

HISTORIC AND DESIGN REVIEW COMMISSION

July 21, 2021

HDRC CASE NO: 2021-317
COMMON NAME: MLK Park
ADDRESS: 3503 MARTIN LUTHER KING DR
LEGAL DESCRIPTION: NCB 10677 P-5A, GIS 80.38 AC
ZONING: R-4
CITY COUNCIL DIST.: 2
APPLICANT: Jordyn Patrias/City of San Antonio Department of Arts & Culture
OWNER: CITY OF SAN ANTONIO
TYPE OF WORK: Public artwork
APPLICATION RECEIVED: June 24, 2021
60-DAY REVIEW: Not applicable due to City Council Emergency Orders
CASE MANAGER: Rachel Rettaliata

REQUEST:

The applicant is requesting a Certificate of Appropriateness for approval to install public art.

APPLICABLE CITATIONS:

UDC Section 35-450. General Rules.

(a) Area of Jurisdiction. A certificate of appropriateness is required and shall be secured by a party prior to the issuance of a permit from the department of planning and development services before said party will be allowed to undertake activities affecting a designated historic landmark, property within a designated historic district, a state archaeological landmark, a recorded Texas historical landmark, property within a National Register Historic District, property listed on the National Register of Historic Places, a National Historic Landmark, property within the river improvement overlay district, public property, public rights-of-way, or public art.

UDC Sec. 35-641. - Design Considerations for Historic and Design Review Commission Recommendations.

In reviewing an application, the historic and design review commission shall be aware of the importance of attempting to find a way to meet the current needs of the City of San Antonio, lessee or licensee of public property. The historic and design review commission shall also recognize the importance of recommending approval of plans that will be reasonable to implement. The best urban design standards possible can and should be employed with public property including buildings and facilities, parks and open spaces, and the public right-of-way. Design and construction on public property should employ such standards because the use of public monies for design and construction is a public trust. Public commitment to quality design should encourage better design by the private sector. Finally, using such design standards for public property improves the identity and the quality of life of the surrounding neighborhoods.

UDC Sec 35-642. – New Construction of Buildings and Facilities:

In considering whether to recommend approval or disapproval of a certificate, the historic and design review commission shall be guided by the following design considerations. These are not intended to restrict imagination, innovation or variety, but rather to assist in focusing on design principles, which can result in creative solutions that will enhance the city and its neighborhoods. Good and original design solutions that meet the individual requirements of a specific site or neighborhood are encouraged and welcomed.

(a) Site and Setting.

- (1) Building sites should be planned to take into consideration existing natural climatic and topographical features. The intrusive leveling of the site should be avoided. Climatic factors such as sun, wind, and temperature should become an integral part of the design to encourage design of site-specific facilities which reinforces the individual identity of a neighborhood and promotes energy efficient facilities.
- (2) Special consideration should be given to maintain existing urban design characteristics, such as setbacks, building heights, streetscapes, pedestrian movement, and traffic flow. Building placement should enhance or create focal points and views. Continuity of scale and orientation shall be emphasized.
- (3) Accessibility from streets should be designed to accommodate safe pedestrian movement as well as

vehicular traffic. Where possible, parking areas should be screened from view from the public right-of-way by attractive fences, berms, plantings or other means.

(4) Historically significant aspects of the site shall be identified and if possible incorporated into the site design. Historic relationships between buildings, such as plazas or open spaces, boulevards or axial relationships should be maintained.

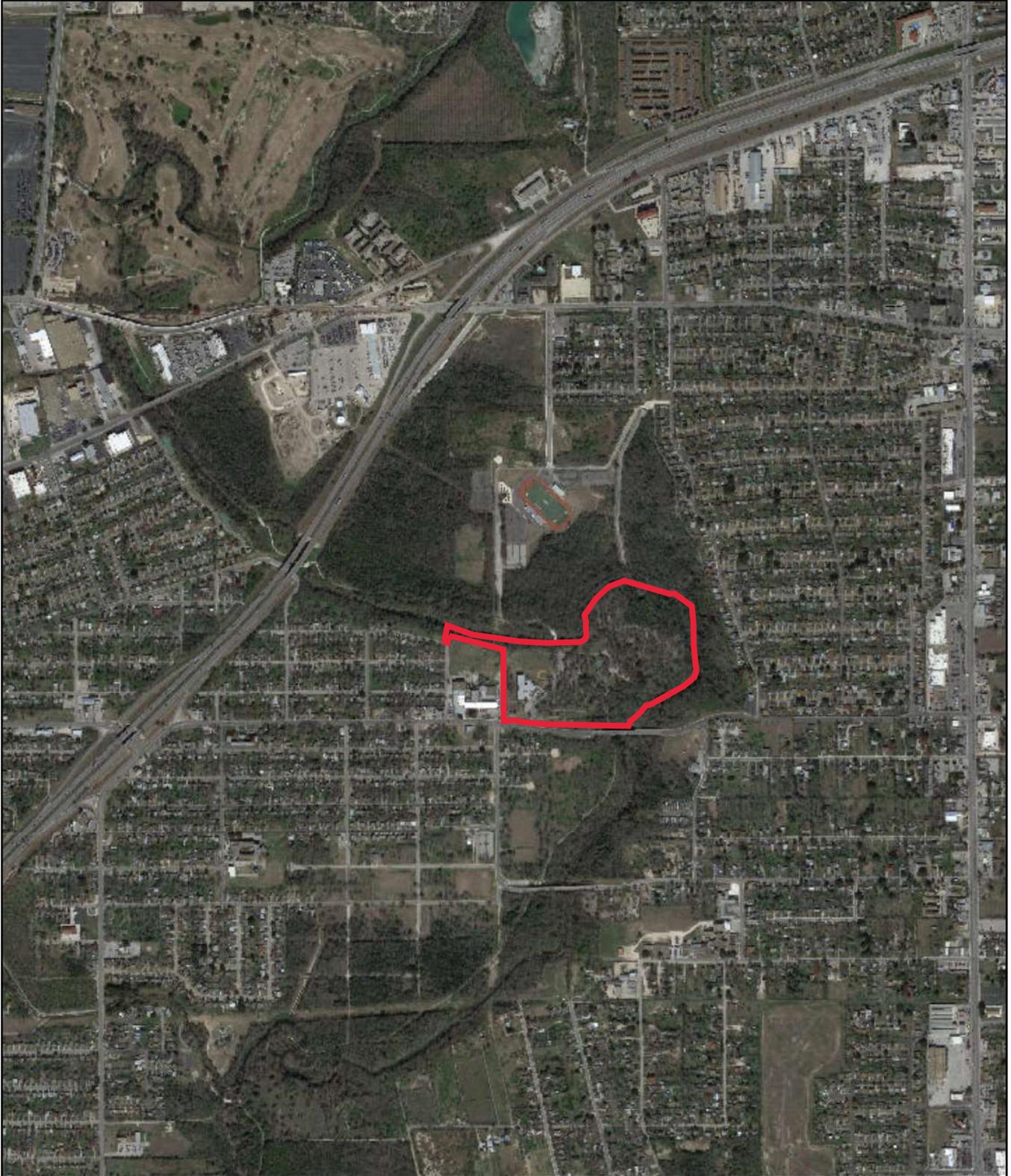
FINDINGS:

