

APPROVED
06-15-2016

BOARD OF RECREATION
& PARK COMMISSIONERS

BOARD REPORT

NO. 16-145

DATE June 15, 2016

C.D. ALL

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: CITYWIDE PUBLIC ART INITIATIVE – PROPOSAL BY THE LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS FOR THE INSTALLATION OF TEMPORARY PUBLIC ART AT ELEVEN PARK LOCATIONS; ISSUANCE OF RIGHT OF ENTRY PERMIT(S); EXEMPTION FROM THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT PURSUANT TO ARTICLE III, SECTION 1, CLASS 4(6) OF THE CITY CEQA GUIDELINES

<i>for</i>	AP Diaz _____	V. Israel _____
	*R. Barajas <u>CSD</u> _____	K. Regan _____
	H. Fujita _____	N. Williams _____



General Manager

Approved ✓ _____ Disapproved _____ Withdrawn _____

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Accept and approve the proposal by the Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA) for the installation of temporary public art at eleven (11) Department of Recreation Parks (RAP) properties, as described in the Summary of this Report, as part of a City-wide public art initiative;
2. Authorize the General Manager or Designee to issue Right-of-Entry (ROE) Permits to the DCA for each of the eleven (11) park sites as described in the Summary of this Report, subject to the approval of the United States Army Corps of Engineers, where applicable;
3. Find that the proposed projects are categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and direct staff to file a Notice of Exemption; and,
4. Direct the RAP's Chief Financial Officer to prepare a check to the Los Angeles County Clerk in the amount of \$75.00 for the purpose of filing a Notice of Exemption.

SUMMARY

In June 2015, the Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA) was awarded a One Million Dollar (\$1,000,000.00) Bloomberg Philanthropies Public Art Challenge grant to present a city-wide public art biennial. On May 1, 2015, DCA received approval from the Los Angeles City Council to accept the One Million Dollar (\$1,000,000.00) award and match the grant funding with private arts development fees and other philanthropic support.

BOARD REPORT

PG 2 NO. 16-145

The CURRENT: LA Water initiative (Initiative) will be a free arts and cultural event featuring temporary public art (installations, video, performance) and public programs (workshops, conversations) presented at fifteen (15) outdoor sites across the City of Los Angeles. Eleven (11) of the fifteen (15) sites are on RAP property. The Initiative is scheduled to take place from July 16, 2016 through August 13, 2016.

DCA has worked closely with RAP staff to review and consider the eleven (11) selected park sites. After numerous on-site meetings with relevant RAP staff and event organizers, and after review of access, site security and other logistical considerations, RAP staff recommends that the Board approve the installation of temporary public art installations at subject park sites and authorize the General Manager or his designee to issue Right of Entry (ROE) Permits to DCA for each of the sites.

The eleven (11) selected sites are as follows:

- South Weddington Park (CD 2);
- Sunnynook River Park (CD 4);
- Cheviot Hills Recreation Center (CD 5);
- Sepulveda Basin (CD 6);
- Hansen Dam (CD 7);
- Norman O. Houston Park (CD 8);
- South LA Wetland Park (CD 9);
- Westside Neighborhood Park (CD10);
- Bee Canyon Park (CD 12);
- Echo Park (CD 13); and,
- Point Fermin Park (CD 15).

Renderings and a brief description for each of the proposed art work are provided in Attachment A.

CURRENT: LA Water will explore and address issues related to water through the activation of fifteen (15) sites throughout the City by presenting outdoor, site-specific temporary installations by international and Los Angeles-based artists. These projects and programs will be located across the City, one in each Council District, at sites with natural and/or manmade bodies of water.

BOARD REPORT

PG 3 NO. 16-145

The Initiative is being directed by an independent curatorial team of distinguished arts professionals with experience in issues-based public art. In collaboration with DCA, the curatorial team has invited artists and arts collectives to propose temporary public art projects to explore the issue of water and Los Angeles. On April 12, 2016, Mayor Eric Garcetti announced the roster of ten (10) artists and three artists' teams for CURRENT: LA Water. Each selected artist will be required to develop a specific community engagement component as part of their project.

DCA also has a dedicated staff person serving as the Community Coordinator for CURRENT: LA Water who has conducted grassroots research and compiled contact information on arts organizations, social service and environmental organizations, and schools located within a three-mile radius of each site. DCA has also engaged a public relations firm to develop an overall communications strategy for the biennial, including a dedicated website CurrentLA.org, which launched on May 4, 2016 to a mailing list of over 12,000 email addresses. RAP's public relations staff is working with the event organizers to promote the Initiative by distributing printed materials and via RAP's social media platforms.

Additionally, the Public Program providers have been selected through a competitive Request for Proposal process and will be announced in June along with the biennial locations.

About half of the exhibition will take place along the Los Angeles River in an effort to contribute to the City's broad and long-term support for the River to be revitalized and reimagined as a public corridor for recreation, culture and community. DCA, in consultation with RAP management, identified approximately 61 park sites for consideration, conducted tours to 33 sites, and selected the eleven (11) City of Los Angeles park locations referenced above for CURRENT: LA Water public art installations.

All temporary installations at these locations will comply with access requirements and site-security as recommended by RAP. A volunteer corps will serve as on-site docents and will coordinate with assigned maintenance and/or recreation staff for each location. The Location Manager, Los Angeles River Revitalization Corporation, has developed and finalized technical and operational site plans in consultation with appropriate RAP staff. In addition, all projects and programs are being installed by Los Angeles City contractors carrying general liability insurance policies.

The temporary public art installations proposed for two of the parks referenced above, Sepulveda Basin and Hansen Dam, require approval from the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers (USACE). DCA has requested USACE to provide a Letter of Non-Objection for these proposed temporary projects. Staff recommends approval of the ROE Permit(s) related to these respective locations, subject to USACE approval.

TREES AND SHADE

As described above, no trees will be removed or affected by the temporary installation of the public art work. It is anticipated that no tree shade will be affected as well.

BOARD REPORT

PG 4 NO. 16-145

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Staff has determined that the proposed art projects at the eleven separate sites consist of minor alterations to the condition of public lands that are temporary uses, having no permanent effects on the environment and do not involve removal of mature, scenic trees. Therefore, the proposed projects are categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Article III, Section 1, Class 4(6) of the City CEQA Guidelines. A Notice of Exemption will be filed with the Los Angeles City Clerk and Los Angeles County Clerk.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Approval of the temporary public art work and the issuance of the ROE Permit(s) will have no fiscal impact to the RAP's General Fund. All costs for the fabrication, installation and removal of the public art work will be the responsibility of DCA.

This Report has been prepared by Mathew Rudnick, Chief Sustainability Officer.

