

HISTORIC AND DESIGN REVIEW COMMISSION

May 02, 2018

HDRC CASE NO: 2018-202
ADDRESS: 600 E MARKET ST
LEGAL DESCRIPTION: NCB 13814 BLK 3 LOT 13 SA CONVENTION CTR HOTEL/ RIVERWALK RESIDENCES CONDOS ***MASTERFILE & COMMON ELEMENTS***
ZONING: D, RIO-3
CITY COUNCIL DIST.: 1
APPLICANT: William Serrano-Franklin
OWNER: Hemisfair Park Area Redevelopment Corporation (HPARC)
TYPE OF WORK: Sculpture placement
APPLICATION RECEIVED: April 13, 2018
60-DAY REVIEW: June 12, 2018
REQUEST:

The applicant is requesting a Certificate of Appropriateness for the location of a donated sculpture, “Alas de Mexico (Wings of Mexico)” by Jorge Marin, for long-term display in Hemisfair Park. The design of the sculpture is not included in this review.

APPLICABLE CITATIONS:

UDC Section Division 5. – Public Art San Antonio (PSAS)

The purpose of Public Art San Antonio (PASA) is to support a public process for incorporating artist services and artworks in the design of civic spaces and capital projects and to define the City of San Antonio's policies and guidelines for acquiring and commissioning art of the highest standards which shall enrich the quality of life for all residents and visitors of San Antonio.

The goals of Public Art San Antonio (PASA) are to create a better visual environment for the residents and visitors of San

Antonio, to integrate the design work of artists into the development of city eligible capital improvement projects, and to promote tourism and the economic vitality of the city through the enhancement of public spaces. Public Art San Antonio (PASA) serves the entire City of San Antonio as the public art program for all city departments, capital projects and public art initiatives, and is a division of the Office of Cultural Affairs (OCA). Public Art San Antonio (PASA) specifically seeks:

To encourage the selection of artists at the beginning stages of each project who can work successfully as members of the project design team, and to encourage collaboration among all arts and building disciplines;

To foster quality design and the creation of an array of artwork in all media, materials and disciplines that best respond to the distinctive characteristics of each project site and the community that it serves;

To select experienced artists who represent the diverse cultural landscape of San Antonio;

To encourage the selection of design enhancements that are accessible to the public and respect the historical resources and mobility of the citizenry;

To encourage artists, design enhancements and programs for open spaces, parks, infrastructure and facilities that contribute to neighborhood revitalization and enhance the quality and pride of neighborhoods in the city;

To encourage participation by citizens in the process of acquiring and commissioning of design enhancements;

To encourage the role of public art and design enhancements in enhancing economic development and cultural tourism;

To encourage the role of artists in the functional design of eligible capital improvement projects;

To exhibit art in designated city facilities for the enjoyment of the public and to heighten awareness and appreciation for local artists; and

To maintain and provide stewardship of the city public art and design enhancements collection.

Sec. 35-651. - Eligible and Ineligible Public Art and Design Enhancements.

(a) Eligible Public Art and Design Enhancements. It is the policy of the City of San Antonio that all public art and design enhancements commissioned or acquired through PASA are designed by an artist, craftsman or an artist or craftsman in collaboration with the project architect, landscape architect or engineer. Such artworks may include, but are not limited to the following:

(1) The incremental costs of infrastructure elements, such as sound-walls, utility structures, roadway elements and other items if designed by an artist or design team that includes an artist co-designer.

(2) Artistic or aesthetic elements of the overall architecture or landscape design if created by a professional artist or a design team that includes a professional visual artist.

(3) Earthworks, neon, glass, mosaics, photographs, prints, calligraphy, any combination of forms of media including sound, literary elements, film, holographic images, and video systems; hybrids of any media and new genres.

(4) Murals or portable paintings in any material or variety of materials.

(5) Sculpture: freestanding, wall supported, or suspended; kinetic and electronic in any material or combination of materials.

(6) Temporary artworks or installations, if such artworks serve the purpose of providing community and educational outreach purposes.

(7) Public art and design enhancements that are an integral part of architecture, landscape architecture, and landscape design.