- a. The property located at 3505 Martin Luther King Drive is commonly known as MLK Park and has been selected by the Department of Arts & Culture as having an opportunity for Public Art Sculpture. The location is near a low impact development parking lot that is currently being constructed by the City's Public Works Department 2017 Bond Program.
- b. PUBLIC ART – The applicant has proposed to install a Public Art Sculpture titled *Spheres of Reflection* by local artist Kaldric Dow. The sculpture pays homage to Black and African American Culture, and proper representation of culture. The sculpture is proposed at 16.5 feet tall and will weigh 10,000 pounds. The proposed sculpture will feature purposefully rusted mild steel coated with epoxy and anti-graffiti coating, steel painted gloss black, 3-inch-tall steel letters, and a foundation of unfinished concrete. The sculpture will be located inside of the park entrance, adjacent to the Park parking lot, off of Martin Luther King Drive and will be highly visible from the public right-of-way. The Department of Arts & Culture's project schedule includes community engagement, which will be completed in July 2021. The installation is scheduled to be completed in December 2021. Staff finds the proposal appropriate.
- c. LANDSCAPING – The applicant has proposed to install plantings at the base of the sculpture. At this time, the landscaping is not finalized, and the Department of Arts & Culture will be working with Parks & Recreation to determine plantings that are appropriate for the sculpture and the surrounding area. Staff finds the proposal generally appropriate.

RECOMMENDATION:

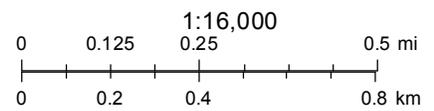
Staff recommends approval based on findings a through c.

City of San Antonio One Stop



June 18, 2020

 User drawn lines



Google Maps 3503 Martin Luther King Dr



Imagery ©2020 Maxar Technologies, USDA Farm Service Agency, Map data ©2020 200 ft

Google Maps 3503 Martin Luther King Dr



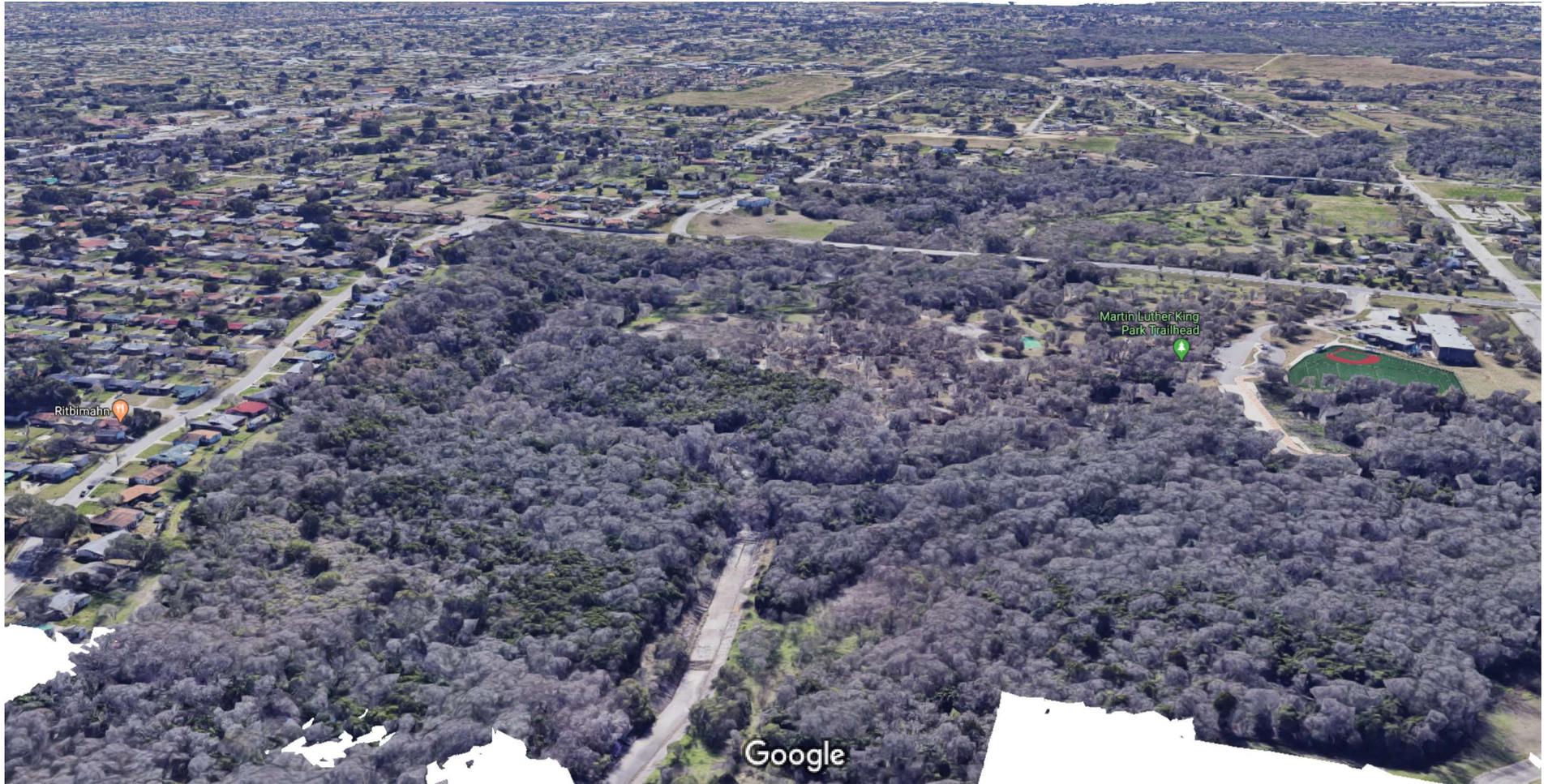
Map data ©2020 100 ft 

Google Maps 3503 Martin Luther King Dr



Imagery ©2020 Google, Landsat / Copernicus, Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO, Map data ©2020 100 ft

