

Revised

Cultural Heritage Board

TO: CULTURAL HERITAGE BOARD **MEETING DATE: June 20, 2012**

FROM: HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER **ITEM NO: 2**
AND METROPOLITAN MUSEUM
DIRECTOR **WARD: ALL**

SUBJECT: PSP12-0080 RELOCATION OF RIVERSIDE'S HISTORY WALK

ISSUE:

The issue before the Cultural Heritage Board is to recommend to City Council a site for the relocation of the Soroptimist History walk.

BACKGROUND

In February of 1975, Soroptimist International of Riverside's president, Virginia Moore, along with Bicentennial Chairman, Roy Staylor, came up with the idea of creating a history walk to commemorate the City's vast and rich historical achievements over the prior century. On Tuesday, December 7, 1976, the Soroptimist Club unveiled the History Walk in the Raincross Square Forest of Lights, currently referred to as the Riverside Convention Center Plaza.

Riverside's History Walk includes thirty granite stones (see attached) depicting detailed images of various points of the City of Riverside's history (1838-1953), including images of the founding of Riverside, navel orange planting, the University of California Riverside's Citrus Experiment Station, March Airfield Base, and more. Each of the stones were sponsored by community organizations.

Almost thirty-six years have passed since Riverside's History Walk was created under the leadership of Soroptimist International of Riverside. As the renovation date of the Riverside Convention Center approached the Mayor's office presented to the City Council on May 15, 2012 that the History Walk be relocated. In conjunction with the upcoming renovations, Arts & Cultural Affairs had the stones making up Riverside's History Walk professionally photographed and then removed and stored pending reinstallation. Should any stones be damaged in the removal process, replicas will be created. The necessity of relocating Riverside's History Walk, due to Riverside Convention Center renovations, creates an opportunity to draw attention to the Walk and allow it to emerge as a more visible cultural asset and tourist attraction. Staff recommends Mission Inn Avenue (see attached City Council report) for the relocation site, the City's central historic street and thoroughfare.

The removal of the granite stones has already begun with great success in preparation for the Convention Center project.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. That the Cultural Heritage Board support the Mayor's recommendation of reinstalling the Soroptimist History walk on Mission Inn Avenue, and recommend to City Council the stones be placed in the sidewalk and front plaza outside the Metropolitan Museum which would allow for incorporation into the Museum's Educational History program.
2. That the Cultural Heritage Board recommend to City Council that a Certificate of Appropriateness for the final design of the History walk stone reinstallation return to CHB Staff for Administrative approval in the next 90 days.

Attachments:

1. CC Staff Report from May 15, 2012
2. Photographs of the Medallions



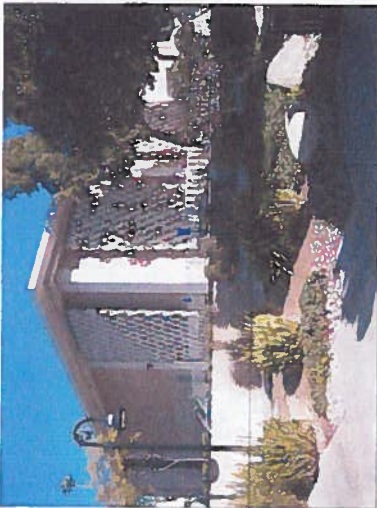
CITY OF RIVERSIDE
 06/10/2012
 06/09/2012
 06/09/2012

PROJECT:
 MEDILLIONS
 CONVENTION CENTER
 MISSION AVENUE
 RIVERSIDE, CALIFORNIA 92522

DESIGNER:
 RAYMOND PEREZ
 3900 MAIN STREET
 GENERAL SERV. DEPT. 5TH FLR.
 RIVERSIDE, CALIFORNIA 92522



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LOCATION MAIN LIBRARY



LOCATION OF MUSEUM



LOCATION OF CHINESE PAVILLION



MEDILLION LOCATION