

HISTORIC AND DESIGN REVIEW COMMISSION

March 06, 2015

Agenda Item No: 6

HDRC CASE NO: 2015-085
ADDRESS: 100 AUDITORIUM CIRCLE
LEGAL DESCRIPTION: NCB 180 BLK LOT 16 (BEXAR COUNTY PERFORMING ARTS CENTER)
2013-NEW ACCT PER MERGE PER PLAT 9643/172-176 FILED 8/10/2012
ZONING: D H HE RIO-3 S
CITY COUNCIL DIST.: 1
DISTRICT: Auditorium Circle Historic District
LANDMARK: Municipal Auditorium
APPLICANT: Michael Freshner
OWNER: Michael Freshner
TYPE OF WORK: Install sculpture
REQUEST:

The applicant is requesting a Certificate of Appropriateness for approval to:

Install a 17'-6" tall sculpture which utilizes salvaged lettering from the former Municipal Auditorium sign. The sculpture will be lit at night with color-changing LEDs.

APPLICABLE CITATIONS:

Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation number 9:

9. New additions, exterior alterations, or related new construction will not destroy historic materials, features, and spatial relationships that characterize the property. The new work shall be differentiated from the old and will be compatible with the historic materials, features, size, scale and proportion, and massing to protect the integrity of the property and its environment.

FINDINGS:

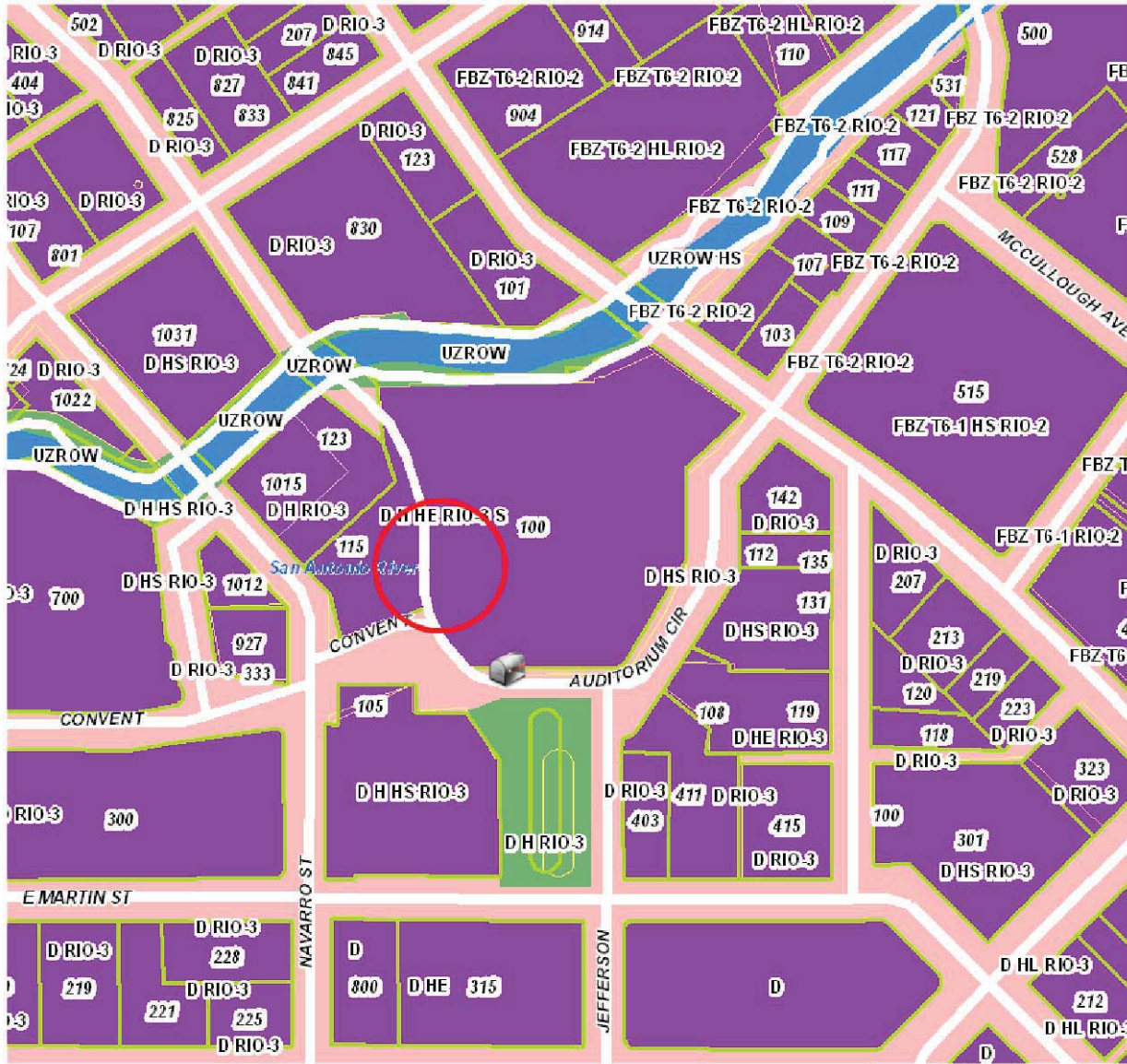
- a. Partial demolition of Municipal Auditorium for the construction of the Tobin Center for the Performing Arts was approved in March of 2011. With that approval, there was a stipulation that the original lettering be salvaged instead of discarded.
- b. In general, exterior alterations, including art installations, have the potential to either enhance or detract from the integrity of the property and its environment. The proposed sculpture is not physically attached to the historic building and does not have a significant visual impact to the site. This is consistent with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation number 9.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval as submitted based on findings a and b with the stipulation that the applicant include an interpretive sign near the base of the sculpture as proposed that indicates the origin of the letters. The sign should include text and an image of the original facade. It could be etched metal or some other material. The sign details must be submitted to staff for approval prior to fabrication.