Google Maps 3503 Martin Luther King Dr

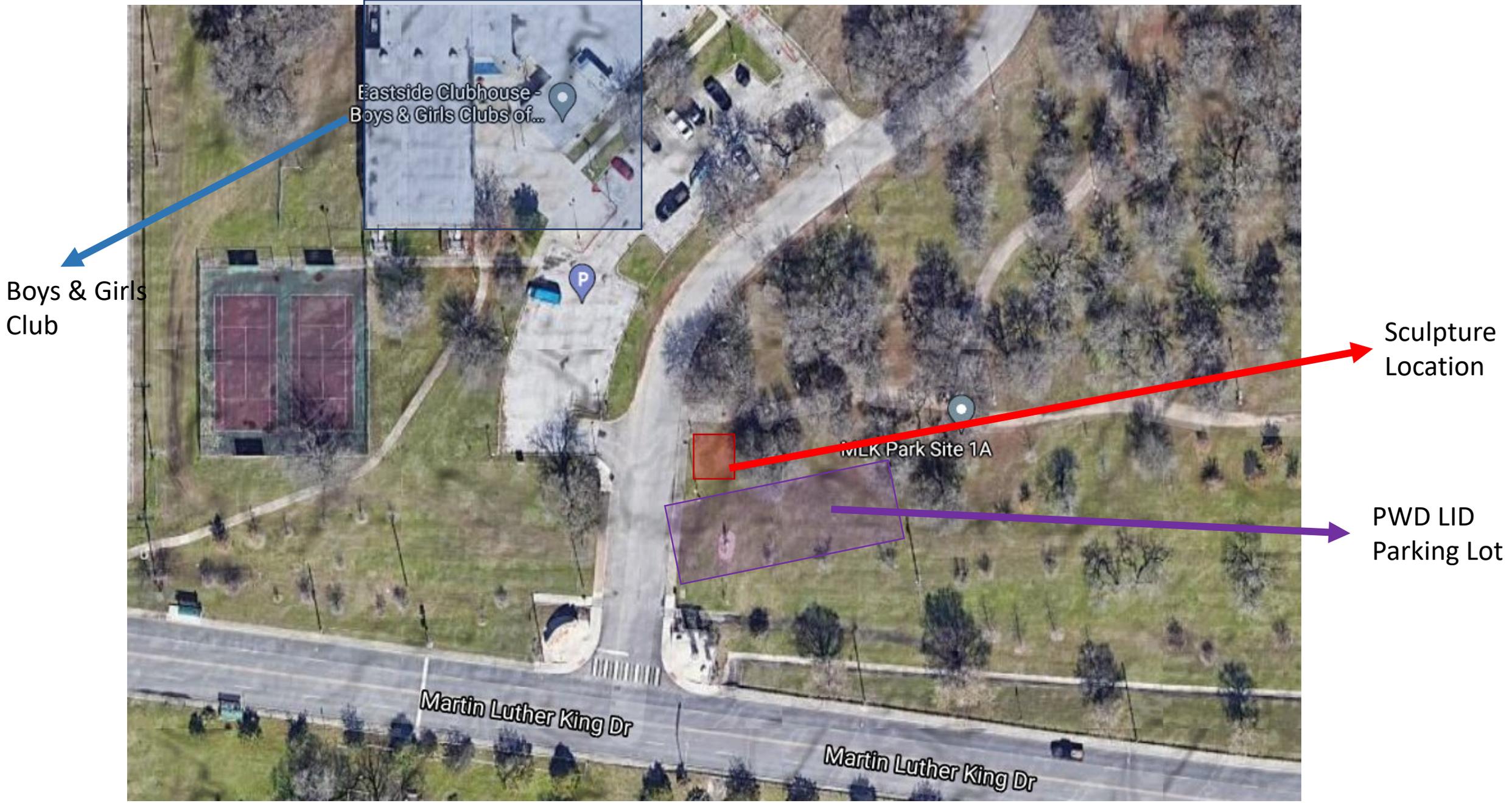


Imagery ©2020 Landsat / Copernicus, Google, Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO, Map data ©2020 100 ft

Google Maps 3503 Martin Luther King Dr

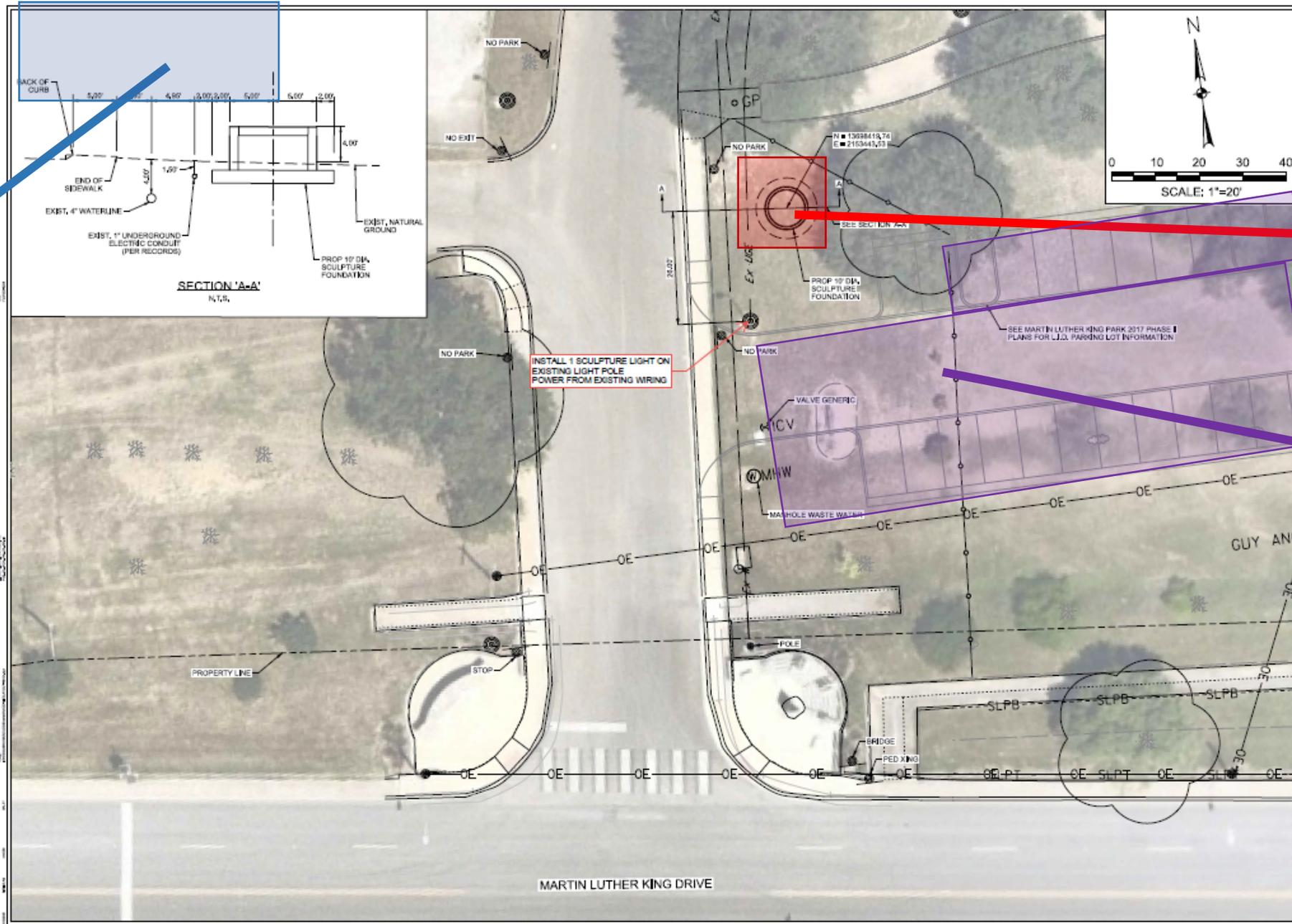


Imagery ©2020 Landsat / Copernicus, Google, Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO, Data LDEO-Columbia, NSF, NOAA, Map data ©2020 100 ft



