



City of Grand Island

Tuesday, October 8, 2019

Council Session

Item I-1

#2019-310 - Consideration of Approving Preliminary Concept of Densel's Dream Sculpture at Highway 281 and South Webb Road

Staff Contact: Jerry Janulewicz

Council Agenda Memo

From: Jerry Janulewicz, City Administrator

Meeting: October 8, 2019

Subject: Denzel's Dream – Sculpture at U.S. Highway 281 and South Webb Road

Presenter(s): Jerry Janulewicz, City Administrator

Background

Grand Island Partnership for the Arts (GIPA) is seeking preliminary approval from the City Council for the City's acquisition of a parcel of land 0.373 acres in size from the Nebraska Department of Transportation (NDOT). If transfer of the property is requested and accepted by the City, GIPA would commission and place a sculpture, "Denzel's Dream", upon the site. An image of the proposed piece and information from the artist is attached. The proposed site is located immediately north of the intersection of U.S. Highway 281 and South Webb Road. If requested by the City, NDOT would convey the land to the City for highway beautification purposes with the deed containing use limitations.

Discussion

The proposed site is highway right-of-way within the City's municipal boundaries. As such, mowing is currently the responsibility of the city pursuant to an agreement with NDOT. When developed by placement of the sculpture, GIPA anticipates the site will present no greater maintenance burden to the city than what is currently required, which is minimal mowing to road right-of-way standards.

GIPA is requesting that the City Council approve the project concept. Final approval and a request for transfer of the site to the City would be considered by council at a later time and upon the following conditions:

1. GIPA has secured sufficient funds in cash, grants and pledges all project expenses and an endowment fund for future expenses.
2. GIPA and City have executed an acceptable license agreement addressing site development, future maintenance, utilities, and related issues.

Alternatives

It appears that the Council has the following alternatives concerning the issue at hand.
The Council may:

1. Move to approve
2. Refer the issue to a Committee
3. Postpone the issue to future date
4. Take no action on the issue

Recommendation

City Administration recommends that the Council approve the request.

Sample Motion

Move to approve the resolution.

Mission Statement for Grand Island Partnership for the Arts

The mission of the Grand Island Partnership for the Arts is to enhance the quality of life in our community, inspire a passion for the arts and elevate the economic vitality of Grand Island by facilitating the advancement of high quality public art accessible to all residents and visitors.

GRAND ISLAND PARTNERSHIP FOR THE ARTS (GIPA)

Densel had a vision for a piece of property, currently owned by the State of Nebraska. It is triangular shaped and lies north of where Webb Road connects to Highway 281, just south of Home Federal, Snow's Floral and other businesses. Densel believed this would be an excellent place to feature some sort of art for those entering Grand Island from the south. He felt in its current state it was something of an eyesore and could be used in a far more creative way. Densel presented this idea in his acceptance speech after receiving the Man of the Year Award in 2006, hence our title: Densel's Dream.