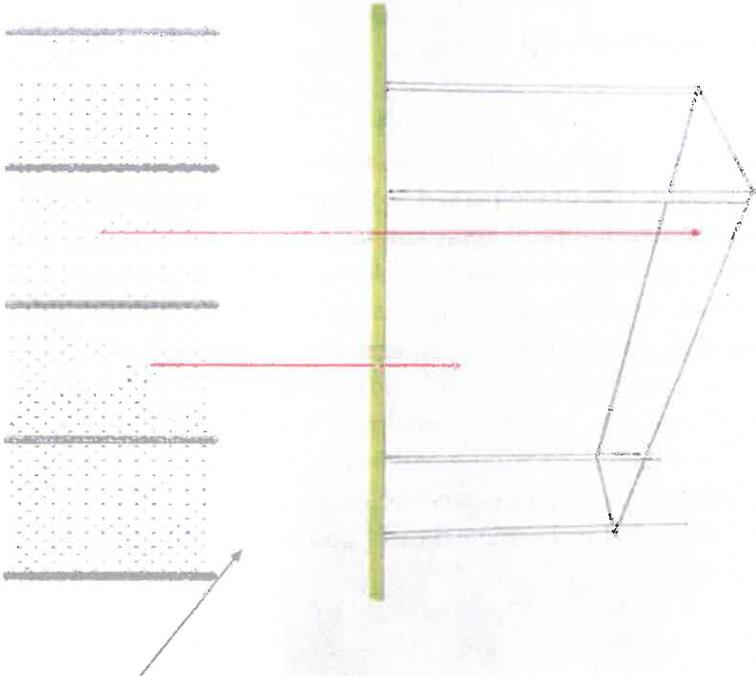
LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

- 1) Attachment A – Renderings and Brief Description of Proposed Art Installations

South Weddington Park (Council District 2)

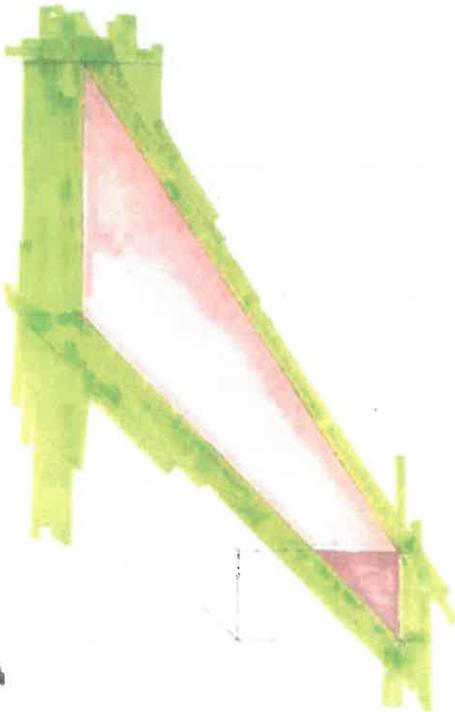
As a part of the Current: LA Water Biennial, DCA has commissioned artist Kori Newkirk for a sculptural installation on the north side of the park. The sculpture will be approximately 8' tall at its highest point, and have a circular footprint approximately 20' in diameter. Referencing the long tradition of horse imagery in public fountains and sculpture around the world, three life-sized colored casts/blanks of horses will be standing in a tight circle, each facing outward, connected at the tails. Chain-link fencing reaching at least 10' high will enclose the complete sculpture. Although water will be referenced through the overall reference of a fountain, no water will be used in the sculpture. The base of the sculpture will be built out of landscape edging about 1½' high. This pre-fabricated edging will be made of concrete. The floor of the base will be made of flat landscape pavers, also pre-fabricated. The installation process requires the artist to dig into the ground so that its concave base is sunken into the landscaping, approximately 2-3' below grade.

MONUMENT TO THE LAST DROP



Visuals

This work is intended to be situated in a long trench dug out of South Westington Park. This trench will be 20-25 feet in length, and 7-8 feet wide and dug to a depth of 7-8 feet. Example Image 1-2.



Horse to be placed inside the trench

Gate to be placed around sculpture

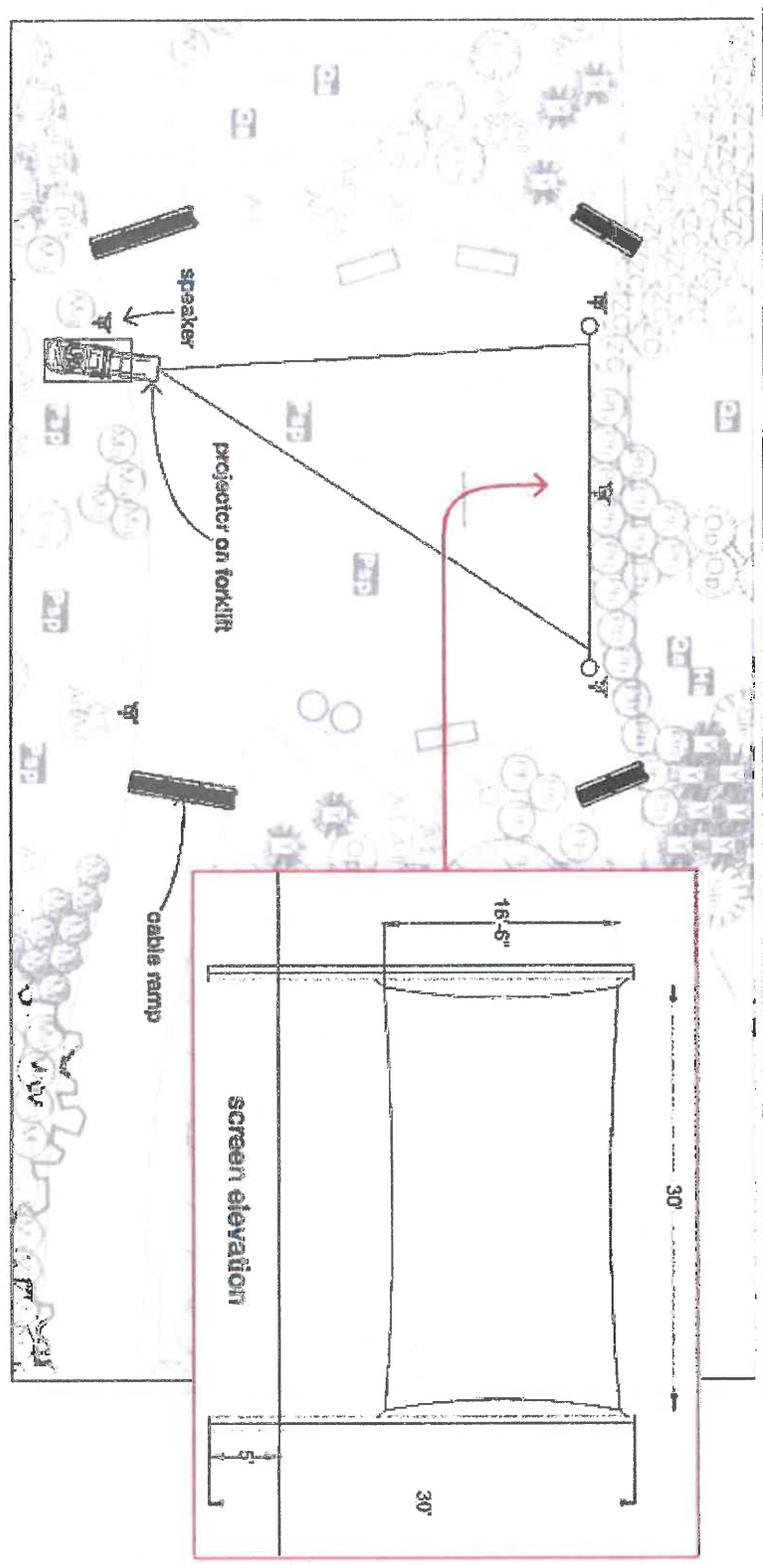


Sunnynook River Park (Council District 4)

As a part of the Current: LA Water Biennial, DCA has commissioned artist Kerry Tribe. Her piece, "Exquisite Corpse" is a nightly open air screening of a new, feature-length experimental film about the LA River. The 51-minute film will accompany the 51-mile body of water from its origins in the flood basins and water reclamation facilities of the San Fernando Valley to its terminus in the estuaries of Long Beach. The nightly screenings include digging into the ground for the installation of the projection screen.