APPROXIMATE sizes and locations * Not to scale

Boys & Girls Club



MARTIN LUTHER KING PARK
SCULPTURE FOUNDATION
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS
AVO 36401.002

HALFF
THE CONSULTING ENGINEERS
ARCHITECTS & DESIGNERS

MARTIN LUTHER KING PARK
SCULPTURE FOUNDATION
SITE LAYOUT - EXHIBIT A

Sculpture Location

PWD LID Parking Lot

APPROXIMATE sizes and locations * Not to scale

Public Works Department LID Parking Lot

Boys & Girls
Club



Sculpture
Location



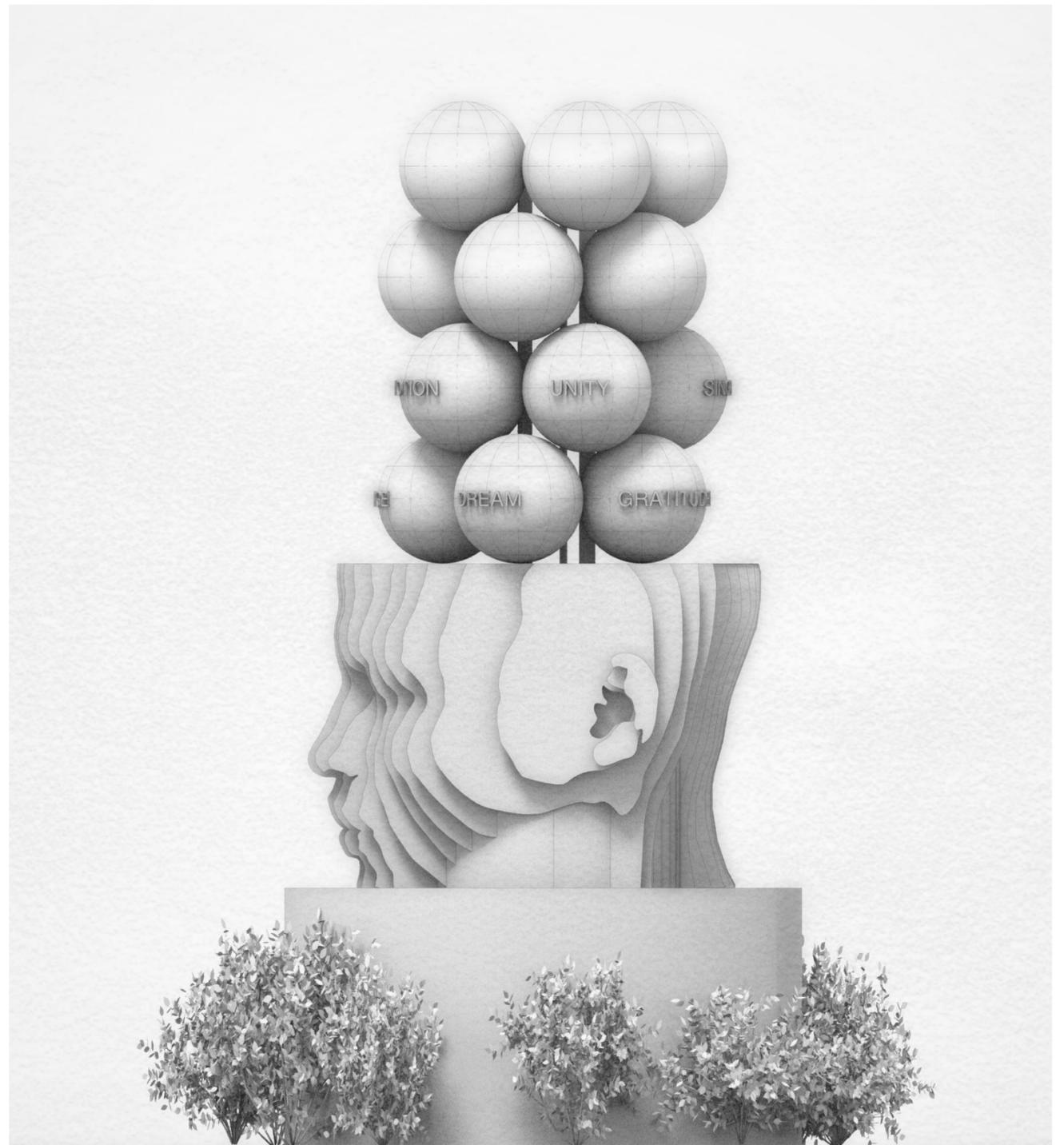
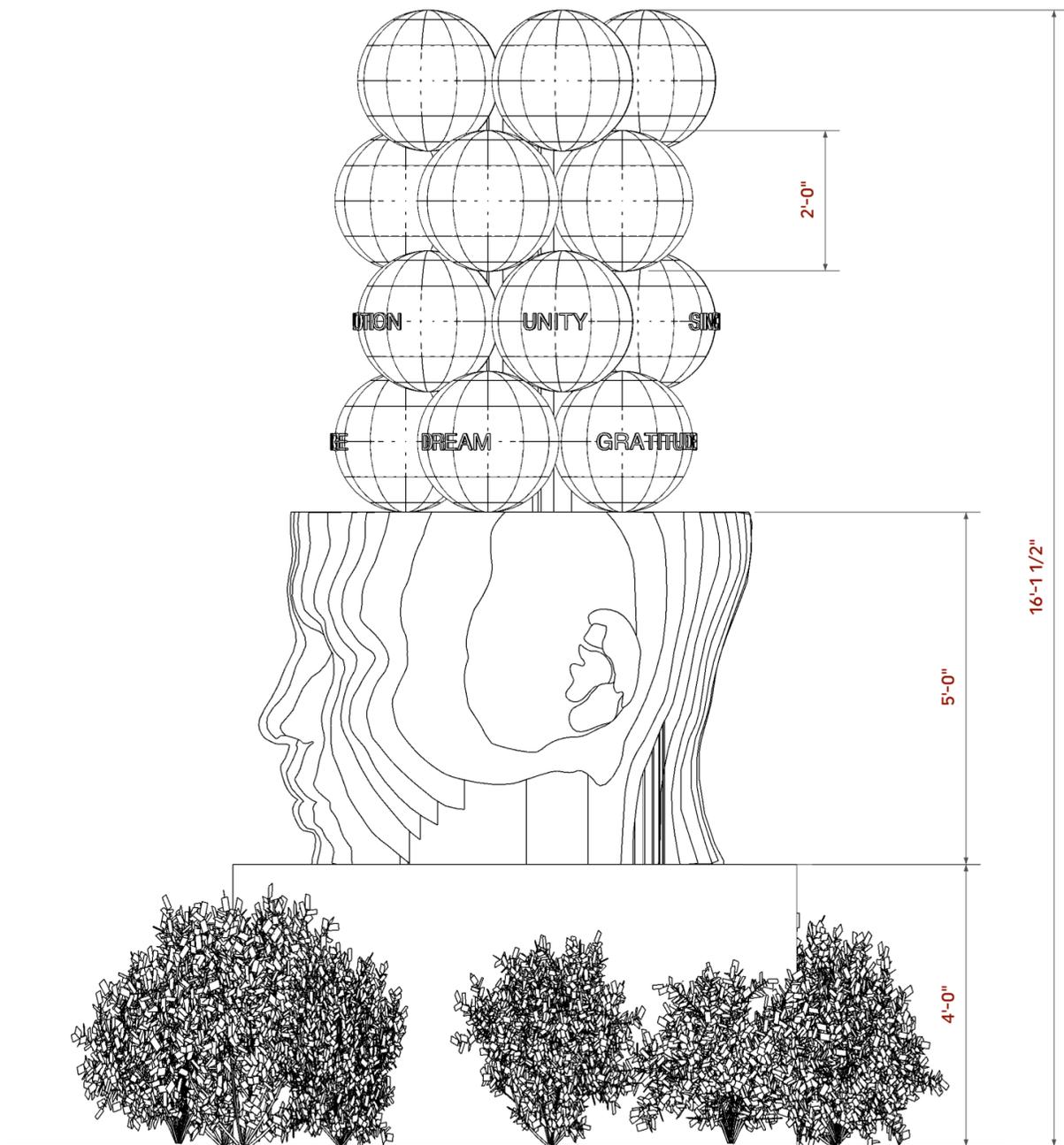
***APPROXIMATE sizes
and locations * Not
to scale***