CASE MANAGER:

Cory Edwards





100 Auditorium Circle

Sculpture

Printed: Feb 16, 2015

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Spiraling into the Future

sculpture by Bill FitzGibbons



Description of the Project

The San Antonio Municipal Auditorium was built in 1926 and designed in Spanish Colonial Revival style by architect Atlee Ayres and associates. This design was awarded a gold medal in 1929 by the American Institute of Architects and was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1981. In 2007 County Judge Nelson Wolff and Mayor Phil Hardberger were instrumental in initiating a foundation that would transform the Municipal Auditorium into a world-class performing arts center. Seven years later the Tobin Center for the Performing Arts is the result.

The Tobin Center recognizes this important history and has committed to utilizing the original Municipal Auditorium letters in a unique and creative manner on the new performing arts center campus.

The public artwork that is proposed for the new Tobin Center for the Performing Arts is a visual statement meant to honor not only the history of this Atlee Ayres building and its role in the lives of so many San Antonians, but also to honor and celebrate the exciting future of this internationally important performing arts venue. San Antonio artist Bill FitzGibbons has designed *Spiraling into the Future* as a celebratory tribute to the Municipal Auditorium. The concept of this artwork has the actual letters from the original façade being uplifted by swirling energy into the future. The future is of the Tobin as one of the most exciting and important concert halls in America. Spiral-shaped aluminum linear forms create the structure for these original letters. In the evening hours, a computerized LED light system will highlight this artwork with slowly changing colored lights.

Spiraling into the Future will be located next to the building along the walkway that connects the new River Portal and Medal of Honor Memorial Walkway to the front of the Tobin and the existing Veterans Memorial Plaza. A plaque describing the history of the building will be placed at the base of the artwork.

This artwork is a metaphor for the transformation of an important community building with its roots in the early 20th Century into one of the finest performing art centers of the 21st Century.

**Department for Culture & Creative Development
Public Art San Antonio / Public Art Board
Letter of Authorization**

In accordance with the City of San Antonio's Public Art San Antonio (PASA) ordinance and policy, and subject to any special conditions or requirements set forth by the Public Art Board (PAB) and/or PASA, the following authorization has been granted to the
Tobin Center Public Art Project "Spiraling into the Future" (Artist Bill Fitzgibbons) :

- ☒ PASA administrative approval to proceed as submitted;
- ☐ PASA administrative approval to proceed as submitted with special conditions. Such approval is conditioned upon compliance with the special conditions [special conditions attached];
- ☐ Approval by the City of San Antonio Public Art Board, after completion of review and action taken on the proposed project. Such approval is conditioned upon compliance with any special conditions set forth in the attached Public Art Board minutes.

For Final design approval to proceed with fabrication & installation of the Tobin Center Public Art Project "Spiraling into the Future".