EXQUISITE CORPSE

The Installation



- NOTES**
- 30' x 18.5' screen is made of blow-through, UV-safe, waterproof, fire-rated material
 - 30' telephone poles are sunk 5' below grade and positioned to avoid landscape features, irrigation and plants
 - Projector is mounted to fork lift
 - Speakers are set up in a 5.1 sfx system
 - Projector, fork lift and speakers are stored between screenings

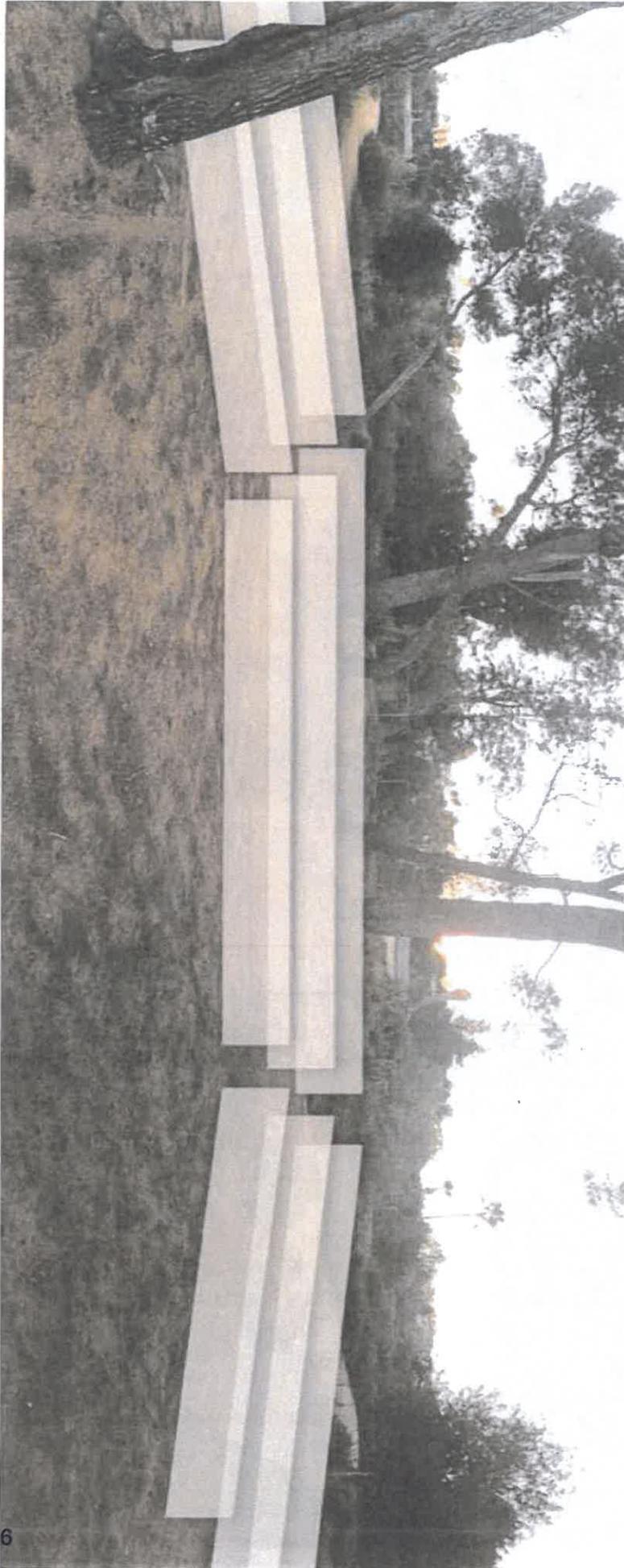
EXQUISITE CORPSE

The Screen



EXQUISITE CORPSE

Seating

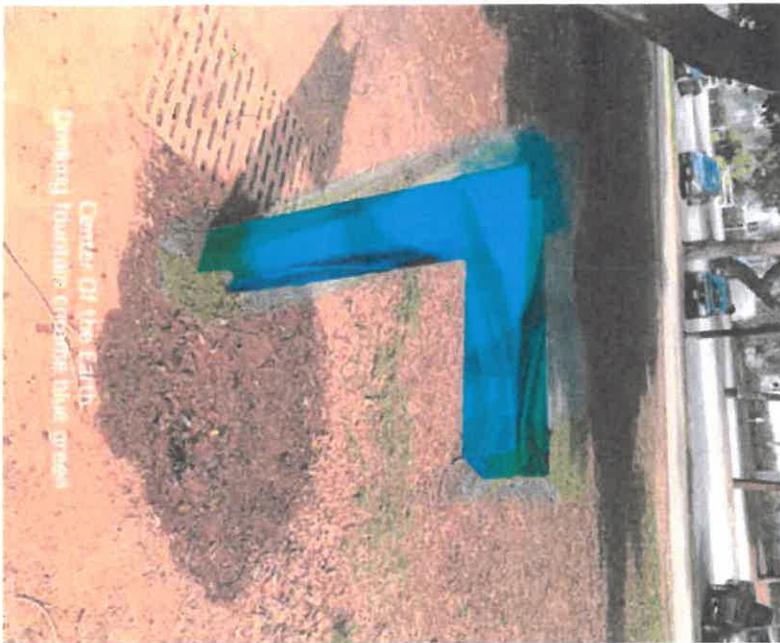


Cheviot Hills Recreation Center (Council District 5)

As a part of the Current: LA Water Biennial, DCA has commissioned artist Edgar Arceneaux. His piece, "The Center of the Earth" will replicate drinking fountains in Cheviot Hills and chrome plate them in a variety of different colors. On one side of the fountain will be inscribed, The Center of the Earth. He will also be interviewing Rec and Park staff to record stories about the life, changes and maintenance of the parks overtime. In order to install temporary footings for the 2 water fountains, some digging will occur.



CENTER OF THE EARTH



CONCEPTUAL RENDERING



Sepuveda Basin (Council District 6)

As a part of the Current: LA Water Biennial, DCA has commissioned artist Rirkrit Tiravanija for a sculptural installation south of Lake Balboa and north of the Los Angeles River. His piece, named "Waterfall Pavilion" is a relational space that socializes and activates this otherwise forgotten area. The Waterfall Pavilion takes the form of a small timber-frame pavilion that allows visitors to take in the nature around them under the cooling shade of a humble plywood roof. The pavilion can accommodate 8-10 people at a time and will be spanning the creek. The piece will require the artist dig into the soil on either side of the creek to install temporary footings for the structure. The artist will also be hosting a tea ceremony, two community cookouts, an educational workshop and a Buddhist chanting ceremony on the opening and closing weekend of the biennial.