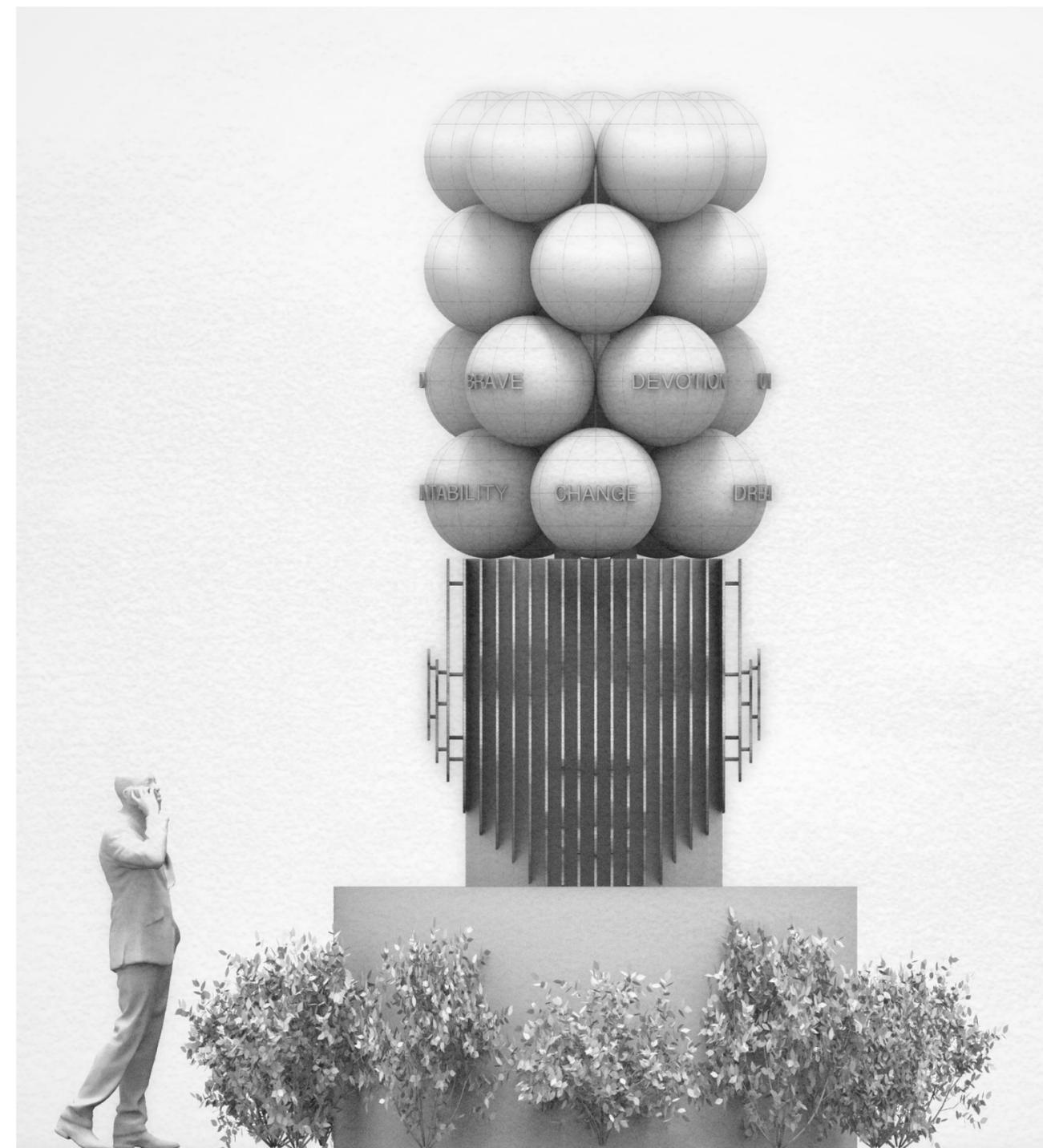
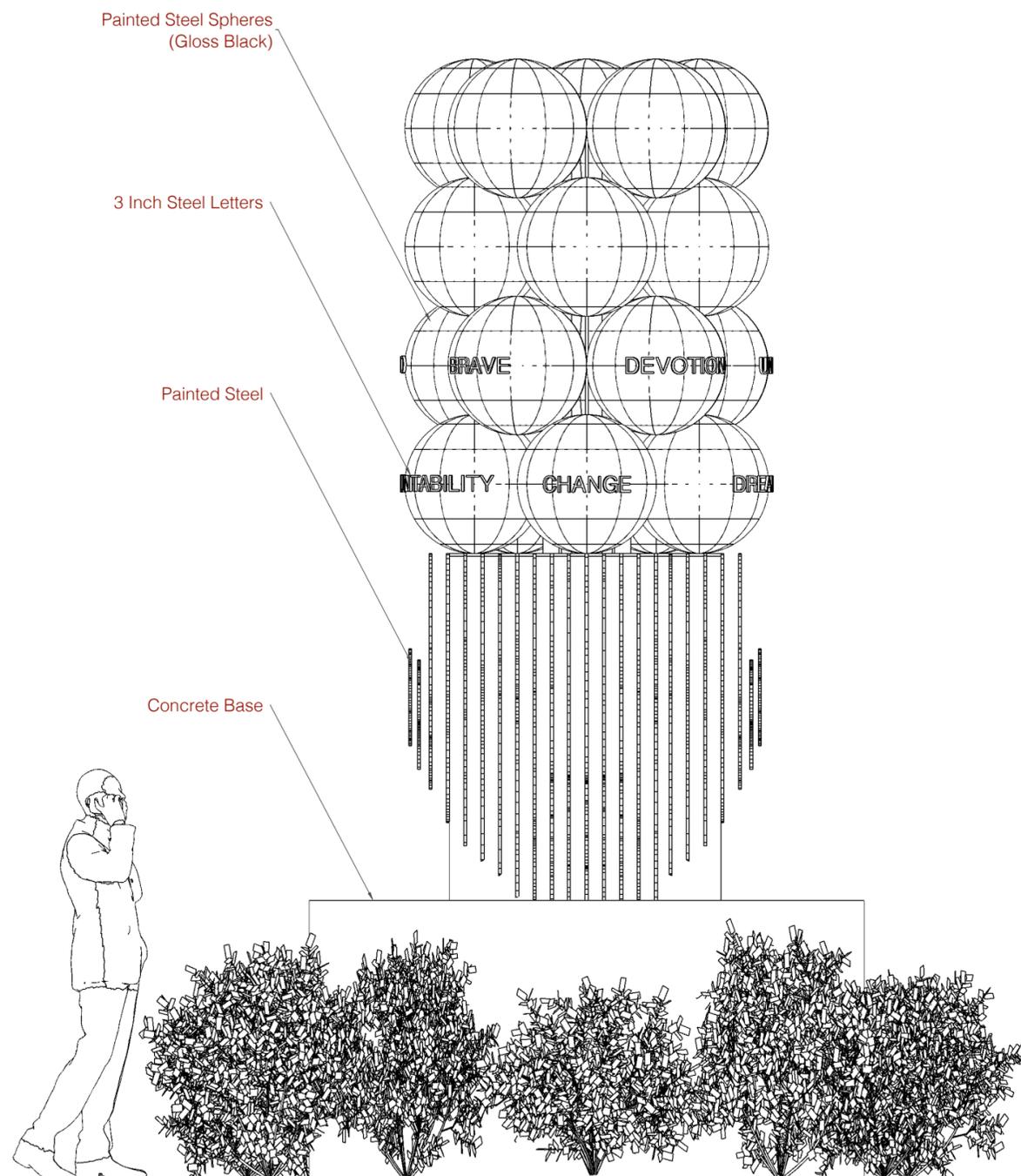


