



Agenda Item:

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COUNCIL COMMUNICATION City Manager's Office

GENERAL INFORMATION

Agenda Date: 09/27/04

Communication

No.: 04-491

Agenda Item Type: Resolution

Roll Call No.:

Submitted by: Richard Clark, Deputy City Manager

SUBJECT—

Resolution approving public art bequest for Riverwalk project.

SYNOPSIS—

Mary O'Keefe, Chief Marketing Officer for Principal Life Insurance Company, has submitted a letter dated September 23, 2004, to the Mayor and Council asking for approval of public art for the Riverwalk project. More specifically, two sculptures valued at \$1.5 million are being donated by Melva Bucksbaum. A third sculpture is being donated by American Republic. All sculptures will be located in the Riverwalk in accordance with the adopted Master Plan. The Public Art Commission of the Greater Des Moines Community Foundation has reviewed and recommended approval of the proposed sculptures. Council is being asked to approve the art sculptures for location within the Riverwalk; to authorize the City Manager to approve the precise locations, site plans, and schematic drawings; and to execute all required agreements for installation, maintenance, insurance, and indemnification.

FISCAL IMPACT—

As outlined in Mary O'Keefe's letter, the City is not expected to pay for either the capital cost, or the ongoing operating and maintenance cost associated with these sculptures.

RECOMMENDATION—

Approval

BACKGROUND—

The sculptures donated by Melva Bucksbaum will be owned by the Des Moines Art Center. Ownership of the sculpture donated by American Republic will be determined among the Des Moines Art Center, the Des Moines River Front Development Authority, and the Greater Des Moines Community Foundation. Upon approval by the City Council, Principal Life Insurance Company agrees to obtain insurance coverage for the sculptures in an amount mutually acceptable to the City and Principal. Principal shall hold the City of Des Moines harmless from and against any and all losses, liabilities, expenses, damages, etc., arising from the placement of the sculptures on the riverfront property and hereby assumes any and all responsibility for the maintenance of the sculptures.