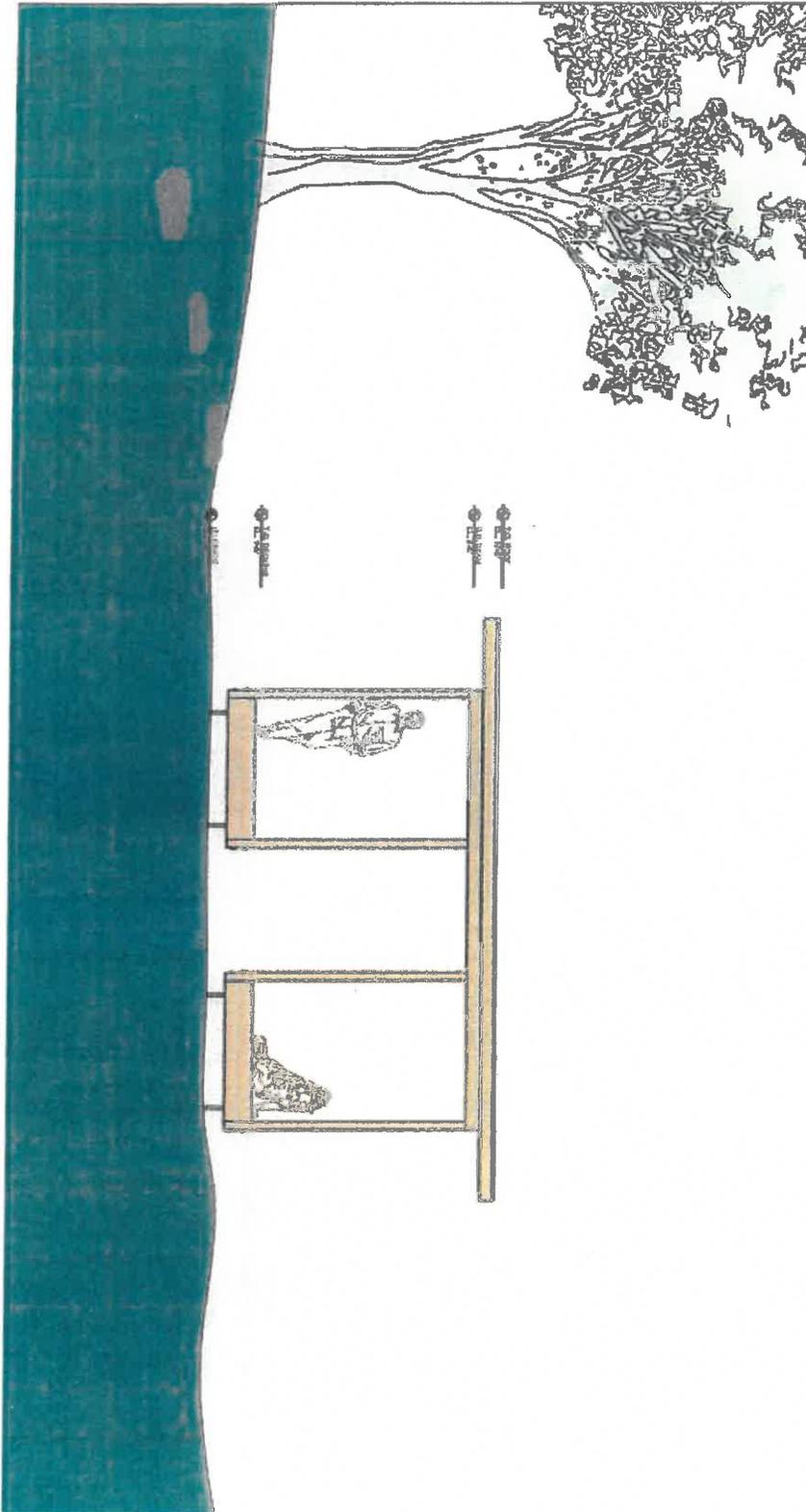
**THE WATERFALL
PAVILION**



Site Map



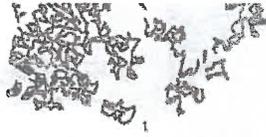
**THE WATERFALL
PAVILION**



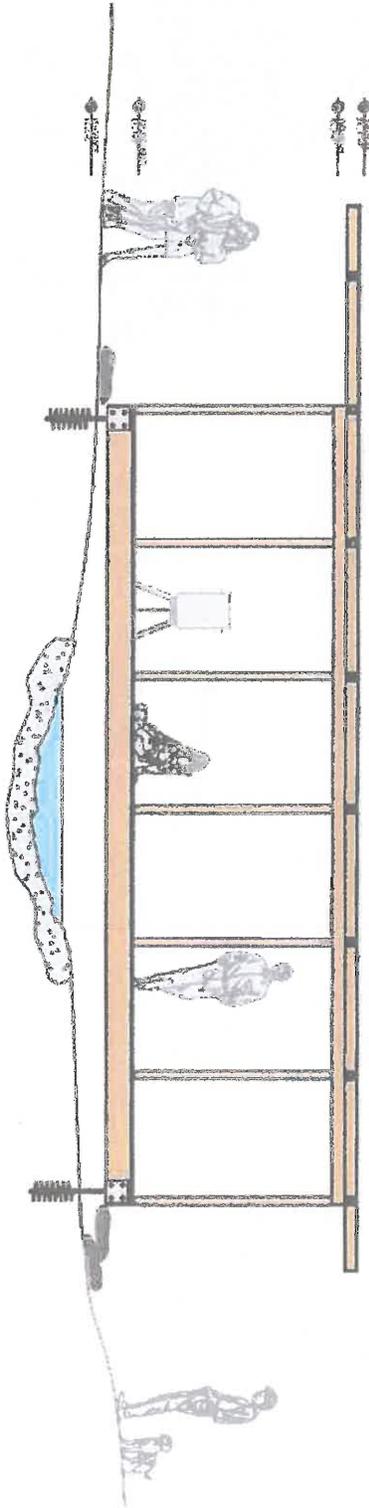
ELEVATION:
LAKE BALBON SEPULVEDA CANYON RECREATION AREA



MODULAR PANELIZED OFF-SITE CONSTRUCTION



BUILDING SECTION



Hansen Dam (Council District 7)

As a part of the Current: LA Water Biennial, DCA has commissioned the artist collective Lucky Dragons, to do a processional performance entitled "Spreading Grounds." The commission consists of 3-4 rehearsals and 1 final performance starting at the Campground Pavilion and ending at the terminus of the Hansen Dam Bike Path. The artist will be installing a low-frequency transmitter on site at the USACE facility on top of the Hansen Dam to broadcast the rehearsals and the final performance. Current:LA Signage will also be installed on site.

Hansen Dam
INGRESS / EGRESS



- Key**
-  Public Ingress
 -  Public Egress
 -  Goods Ingress
 -  Goods Egress

	Client: City of Los Angeles Project: CURRENT LA 2016 Date: May 20, 2015 Notes:
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Hansen Dam
SIGNAGE