BRIDGE PROJECTS
507 W Craig Pl
San Antonio, TX 78212
www.bridgesatx.com
contact@bridgesatx.com

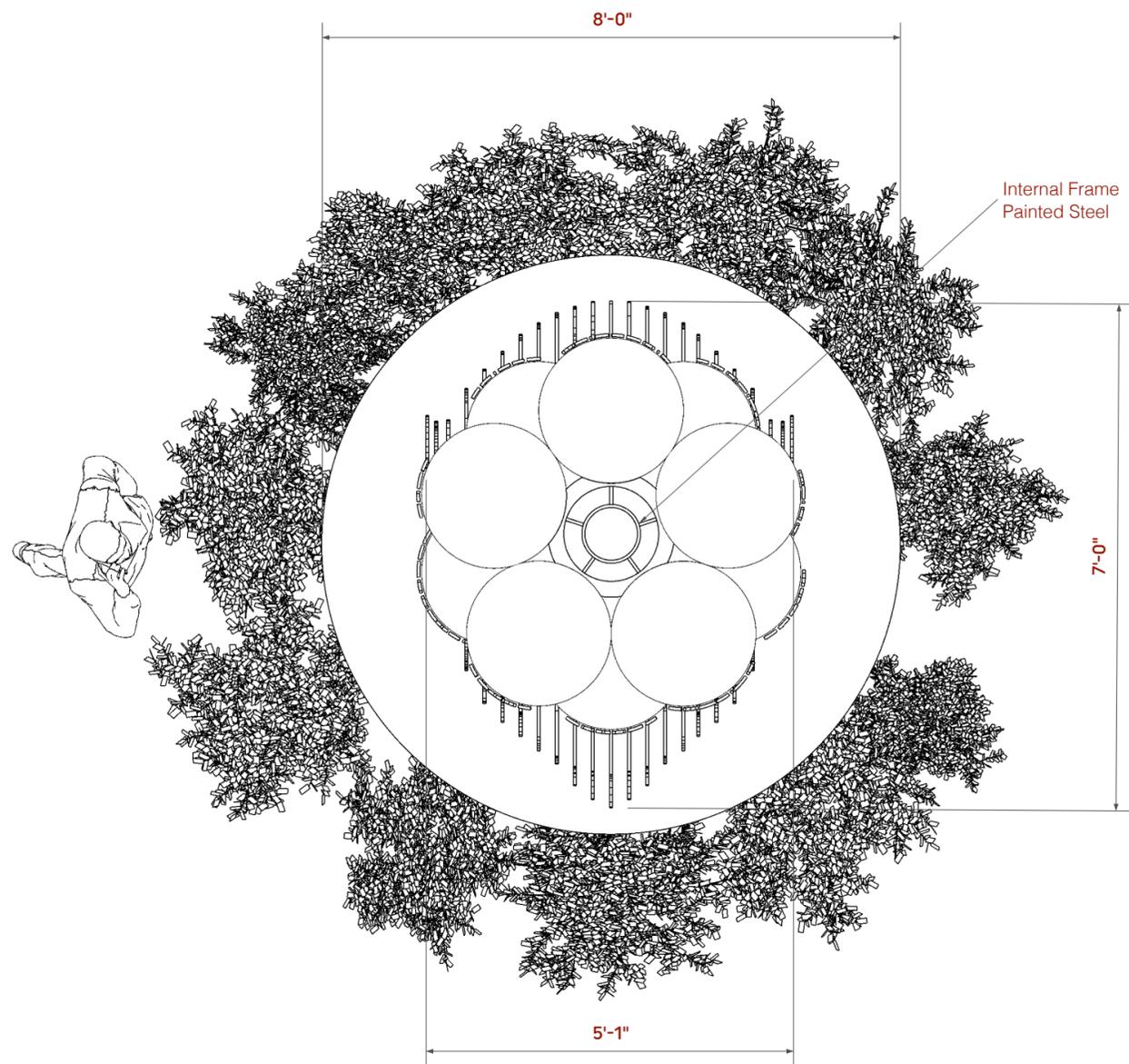
Kaldric Dow, MLK Park



1 Right Elevation
Scale: 1/2"=1'



1 Front Elevation
Scale: 1/2"=1'



1 Plan
Scale: 1/2" = 1'







CITY OF SAN ANTONIO
**DEPARTMENT OF
ARTS & CULTURE**



MLK Park Final Design: HDRC Application

Presented by Jordyn Patrias, Public Art Project Manager

June 24, 2021

MLK Park: Artist Selection



Kaldric Dow

- San Antonio, TX
- Emerging Public Artist
- Interest in District 2

Dow's practice utilizes strong drawing, perspective, and an understanding of art history. He uses acute attention to skin tone and lighting, subsequently refining his own visual and conceptual vocabulary that emerged through his focus on the points of intersection between art history, representing a current culture, and the dynamics of color theory.