(b) Ineligible Public Art and Design Enhancements. Public art and design enhancements that are mass produced or of standard manufacture, such as playground equipment, fountains or statuary elements, unless incorporated into an artwork by a project artist, or reproductions, by mechanical or other means, of original artwork, except in the case of film, video, photography, printmaking or other media arts.

(c) Specifically excluded from this section is artwork in the museum collection of the San Antonio Museum of Art and the Witte Museum.

Historic Design Guidelines, Chapter 2, Guidelines for Exterior Maintenance and Alterations

2. Materials: Masonry and Stucco

A. MAINTENANCE (PRESERVATION)

i. *Paint*—Avoid painting historically unpainted surfaces. Exceptions may be made for severely deteriorated material where other consolidation or stabilization methods are not appropriate. When painting is acceptable, utilize a water permeable paint to avoid trapping water within the masonry.

iv. *Cleaning*—Use the gentlest means possible to clean masonry and stucco when needed, as improper cleaning can damage the surface. Avoid the use of any abrasive, strong chemical, sandblasting, or high-pressure cleaning method.

FINDINGS:

- a. The applicant is requesting a Certificate of Appropriateness for the location of a donated sculpture, “Alas de Mexico (Wings of Mexico)” by Jorge Marin, for long-term display in Hemisfair Park. The design of the sculpture is not included in this review.
- b. Per the UDC Article 5, the purpose of Public Art San Antonio (PASA) is to support a public process for incorporating artist services and artworks in the design of civic spaces and capital projects and to define the City of San Antonio’s policies and guidelines for acquiring and commissioning art of the highest standards which shall enrich the quality of life for all residents and visitors of San Antonio. Additionally, the goals of Public Art San Antonio (PASA) are to create a better visual environment for the residents and visitors of San Antonio, to integrate the design work of artists into the development of city eligible capital improvement projects, and to promote tourism and the economic vitality of the city through the enhancement of public spaces.
- c. **SCULPTURE LOCATION** – The applicant has proposed to locate the sculpture on the upper level of the south pump house for the Hemisfair Fountains, near the base of the Tower of the Americas. The applicant has noted that the site will easily accommodate the sculpture with no substantial modifications.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of the location of the proposed sculpture based on findings a through c.

CASE MANAGER:

Edward Hall



Flex Viewer

Powered by ArcGIS Server

Printed: Apr 25, 2018

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Written narrative of proposed placement of sculpture “Alas de México” in Hemisfair

The City of San Antonio is seeking HDRC approval for the placement of a donated sculpture, “Alas de México (Wings of Mexico)” by Jorge Marín, for long-term display in Hemisfair. The city has accepted this gift of a bronze sculpture from the Government of Mexico City and artist Jorge Marín in celebration of the San Antonio Tricentennial. The Department of Arts & Culture, the International Relations Division of the Economic Development Department and the Tricentennial Commission have been coordinating this gift from Mexico City since November 2015.

The artist has produced a series of similar sculptures that have been exhibited in several cities across the United States, including the San Antonio Botanical Garden. Visitors to the “Alas de México” sculpture installation in Hemisfair will have the opportunity to pose in front of the artwork for a photo with the Tower of the Americas and convention center in the background.

The city proposes to locate the sculpture on the upper level of the south pump house for the Hemisfair Fountains near the base of the Tower of the Americas in Hemisfair. The building was originally constructed as a parking garage for HemisFair '68 and currently houses the hydraulic pumps and other infrastructure that supports the function of the Hemisfair Fountains which were installed after HemisFair '68. The site will easily accommodate the sculpture with no substantive modifications. The Department of Arts & Culture is coordinating with CCDO, Parks & Recreation, HPARC and other client departments for the installation of the sculpture at this site.



Materials:

"Alas Wings of México" features two hollow bronze wings mounted to a steel I-beam frame, which is supported by a steel framed base covered by 6 concrete tiles. The sculpture's overall dimensions are 14' feet high X 17' feet wide X 10' feet deep. The platform dimensions are 6" inches high X 17' feet wide X 10.5 feet wide.

Location:

Rendering of proposed location/placement of sculpture on upper level of south pump house building.

**Signage:**

Mockup of the 8" X 12" aluminum plaque to be attached to the sculpture base.