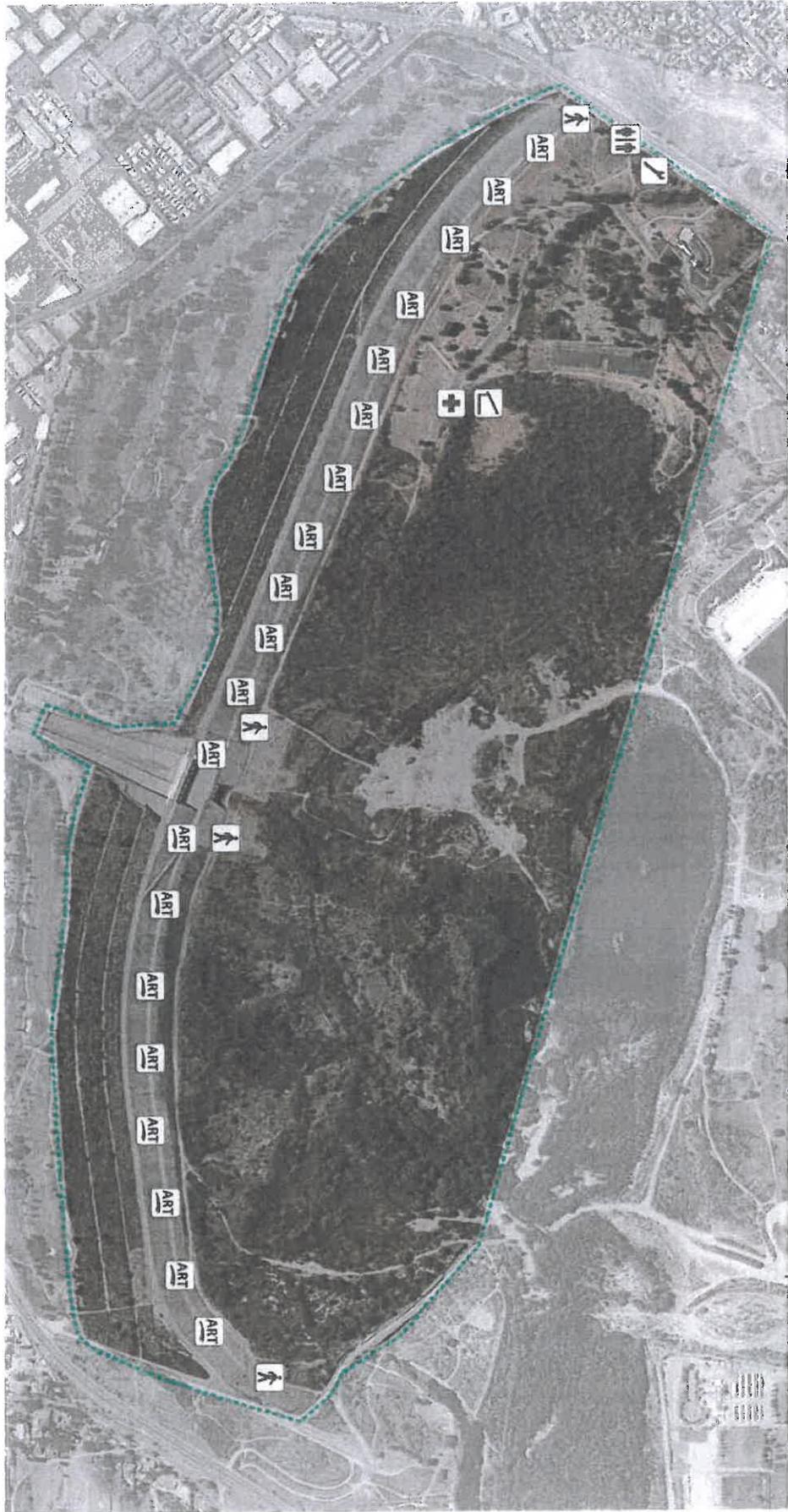


- Key**
- ➡ Direction
 - ⊗ Branding/Logo
 - ② Information

	Client: City of Los Angeles Project: CURRENT LA 2016 Date: May 20, 2016 Notes
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Hansen Dam
LOCATIONS



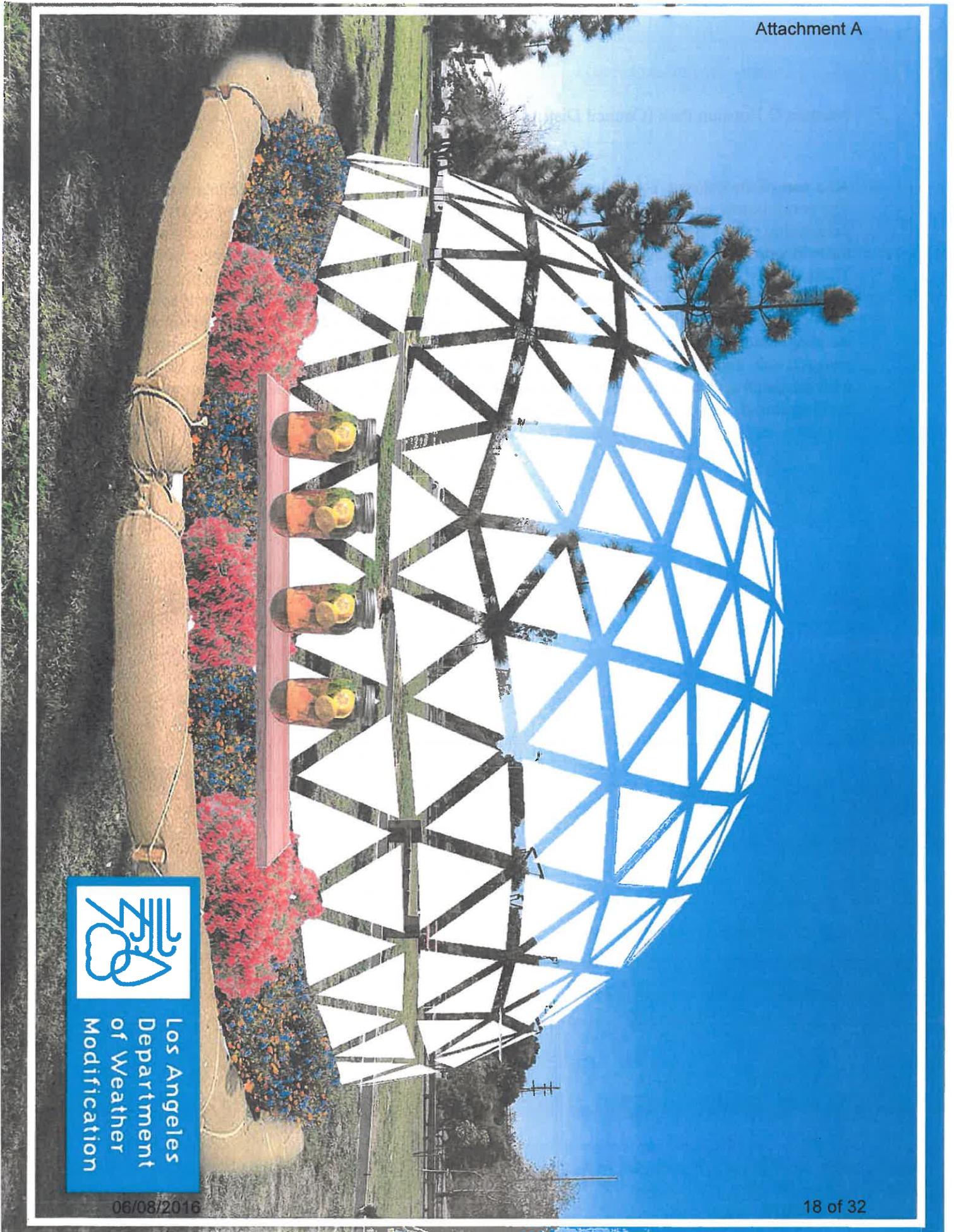
- Key**
- Walking
 - ART Artwork
 - P Parking
 - ART Crosswalk
 - Dining
 - ART Restrooms
 - Information
 - ART Restroom
 - CURRENT Bike
 - Generator
 - Checkpoint
 - Drinking Water
 - Shade
 - Storage
 - First Aid
 - Staging
 - Golf Cart

	Client: City of Los Angeles Report: CURRENT LA 2016 Date: May 20, 2016 Notes:
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Norman O Houston Park (Council District 8)

As a part of the Current: LA Water Biennial, DCA has commissioned the artist Chris Kallymer. The commission, entitled The Los Angeles Department of Weather Modification (LADWM) is a performing group that invites people to get together to address the weather, water, and the idea of the arid western city. They will create six events throughout the 30 day run that engage visitors. These concerts, talks, and actions will point to LA's long and complicated history with weather modification and water. The events will feature LA-based artists, designers, historians, urbanists, and thinkers who will explore the intersection of weather and water through their discipline. The weather station is a 20 foot open-air geodesic dome that will serve as the center of operations, research hub, and performance venue. The dome will be an inviting and porous space for visitors with elements such as a functioning weather station, hanging plants, sun tea, and omnipresent inviting sound. The dome will be bolted into the ground.



