

**LODI CITY COUNCIL
SHIRTSLEEVE SESSION
CARNEGIE FORUM, 305 WEST PINE STREET
TUESDAY, JANUARY 13, 2015**

A. Roll Call by City Clerk

The Shirtsleeve Session of January 13, 2015, was called to order by Mayor Johnson at 7:03 a.m.

Present: Council Member Mounce, Council Member Nakanishi, and Mayor Johnson

Absent: Council Member Kuehne, and Mayor Pro Tempore Chandler

Also Present: City Manager Schwabauer, City Attorney Magdich, and Deputy City Clerk Farris

B. Topic(s)

B-1 Update on Traffic Control Box Art Project (PRCS)

Jennifer Winn, Recreation Manager and Lodi Arts Commission Liaison, provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding Art in Public Places/Art Advisory Board's Traffic Control Box Art Project. Specific topics of discussion included history of the project, locations of Phase I projects (Lower Sacramento Road/Lodi Avenue, Turner Road/Mills Avenue, Pine Street/Cherokee Lane, Harney Lane/Reynolds Ranch Parkway, and Hale Road/Cherokee Lane), locations of Phase II projects (Sacramento Street/Lodi Avenue, Beckman Road/Kettleman Lane, Crescent Avenue/Lodi Avenue, Church Street/Lockeford Street, Turner Road/Stockton Street, Century Boulevard/Hutchins Street, Lower Sacramento Road/Vine Street, Lower Sacramento Road/Century Boulevard, and Fairmont Avenue/Lodi Avenue), completion of Phase II, future Phase III, and available locations.

In response to Mayor Johnson, City Manager Schwabauer explained that due to the extension of Lodi Avenue, the electronic system at the corner of Lower Sacramento Road and Lodi Avenue will be completely redone and the box at that location will no longer be used. Ms. Winn stated that she has met with staff in the Parks Division and the artists, and they developed a plan to continue to display the art by moving the box to Kofu Park where it will be used as a storage unit.

In response to Mayor Johnson, Ms. Winn stated there has been some difficulty in finding artists in the past. There were only two artists for Phase I. She stated that they go through periods when few applications are received. The Art Advisory Board discussed this problem and has posted "Your Art Here" signs at the available locations, which has brought more interest from local artists. Catherine Metcalf, Chair of the Art Advisory Board, added that the Board is exploring ways to generate more interest, aside from only advertising in the newspaper, such as notices on FaceBook. Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Director Jeff Hood recognized Ms. Metcalf as the Board member who originally brought forth the idea of art on Lodi's traffic control boxes.

In response to Mayor Johnson, Ms. Winn confirmed that the artists choose their subject, but each artist must submit a color draft of their proposed project and the Art Advisory Board carefully reviews the submittal before approval.

Mayor Johnson stated that he appreciates the art on the traffic control boxes and inquired as to how it has been received by the public. Ms. Winn responded that it has been well received by the community, that the public enjoys the art, and that she has received very positive feedback through calls and emails. In addition, another city recently called to ask about the project as they are planning to initiate something similar.

Council Member Mounce commented that she has been in contact with Caltrans and has tentatively set up an appointment in January for a representative to come to the site at the corner of Lower Sacramento Road and Kettleman Lane to discuss an art project to honor Tom

Kettleman. She noted that the City Manager had offered the traffic control box at the new WalMart location, but she feels that location is less suitable as it will not be available until six to eight months from now and that the Caltrans location is really more appropriate as that was where Tom was most often seen. She will continue to work with Caltrans.

Council Member Nakanishi expressed appreciation for the project and inquired into the funding. Ms. Winn stated that the Art in Public Places fund pays for the project and that the fund currently has \$167,000 available. Each phase costs between \$3,000 and \$4,500. Council Member Nakanishi reiterated that no General Fund money is used for the project. Council Member Mounce pointed out that developers pay fees into the Art in Public Places fund in conjunction with their development projects.

In response to Mayor Johnson, Ms. Winn stated that taggers have not been a problem with this project. She noted that the box on Ham Lane and Century Boulevard, near Tokay High School, had a small area that had been keyed. Other than that, there have been no reports of damage, and she recently visited all of the locations in preparation of today's report. Council Member Mounce stated that she worries about public art, but taggers seem to leave local art alone. She used the PG&E wall on Cherokee Lane near Highway 12 as an example.

In response to Mayor Johnson's inquiry regarding future projects, Ms. Metcalf stated that the Board is working on having the J. Seward Johnson sculptures return to Lodi, although this time they will be the iconic statues. In particular, the *Marilyn* statue will be featured near the movie theater. Other well known sculptures will include the *Mariachis* and the *Kiss*, a statue designed after the famous photograph of a sailor kissing a nurse at the end of World War II. The Art Advisory Board will host additional activities while the sculptures are on display. The sculptures are expected to generate a lot of media attention and out-of-town visitors. In response to Mayor Johnson, Ms. Metcalf explained that the iconic sculptures are not much more expensive than the ones displayed previously. The cost will be approximately \$30,000, compared to \$27,000 last time. Ms. Winn added that the delivery cost has increased and the *Marilyn* sculpture is slightly more. In response to Council Member Mounce, Ms. Metcalf stated that the sculptures will be on display for the May Street Faire, from April 15 through July 15, and will also be in place for the first portion of the Farmers' Market. In addition to the sculptures, the Board is also working on an art project near the Library, as well as bike racks to replace those slated for removal at the Library. They also plan to join with a private sector partner to provide public benches. Ms. Metcalf stated that the Board strives to find affordable projects to make the funds last as long as possible. Council Member Mounce thanked Ms. Metcalf for all of her work in conjunction with the Art Advisory Board.

Myrna Wetzel asked about the City hosting a chalk art festival and Ms. Metcalf agreed that would be a good idea and will have the Board look into it. Ms. Wetzel added that the water tower visible from Lower Sacramento Road and Turner Road is very unsightly and suggested having it painted with trees, bushes, and flowers. Ms. Metcalf stated she would also have the Board check into that.

C. Comments by Public on Non-Agenda Items - None

D. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the City Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:23 a.m.

ATTEST:

Pamela M. Farris
Deputy City Clerk