Exhibitions

2017 Solo show *Black on Black Series* at 413 Markers Gallery, Denison, TX

2016 Luminaria Featured Artist

2015-2016 RAW Artist Showcase



Project Overview

MLK Park
(District 2)



Current Public Works Construction 2017 Bond

Funding: 2017 Bond – Parks

Location: The sculpture will be near the PW 2017 Bond Project inclusion of a Low Impact Development Parking Lot

Public Works Scope: General sitework construction to include (but not limited to) a splash pad, prefabricated restroom building, pre-engineered open-air pavilion, low impact development parking. Trails, and park tables with benches.

Public Works Construction Schedule: Summer 2021-October 2021

MLK Park: Final Design *Spheres of Reflection* by Kaldric Dow



MLK Park: Final Design *Spheres of Reflection*



The spheres, which make up the hair, feature words on the bottom layers. These are words MLK commonly used in his speeches and writings.

Throughout the community engagement an emphasis was placed on showing the importance of MLK, Civil Rights, and Social Justice. Dow has taken several of the most common words MLK said in his speeches and placed them throughout the piece. The included words are:

Dream

Change

Accountability

Brave

Devotion

Bold

Gratitude

Desire

Unity

Sincerity

MLK Park: Final Design *Spheres of Reflection*

- The Sculpture is comprised of two sections: the face and components hair along with the foundation

- Including the foundation, the sculpture is a total of 16.5ft tall.
- Weighs 10,000 pounds.

- **Face**

- 5ft tall.

- **Hair**

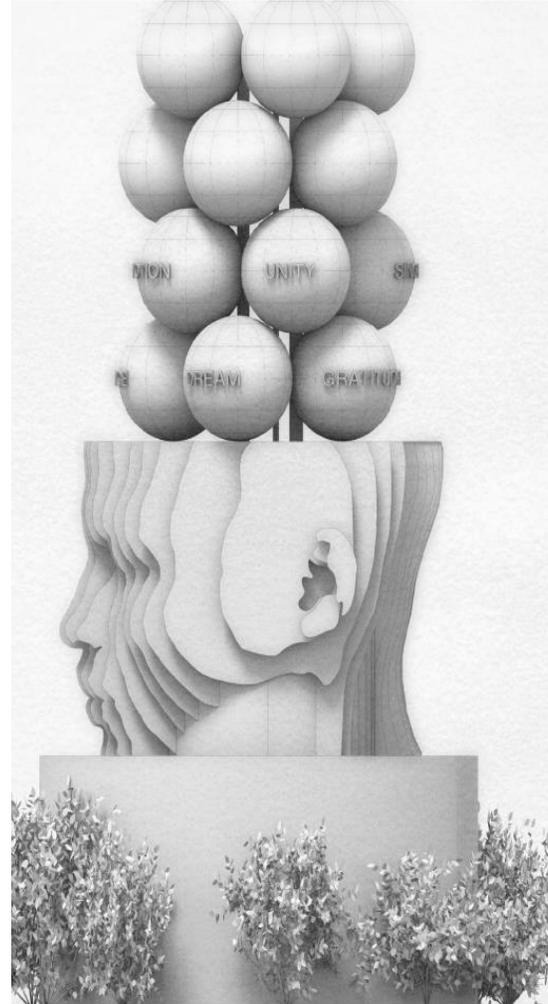
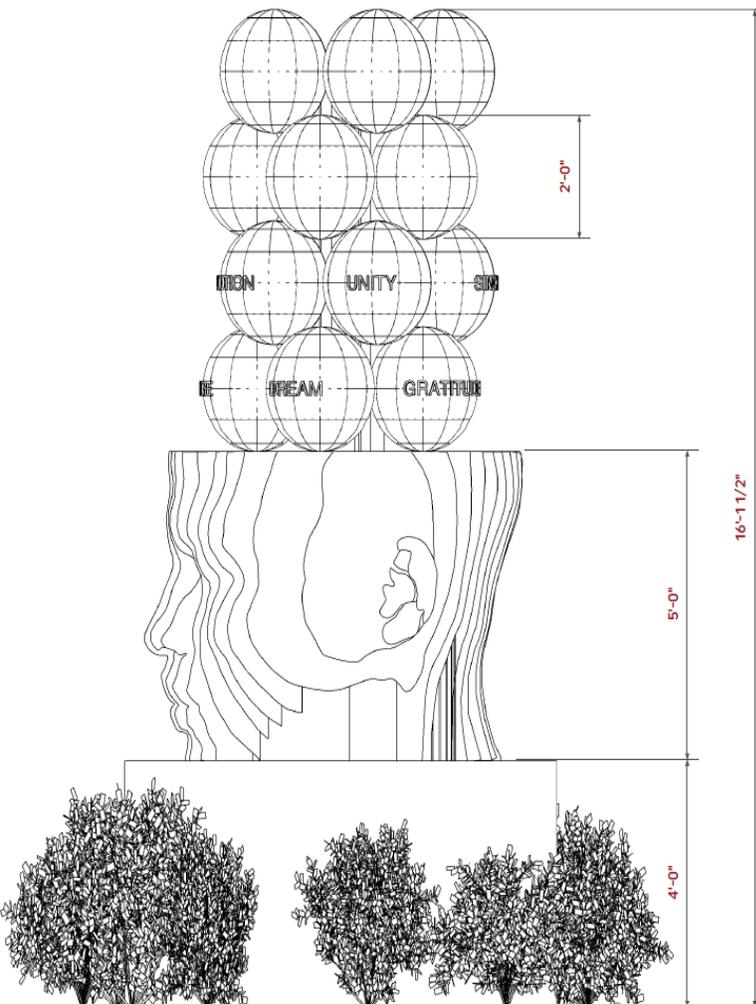
- 7.5ft tall.