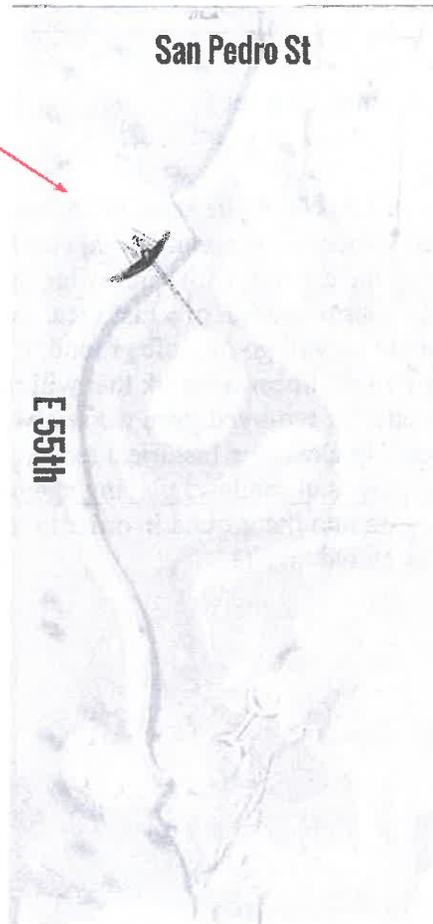
Los Angeles
Department
of Weather
Modification

South LA Wetlands (Council District 9)

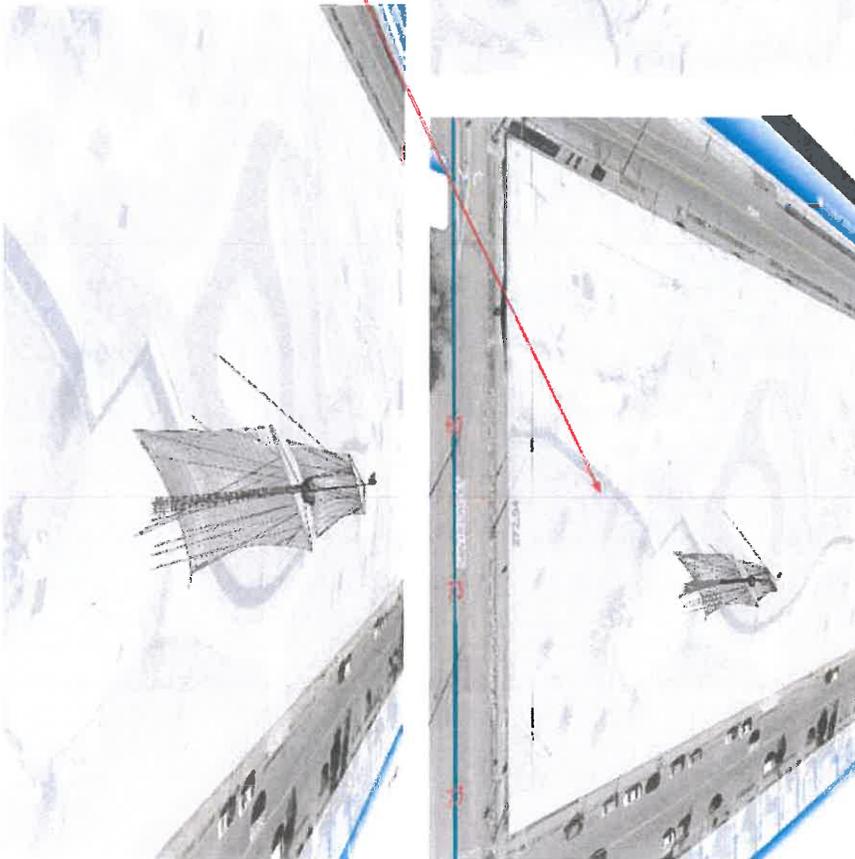
As a part of the Current: LA Water Biennial, DCA has commissioned the artists Joshua Callaghan and Daveed Kapoor. The commission, entitled Mothership, is a sculptural piece. The mast will rise 45' out of the ground, with sails as big as 25 X 25' with 2000' of rope. The intention is to make an approximation of a historical sail. In place of the wooden they will use a tapered steel utility pole that will go into the ground. Hemp ropes, like those used on historical ships, will create the intricate linear network that will raise and lower the sails. From a distance the distinct sail silhouette, far removed from the sea, will create an unexpected disruption in the Los Angeles landscape. Up close, the historical technology of the sail rigging will become a spatial composition of lines and shadows playing against the natural environment. The artists will be digging into the ground in order to install the pole, there will be 3-4 yards of dirt that will need to be stored on site.



Site Map



The site has been identified as the open decomposed granite area in the southwest corner of South Los Angeles Wetland Park



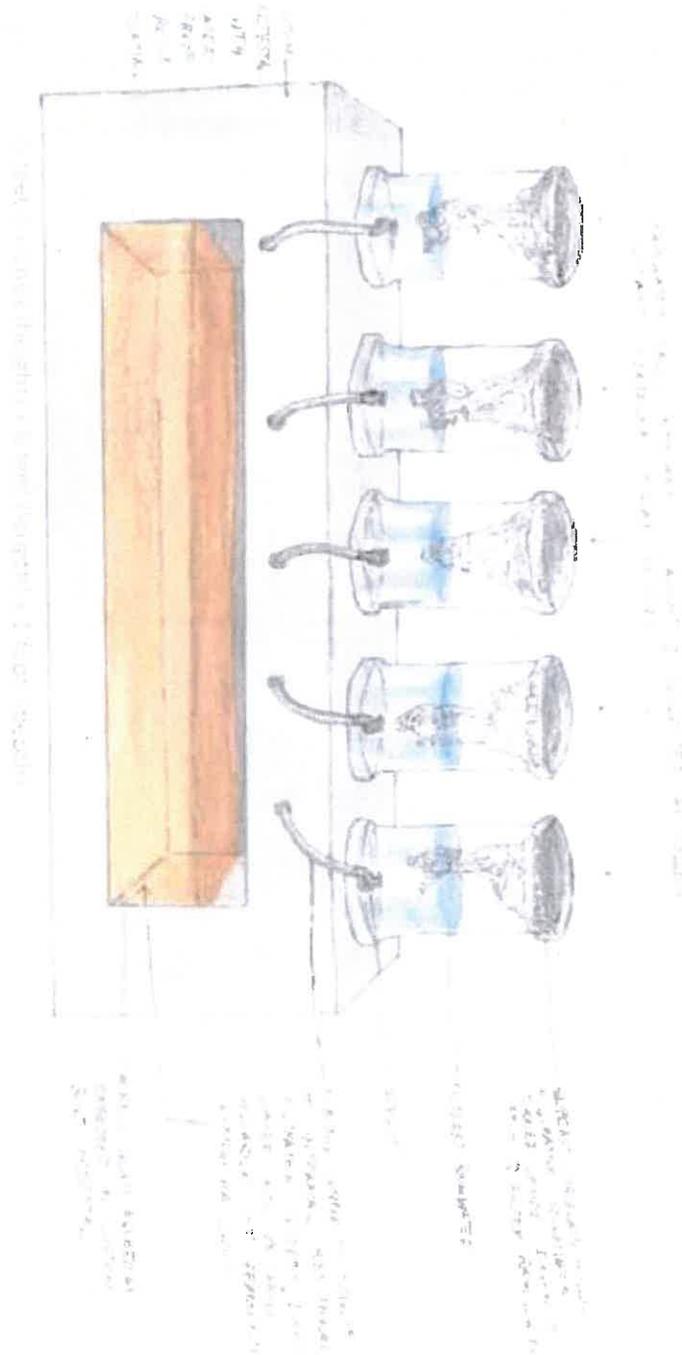
Westside Neighborhood Park (Council District 10)

As a part of the Current: LA Water Biennial, DCA has commissioned the artist Candice Lin. The commission is a sculpture that consists of 5 cylindrical glass vessels in a row, each holding an upside-down porcelain figure inside of it; these five acrylic cylinders will be resting on a waterproof pedestal, feeding water into an aquarium embedded inside the pedestal. Within the aquarium is Kombucha, a live, edible, bacterial culture that uses the water (and other ingredients) to grow. The artist will be hosting 2-3 events to engage the community in her work.



