



STAFF REPORT

Meeting Date: June 16, 2015
To: Honorable Mayor & City Council
From: Nancy Hunt-Coffey, Assistant Director of Community Services
Subject: Change to the orientation and surroundings for the loan of the Richard Serra art piece *Twins* to be installed on the northern portion of the City Hall lawn

Attachments:

1. Original rendering of proposed placement of *Twins*
2. Revised rendering of proposed placement of *Twins*

INTRODUCTION

The agreement between the City and the Gagosian Gallery was approved by the City Council at the February 17, 2015 formal meeting. The agreement provided for a long term loan of the large, metal art piece *Twins* by Richard Serra. As part of this loan, the Gagosian Gallery would cover all costs associated with hosting this art piece.

Since that time, the gallery and the artist have asked for the consideration of a different orientation of the piece than was approved by Council. Additionally, they would prefer that the grass around the piece be removed and replaced with concrete pavers. Councilmember Krasne raised a concern regarding this revised plan at the study session on June 8th, so this report is coming to the City Council for its consideration of any concerns or to provide additional direction.

DISCUSSION

Since the agreement was approved by City Council in February, the gallery and the artist have been working with engineers and contractors to specify the appropriate footings and installation plan for the piece. In these discussions, the gallery and the artist recommend a different orientation that would better suit the visibility of the piece.

Additionally, the artist feels that having the piece surrounded by concrete pavers would be more aesthetically pleasing than grass. As a result, the gallery has requested the ability to reorient the piece and to replace the grass in that area with concrete pavers. The Fine Art Commission recommends this new orientation and the use of concrete pavers. However, as this plan is substantially different from the agreement that City Council approved, staff is returning to City Council with this information. Unless directed otherwise by the City Council, staff will proceed with this newly proposed orientation and surroundings. It should be noted that the Gagosian Gallery will pay to replace the turf once the piece is removed.

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FISCAL IMPACT

There would be no cost to the City for the loan of *Twins* by Richard Serra. The Gallery will pay for the footings, installation, de-installation and insurance of the piece. Additionally, they will cover the cost of restoring the grass to the front of City Hall once the piece is removed.

RECOMMENDATION

City Council is asked to give direction regarding the revised design for the Richard Serra *Twins* as recommended by the Fine Art Commission.



Nancy Hunt-Coffey

Approved By

Attachment 1

Original rendering

Richard Serra *Twins*



Attachment 2

