averaged over \$1 million per year for the last five years. Funding must be used for library services. It cannot be repurposed.

High impact library services at the new location would include picking up holds, browsing for bestsellers and children's books, book drops for returning items, access to WiFi and other technology, and programming for all ages. Benefits for the historical collection include enhanced care and management of records, expanded staff and volunteer assistance with accessing the collection, digitized newspapers, photos, and select collections, Manhattan Beach Historical Society meeting and programming space, and temporary, permanent, and digital displays.

PUBLIC OUTREACH:

The Polliwog Pavilion concept will be presented to the Library Commission on November 14, the Cultural Arts Commission on November 21, and the Parks and Recreation Commission on November 28. It was discussed at the MBUSD Ad Hoc Committee Meeting on November 1 and with representatives of the Manhattan Beach Historical Society on October 6 and November 9. A meeting with Friends of Polliwog Park is planned for December.

ATTACHMENT:

1. PowerPoint

Polliwog Pavilion – Library, History and Recreation Facility

November 21, 2022



Existing Facilities



Manhattan Beach Library



Red House



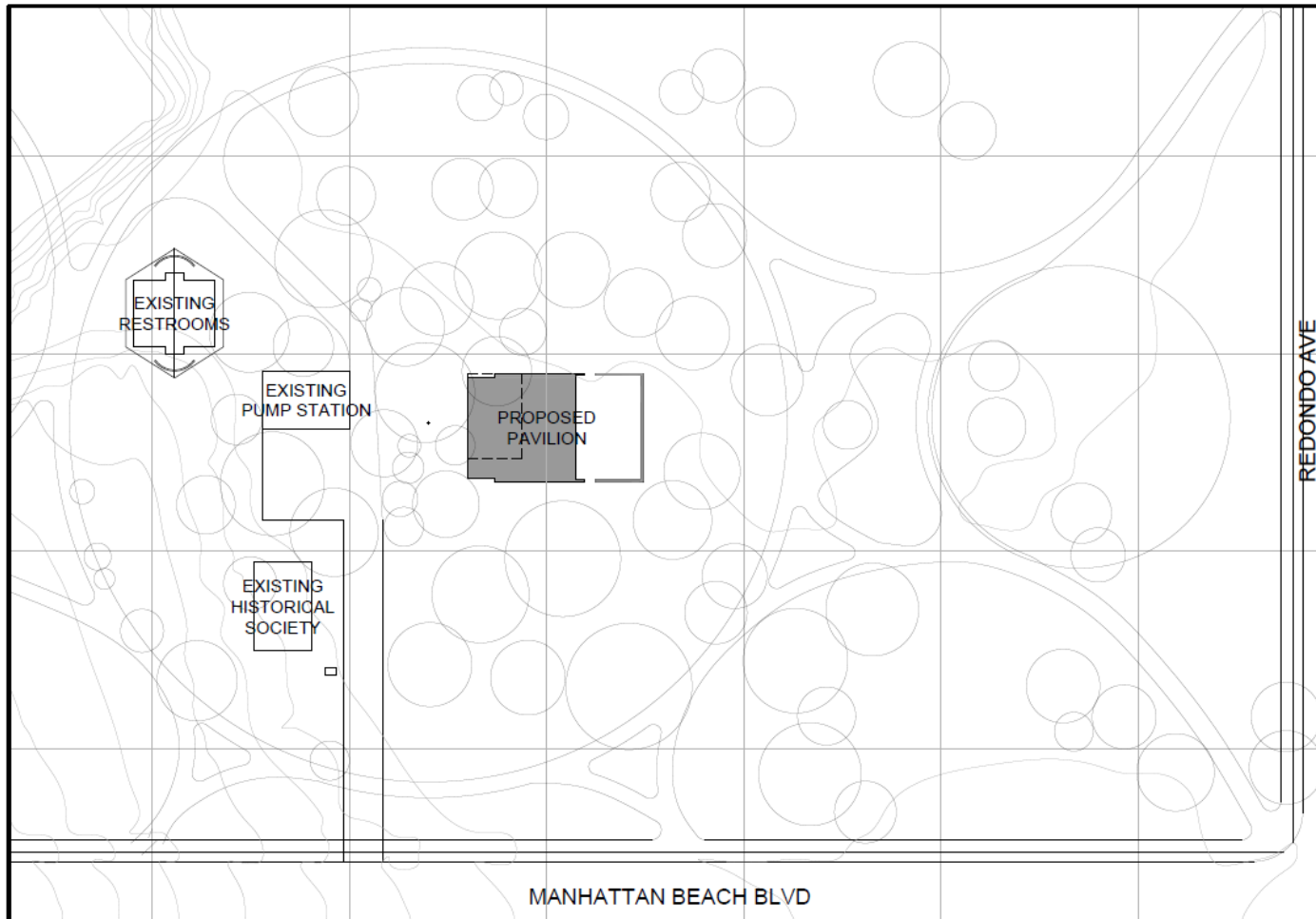
Polliwog Park – Existing Site Photo



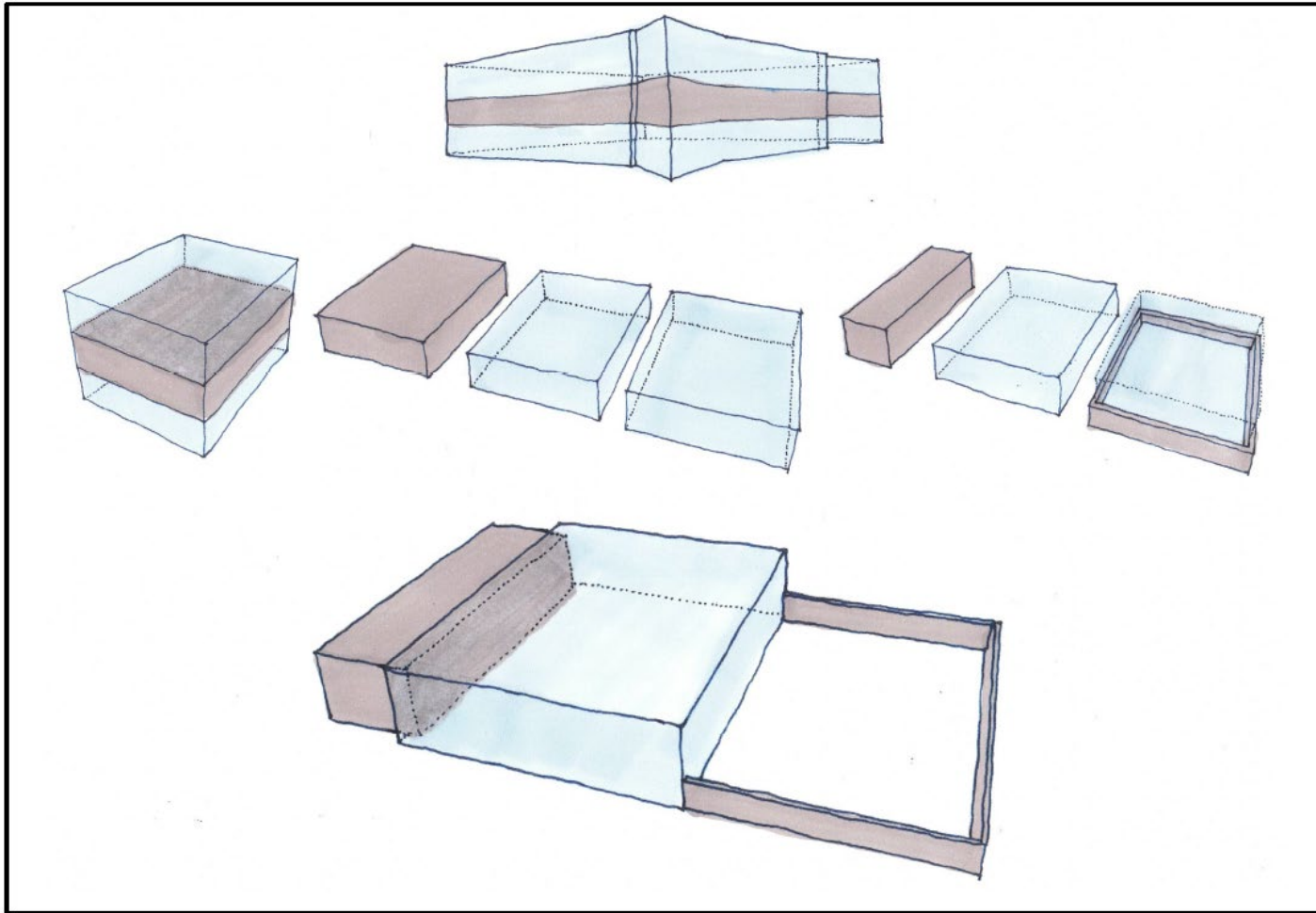
Polliwog Park – Existing Site Photo #2



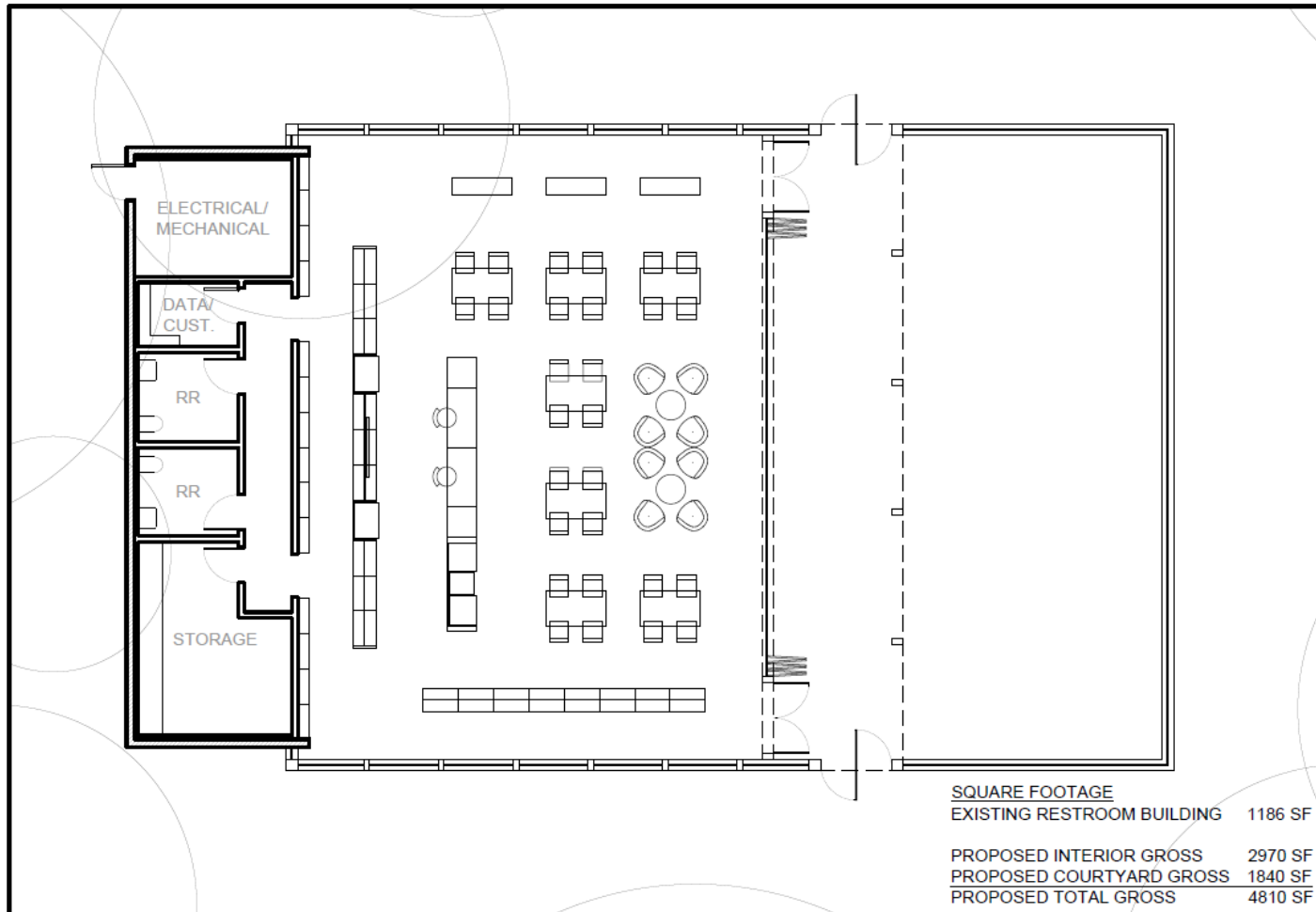
Polliwog Park – Proposed Site



Polliwog Pavilion – Diagram



Polliwog Pavilion – Proposed Plan



Project Highlights

LA COUNTY LIBRARY SURPLUS: \$9.3 MILLION

LIBRARY SERVICES	HISTORICAL COLLECTION
Pick up holds/return library items	Improved care/management of historical records
Browse bestsellers/children's books	Expanded staff and volunteer assistance with accessing collection
WiFi connectivity/access to technology	Digitized newspapers, photos, and select collections
Programming for all ages	Manhattan Beach Historical Society meeting and programming space
Opportunities for innovation/surprise	Temporary, permanent, and digital displays



Next Steps- Feedback / Direction

- Commissions –Library Commission, Cultural Arts Commission, and Parks and Recreation Commission
- Community Outreach
- Manhattan Beach Unified School District
- City Council



DATE: November 21, 2022

TO:

Members of the Cultural Arts Commission

FROM:

Eilen R Stewart, Cultural Arts Manager

SUBJECT:

Cultural Arts Commission Work Plan for 2022/2023

RECOMMENDATION:

Discuss Cultural Arts Commission Work Plan items for consideration by the City Council at the January 9, 2023 City Council and Commissions joint meeting.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:

Fiscal implications, if any, will be developed on a project-by-project basis and presented to the City Council as necessary.

DISCUSSION:

City Council will meet with the Cultural Arts Commission in a joint meeting on January 9, 2023 to provide direction for the 2023 Library Commission Work Plan.

Items currently on the 2022 Work Plan include:

- Rainbow Crosswalk (Complete)
- MBAC Revamp
- Art Grant - Utility Beautification (Paused)
- Art Grant – Murals (Paused)
- Art Grant – Digital Art (Paused)
- Art Grant - Performing Arts (Paused)
- Art Grant - Sculpture Garden (Paused)
- Art Grant – Permanent Sculpture (Paused)
- Art Grant - School/Education (Paused)

Proposed changes for the 2023 Work Plan include:

- Resume work on the Utility Beautification Art Grant
- Resume work on the Murals Art Grant