- **Spheres (individual hair pieces)**

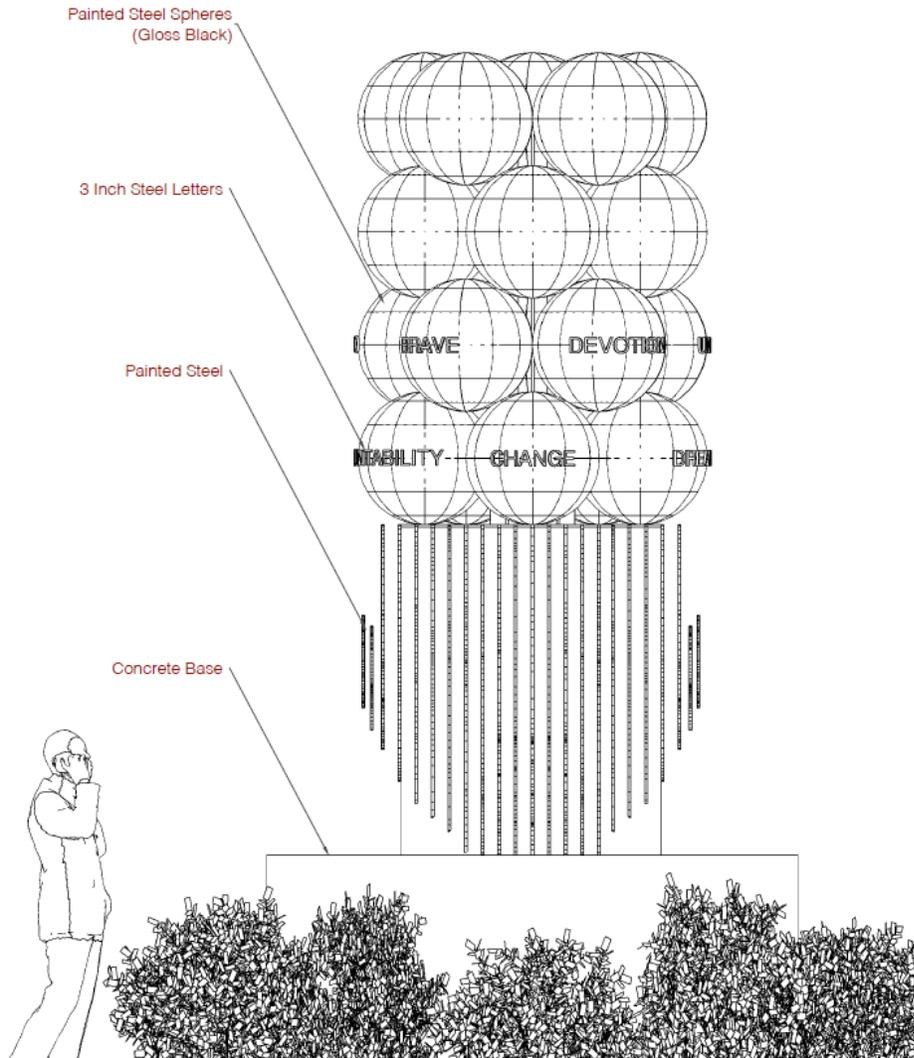
- Approximately 2ft tall.
- Features 3in raised steel words.

- **Foundation**

- 4ft tall by 10 ft wide.



MLK Park: Final Design *Spheres of Reflection*



- **Face:**
 - Comprised of a mild steel that is purposefully rusted and then coated with epoxy and anti-graffiti coating.
 - This mimics the look of Corten without the staining affect from the rust Corten causes.
- **Hair:**
 - Comprised of painted dark gloss black steel.
- **Foundation:**
 - Unfinished concrete.
- **Plantings:**
 - This is just a sample of plantings—we are working with Parks & Recreation on what exact plants will be used—this is meant to show plants will be present.

MLK Park: Project Schedule

Milestone	Completion Date
Artist Selection Panel	September 2020
Complete Community Engagement	July 2021
Design Development	July 2021
Fabrication	September-November 2021
Installation	December 15, 2021
MLK March 2022	January 17, 2022



CITY OF SAN ANTONIO
**DEPARTMENT OF
ARTS & CULTURE**

Background

The Department of Arts & Culture has selected MLK Park as having an opportunity for a Public Art Sculpture. The location will be located near a low impact development parking lot that is currently being constructed by the City's Public Works Department 2017 Bond Program. The location is highly visible and accessible via the main park entrance.

Design and Draft Narrative

Spheres of Reflection is by local artist Kaldric Dow. The sculpture pays homage to Black and African American Culture, and proper representation of culture. This is something artist Kaldric Dow commonly expresses in his artwork. Dow commonly utilizes strong perspectives and attention to how skin tone is portrayed through tone and lighting to create a strong and dynamic image. His work is centered in art historical references and color theory to properly portray and represent African American figures—who are historically underrepresented in art. This sculpture seeks to open deep conversation on proper representation, social justice, and the community in which it will be located.

The sculpture is comprised of a purposefully non-specific or representative face. This person is universal allowing the viewer to see a multitude of persons when observing it. The sculpture features an off-set cylindrical tower of spheres—darker in color—representing hair. The bottom layers of spheres feature several words. The emphasis of the pieces is on the hair. The notion of natural hair is important in this piece because hair commonly brings communities and people together, as a form of communication between neighbors and families. Allowing for a common facet that can be shared between many.

The bottom layers of spheres feature words on them. These are words MLK commonly used in his speeches and writings. Throughout the community engagement an emphasis was placed on showing the importance of MLK, Civil Rights, and Social Justice. Dow has taken several of the most common words MLK said in his speeches and placed them throughout the piece. The included words are:

- Dream
- Change
- Accountability
- Brave
- Devotion
- Bold
- Gratitude
- Desire
- Unity
- Sincerity

In addition to featuring words, the spheres are reflective. This reflective coating is meant to emphasize MLK's constant idea of self-reflection and looking inside oneself to create positive change to the outside world. With hopes that viewers can see each word and think about how it calls to action themselves, San Antonio, and the Nation.

This idea of self-reflection is echoed in the piece Open Hand at Pitman Sullivan Park. The hand sculpture has come to be seen as an ending point of the MLK March the largest in the Nation. This tie is poignant as community members wished would see a place marker for the start of the MLK March—which beings close to this location. This piece will become another symbol of the March creating a bookmark for the event.

Artwork Specifications:

- The sculpture will be near the PW 2017 Bond Project inclusion of a Low Impact Development Parking Lot. There will be plants around the foundation—these are being vetted and approved by the Parks & Recreation Department.
- The face is comprised of a mild steel that is purposefully rusted and then coated with epoxy and anti-graffiti coating. It mimics the look of Corten without the staining affect from the rust Corten causes. The face is 5ft tall.
- The hair is comprised of painted dark gloss black steel. The hair portion is 7.5ft tall. The spheres will be approximately 2ft tall. They will feature 3in raised steel words.
- The foundation will be an unfinished concrete that is 4ft tall by 10 ft wide.
- Including the foundation, the sculpture is a total of 16.5ft tall. It will weigh 10,000 pounds.
- Here you can see a sample of plantings—we are working with Parks & Recreation on what exact plants will be used—this is just a sample to show you plants will be present.

Fabrication and Installation:

The artwork will be fabricated and installed by a local professional installer and fabricator. The artist will advise to ensure the work meets their vision.

Schedule:

Design Development Complete—July 2021

Fabrication Complete—September-November 2021

Installation—December 15, 2021