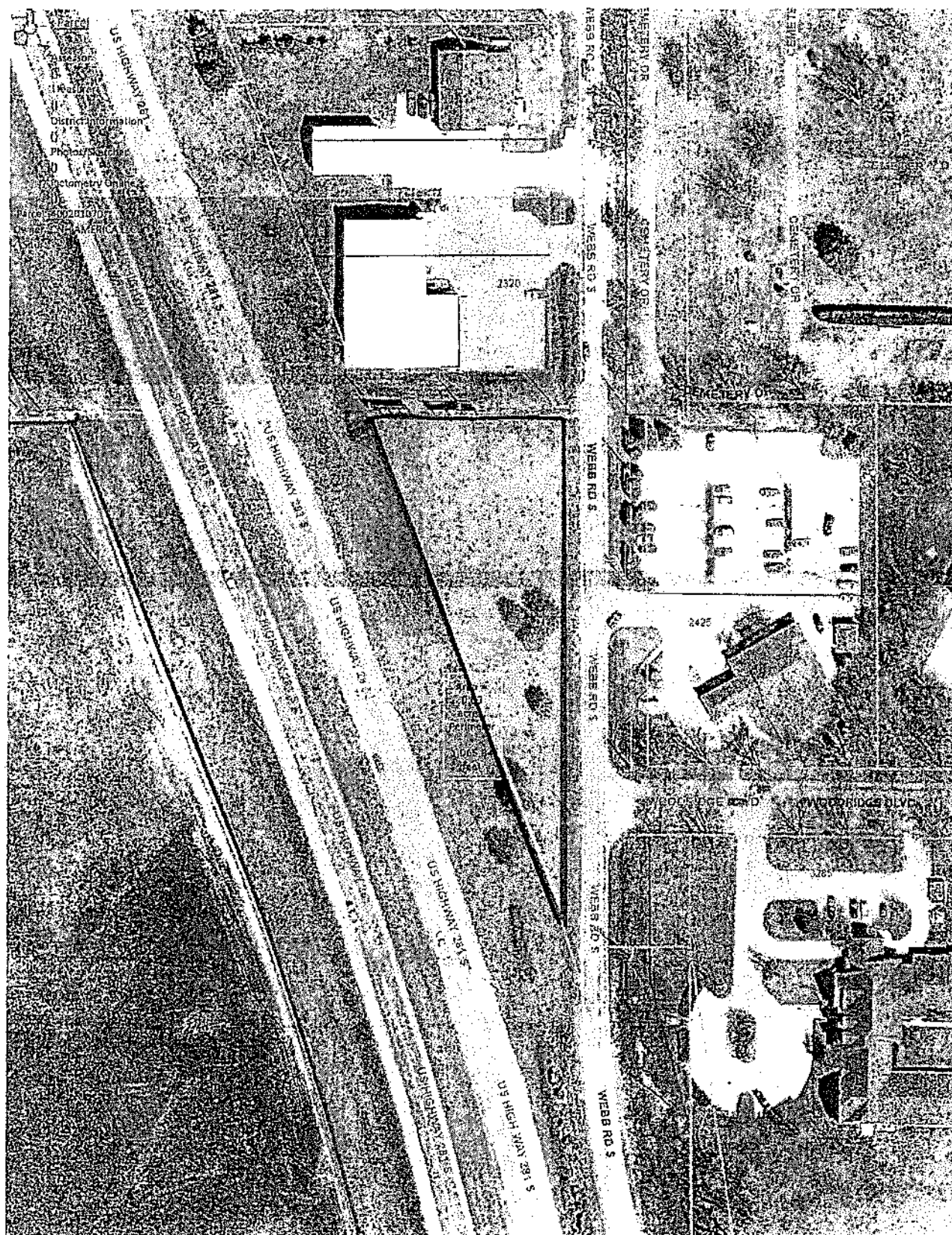
The State of Nebraska was contacted in the fall of 2018 and the process begun to transfer ownership from the State to the City of Grand Island. The transfer is nearly complete so access to the ground should occur shortly. The City would then permit a sculpture, honoring Densel Rasmussen, to be installed.

Fundraising for Densel's Dream should begin soon. The cost of the project, including site work, lighting and low maintenance landscaping is estimated to be about \$520,000. We believe Densel's contributions to our community is worth every penny and more.

The Piece will be lit at night with LEDs and is a combination of materials: aluminum, stainless steel and acrylic. Maintenance should be minimal to lessen the burden on City Crews.

This sculpture will enhance our city's entrance, increase our public art offerings and honor our own Densel Rasmussen.





City of Grand Island, NE

<https://grandislandnc.map.becherc.net/>

8/28/2018

Information about Densel's Dream

The artist is Matthew Placzek, a Grand Island native. He has done many sculptures thru out the US and even some foreign countries. His

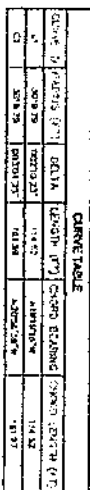


website is <https://www.placzekstudios.com>,

Densel's Dream is 50 feet in length, 14.5 feet tall and about 9 feet wide (deep). The materials are aluminum, acrylic and stainless steel, that have special patinas (colors) and they will not fade much with time. The design has been tested by an engineer for wind and all is well. It won't blow over unless it is a tornado. From an email from Matthew: "The materials used in the sculptures will be aluminum and stainless steel, for the grasses and the cattails. The sculpture design will be subject to a structural engineer's testing and will be designed accordingly. The usual rating for this area of country is about 90 mph. The piece will be painted with industrial epoxy two part paint. The paint has a high UV rating and will be painting these in the studio. I would like the cranes to incorporate the dichroic acrylic. However, we can explore other materials, such as a colored acrylic. I have used the colored acrylic in many installations. As far as the hail question, like any material, it has the possibility of damage. The possibility of metal denting is very minimal, as it will be a substantial thickness. The paint is extremely durable, so I would rely on this also. I have many pieces painted with this material and haven't had any problems thus far."