CANDICE LIN

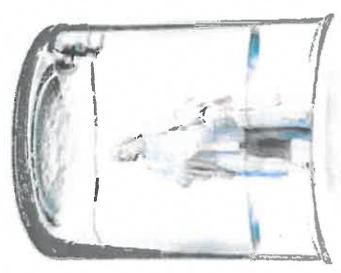
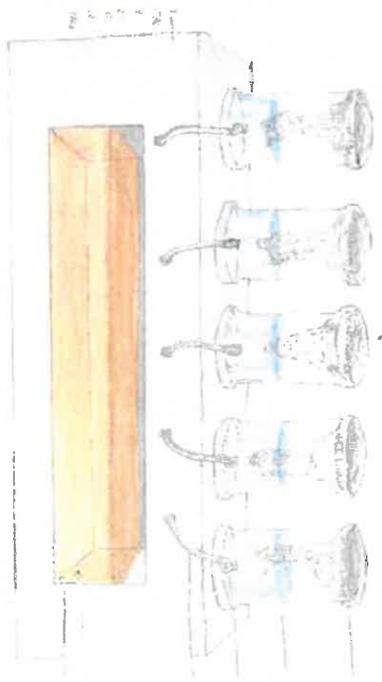
CONCEPTUAL RENDERINGS





GANDIGE LIN

CONCEPTUAL RENDERINGS



Conceptual rendering of a person sitting in a chair, viewed through a glass pane.

Bee Canyon Park (Council District 12)

As a part of the Current: LA Water Biennial, DCA has commissioned the artist collective Lucky Dragons. The commission entitled “ Δ ” (“*Delta*”), is the character of a site-specific performance designed to take place in Bee Canyon Park over the course of one month. A predetermined schedule will guide visitors to the time and location of “ Δ ”—a role to be performed daily by a solo, duo, or trio of performers.

Each day, for a regularly scheduled duration, a new performer or group of performers assumes the Δ persona anonymously. Like a pool of water being treated—flowing in, changing state, flowing out— Δ signifies difference, a changing state, dislocation, in process and in dispute. Each performer or set of performers assuming the role of Δ will make use of a “toolkit” that lives on-site—a specially-designed container made to hold scores, objects, and materials for use in tasks, interactions and meditations to be performed daily.

Bee Canyon
INGRESS / EGRESS



Key

-  Public Ingress
-  Public Egress
-  Goods Ingress
-  Goods Egress

	Client: City of Los Angeles Project: CURRENT LA 2016 Date: June 2, 2015 Notes:
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Bee Canyon
LOCATIONS



- Key**
-  Walking
 -  Parking
 -  Dining
 -  Information
 -  ART
 -  Crosswalk
 -  Restrooms
 -  Restroom
 -  CURRENT Bike
 -  Checkpoint
 -  Shade
 -  First Aid
 -  Generator
 -  Drinking Water
 -  Storage
 -  Staging
 -  Golf Cart
 -  --
 -  --

	Client: City of Los Angeles Project: CURRENT A 2016 Date: June 2, 2016
	NOTES

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Echo Park (Council District 13)

As a part of the Current: LA Water Biennial, DCA has commissioned the artist Teresa Margolles. The commission, includes a performance and sculptural piece. The artist will be installing a structure made of steel clad in wood and a plaster render. Digging will occur to install the footings for the piece.