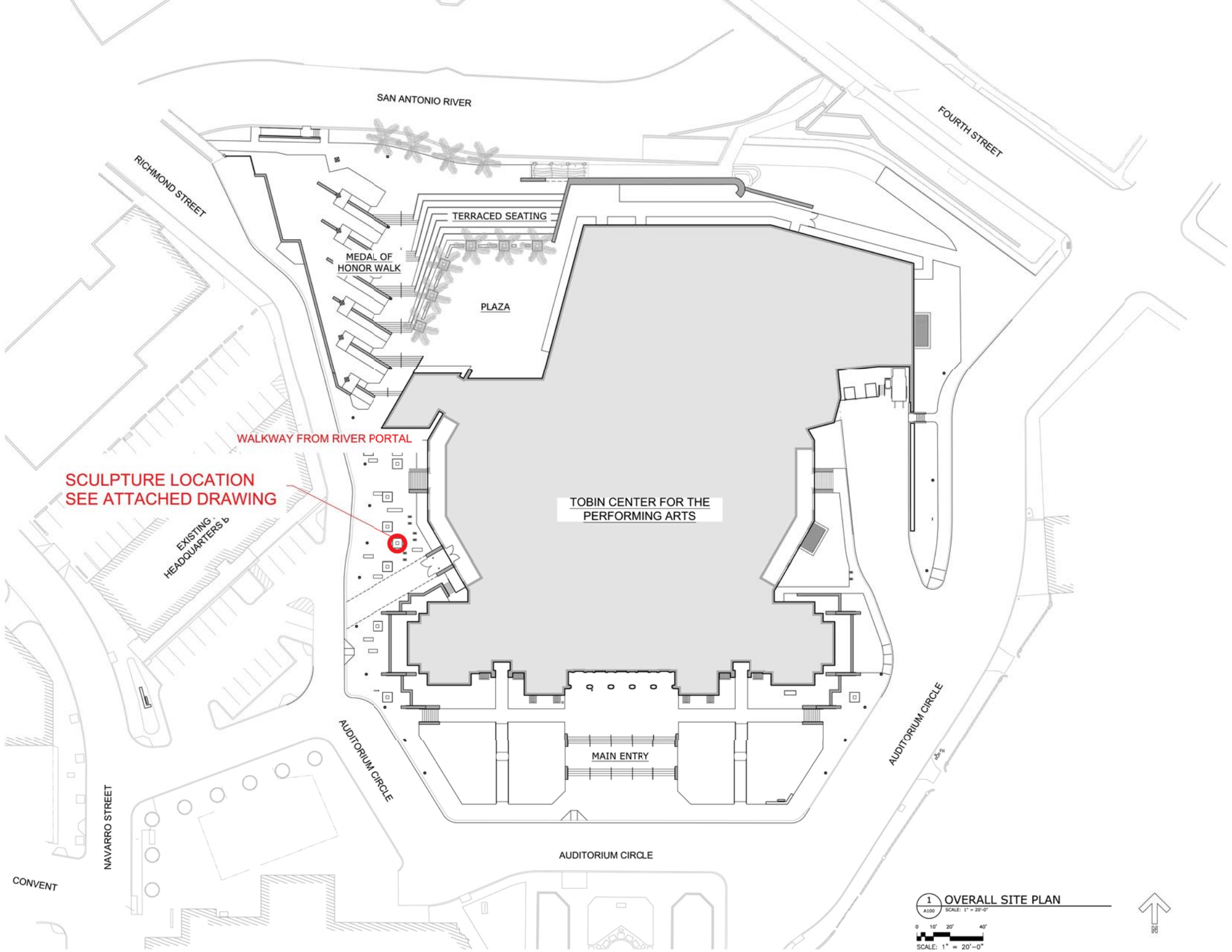
This authorization is valid through project completion.

James M. LeFlore
Public Art Manager
Public Art San Antonio
Department for Culture & Creative Development

Signature: _____

Date: 10/14/14

* HDRC Applicants: Please note that public art cases cannot be presented to HDRC until the following Letter of Authorization is signed by the Director of Public Art San Antonio (PASA) and included with your HDRC application materials. Any subsequent changes made to the project will require an additional letter of authorization. For more information, contact James LeFlore at (210) 207-4433 or james.lefore@sanantonio.gov.



SAN ANTONIO RIVER

FOURTH STREET

RICHMOND STREET

TERRACED SEATING

MEDAL OF
HONOR WALK

PLAZA

WALKWAY FROM RIVER PORTAL

TOBIN CENTER FOR THE
PERFORMING ARTS

SCULPTURE LOCATION
SEE ATTACHED DRAWING

EXISTING
HEADQUARTERS

AUDITORIUM CIRCLE

MAIN ENTRY

AUDITORIUM CIRCLE

AUDITORIUM CIRCLE

1 OVERALL SITE PLAN

A100 SCALE: 1" = 20'-0"

0 10' 20' 40'

SCALE: 1" = 20'-0"



EXISTING FIRE
HEADQUARTERS BUILDING

Proposed Sculpture

TOBIN CENTER FOR THE
PERFORMING ARTS