Cost is 525,000 dollars for site work and sculpture, landscaping (minimum maintenance so there will be less maintenance for the city then there is presently.

Grand Island Partnership for the Arts



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A circular library stamp from the Robert E. Hurst Library. The text "ROBERT E. HURST" is curved along the top inner edge, and "LIBRARY" is curved along the bottom inner edge. In the center, the alphanumeric code "AL-674" is printed. The date "MAR 1964" is stamped across the middle of the circle.

OLSSON.
ASSOCIATES

747 East 2nd Street
Cincinnati, OH 45202-1001
Tel. 202 364-3750[illegible]

SHEET 1 OF 1	SURVEY RECORD PART OF SE1/4 NE1/4 SECTION 25-T11N-10W		REV SAJ	DATE 12-11-1988	REVISIONS
	GRAND ISLAND, NEBRASKA		2018		

[illegible]

RESOLUTION 2019-310

WHEREAS, Grand Island Partnership for the Arts (GIPA) desires that the City of Grand Island make a request to the Nebraska Department of Transportation for a transfer of the following real estate to the City for highway beautification purposes, to wit:

A tract of land being part of the Southeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter (SE1/4NE1/4) of Section Twenty-five (25), Township Eleven (11) North, Range Ten (10) West of the 6th P.M., Hall County, Nebraska and more particularly described as follows:

Commencing at the Northeast Corner of Section 25-11-10, thence on an assumed bearing of S01°34'22"E along the East line of the Northeast Quarter (NE1/4), a distance of 1319.09 feet to a point being the East 1/16 corner of the Northeast Quarter (NE1/4) of Section 25-11-10, said point being the point of beginning, thence continuing S01°34'22"E along said East line of the Northeast Quarter (NE1/4) a distance of 549.0 feet to a point of curvature, said point also being the easterly right-of-way line of U.S. Highway 281; thence around a curve in a clockwise direction, along said easterly right-of-way line, with a delta angle of 05°14'47", having a radius of 3019.79 feet, an arc length of 276.51 feet and a chord bearing N19°51'28"W with a chord distance of 276.42 feet; thence N22°22'06"W along said easterly right-of-way line, a distance of 305.10 feet; thence N88°15'55"E a distance of 195.40 feet to the point of beginning. Said tract contains a calculated area of 51,201.23 square feet or 1.175 acres more or less of which 0.373 acres are road right of way;

and

WHEREAS, GIPA is seeking donations, grants and pledges for the commissioning, creation, installation, and continued maintenance of an art work entitled "Denzel's Dream" to be installed upon the above-described tract; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires signify its approval of the "Denzel's Dram" project concept with final Council approval contingent upon satisfaction of the following conditions:

1. GIPA has secured sufficient funds in cash, grants and pledges to satisfy all project expenses and an endowment fund for future expenses.
2. GIPA and City have executed an acceptable license agreement addressing site development, future maintenance, utilities, and related issues.

Approved as to Form	□
October 4, 2019	□ City Attorney

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRAND ISLAND, NEBRASKA, as follows:

1. The project concept “Denzel’s Dream” is approved.
2. Final project approval and City’s request to NDOT for site transfer will be considered by Council upon satisfaction of the following conditions:
 - a. GIPA has secured sufficient funds in cash, grants and pledges to satisfy all project expenses and an endowment fund for future expenses.
 - b. GIPA and City have executed an acceptable license agreement addressing site development, future maintenance, utilities, and related issues.

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Adopted by the City Council of the City of Grand Island, Nebraska, October 8, 2019.

Roger G. Steele, Mayor

Attest:

RaNae Edwards, City Clerk