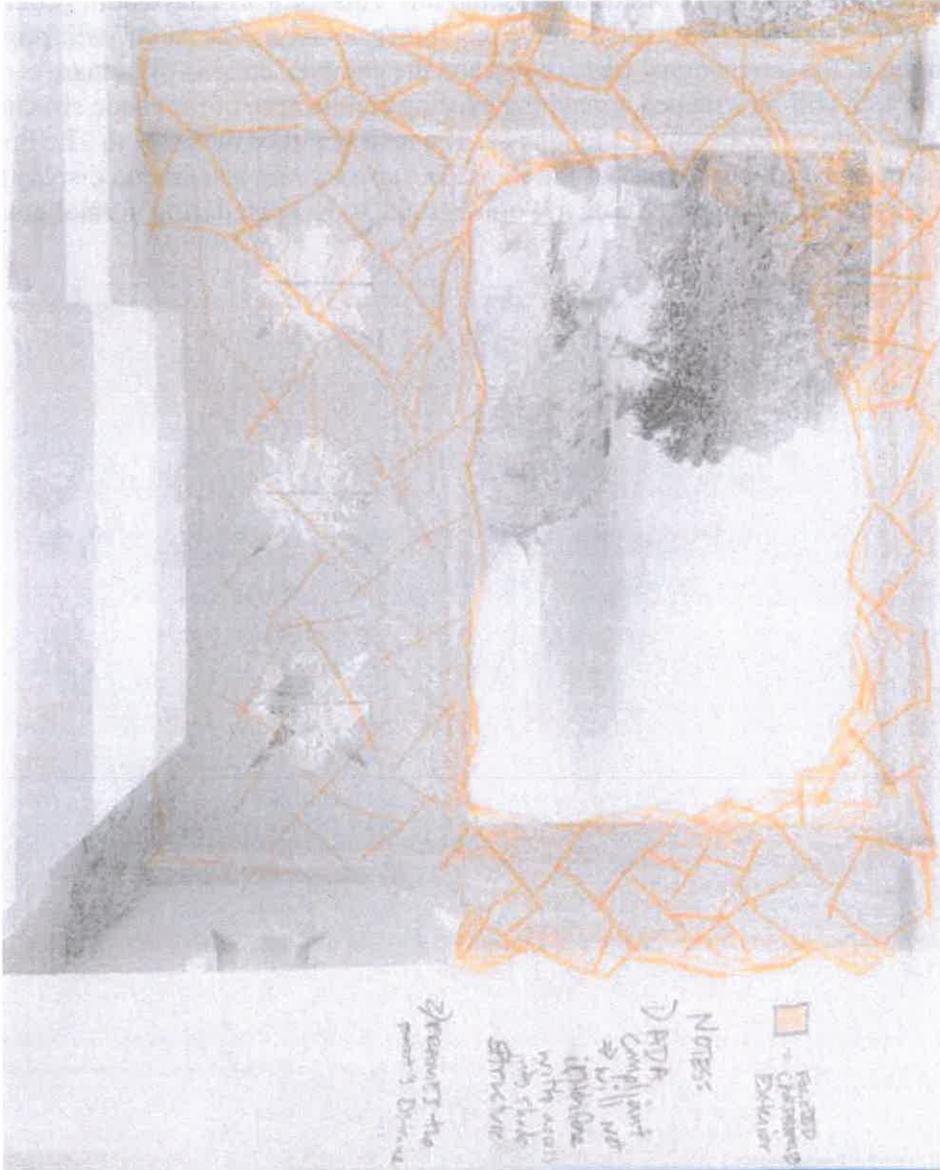


Conceptual Renderings



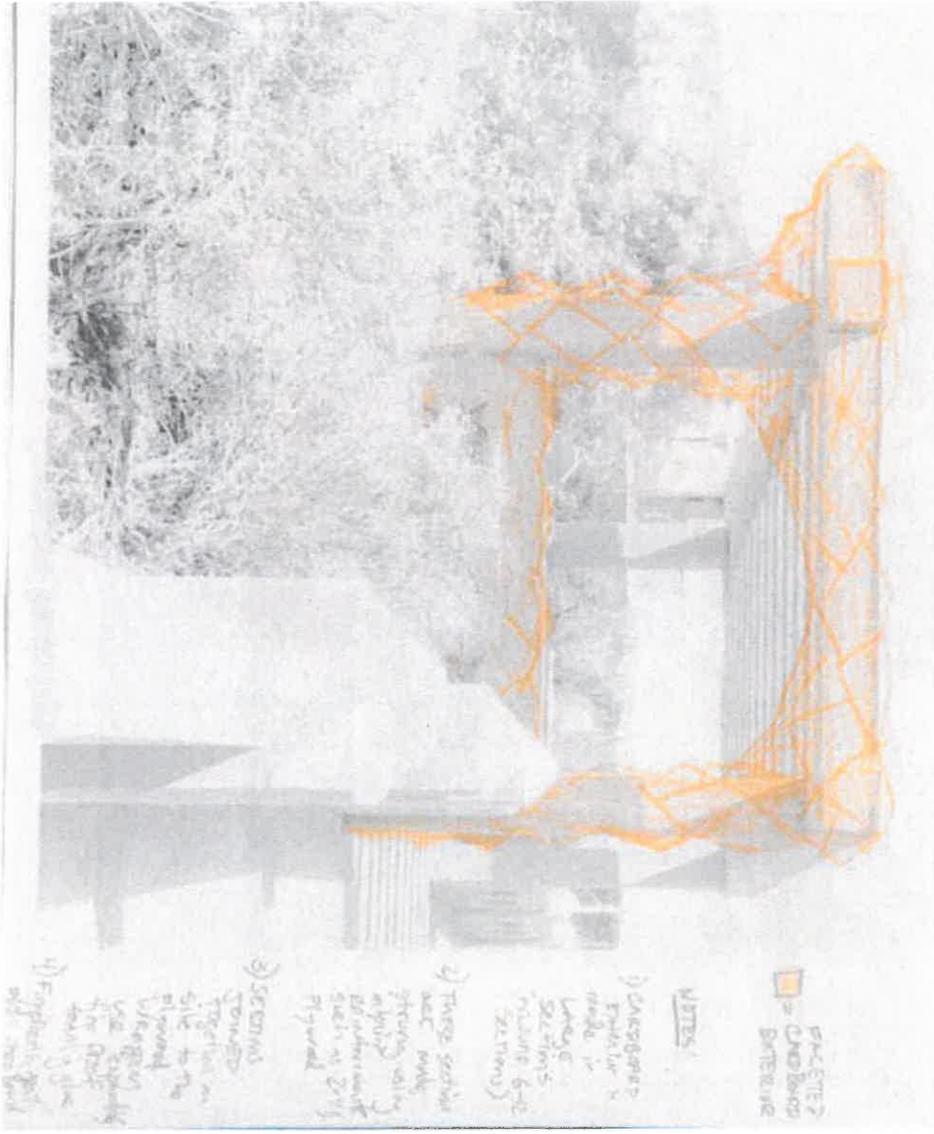
Point Fermin Park (Council District 15)

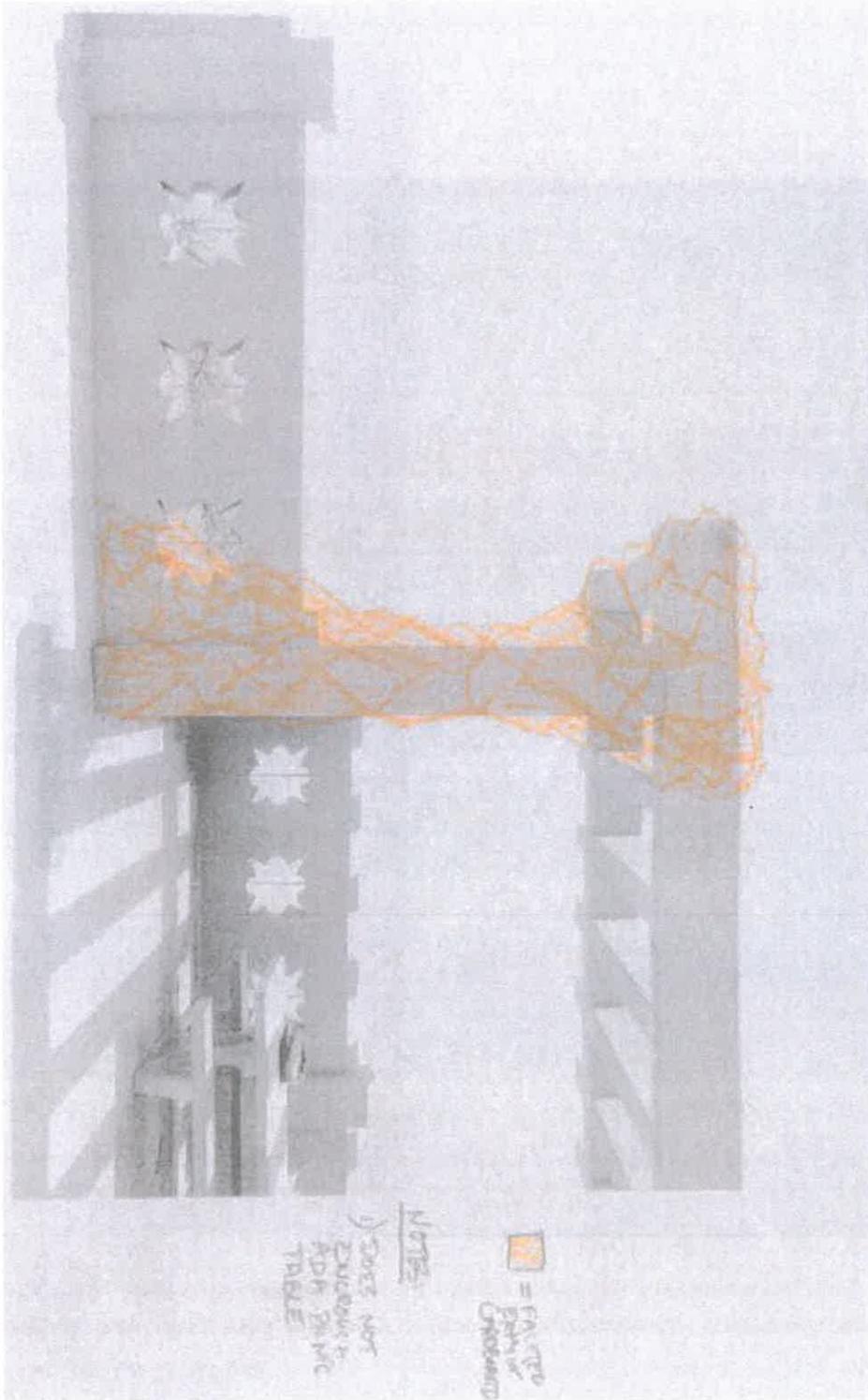
As a part of the Current: LA Water Biennial, DCA has commissioned the artist Michael Parker. The commission, entitled THE IDES OF ARCH DU TRIUMPH, will be a sculptural object. Through a series of systems-based translations starting from gestural clay models, the final public manifestation will be a large scale “arch” sculpture. This form will have both geometric and geologic qualities and will be roughly twelve feet dimensionally. The “arch” will provide a temporary framing of the international trade routes and the complex erosion of human monuments. The arch will be wrapped around the existing architecture of the shade structure in front of the eastern edge of Pt Fermin’s Lighthouse. The arch will face the entry to The Port capturing the point of egress and ingress of the ships. The artist would also like to display the small clay models in the Community Room at Point Fermin, to be open during normal hours of operation.



Conceptual Renderings

Conceptual Renderings





Conceptual Renderings