

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



To: Jim Scholl, City Manager

Through: Thaddeus Cohen, Planning Director

From: Melissa Paul-Leto, Planner Analyst / Staff Liaison to the Key West Arts in Public Places (AIPP) Board

Meeting Date: January 20, 2016

RE: Jose Marti Fountain

ACTION STATEMENT: This is a request to approve a Resolution authorizing the location and placement of a donated fountain and plaque to be constructed and installed in Jose Marti Pond located at the southeast corner of Roosevelt Boulevard and Eisenhower Drive.

Request: That the City Commission approve the location and placement of a fountain and plaque donation.

Applicant: Joseph R. Liszka

Property Owner: The City of Key West

Location: Jose Marti Pond

Zoning: Conservation Mangrove (CM) zoning district



BACKGROUND:

Commissioner Weekly was approached in the fall of 2015, by Marcus Varner on behalf of Mr. Joseph Liszka regarding Mr. Liszka’s wishes to purchase a fountain for the Jose Marti Pond as well as a commemorative plaque on the ledge. This donation, is his way of thanking the people of Key West for all that he feels the community has given to him. Mr. Liszke passed away on October 14, 2015.

Mr. Liszka had secured sufficient funds for the creation and installation of the fountain and commemorative plaque; therefore, there will be no upfront costs to the City. The donation includes funds to cover operating expenses such as; electricity, filter cleaning, zinc replacements, valve replacements and light bulb replacements for the fountain for two years. Included in this sum will be \$1,000 reserved for the removal of the fountain in the event City elects to remove the fountain and commemorative plaque. Mr. Liszke formed an annual sponsorship program whereas, Beth Moyes and Dan Reynen will secure additional funding for the maintenance and operating expenses of the fountain.

In addition to the fountain and plaque, Mr. Liszka has reserved funds to put in place an educational and informative website featuring fountains throughout the Florida Keys. Any fountain that is accessible to the general public may be listed with details posted for visitors to get more information and visit the locations. This website will be maintained at no cost to the City.

City Actions:

Arts in Public Places Board:	September 21, 2015
City Commission:	January 20, 2016

PLANNING STAFF ANALYSIS:

This project would be a minor physical addition to Jose Marti Pond, but a significant visual appeal for the Truman Avenue entrance to old town.

Greg Veliz, Assistant City Manager has provided all necessary permits.

Devon Steckly, Senior Project Manager – Engineering has obtained approval from the South Florida Water Management District (Letter Attached.)

The project has been reviewed by the Arts in Public Places Board, which endorsed the project and its location.

The Planning Department recommends to the City Commission **APPROVAL** of the proposed Resolution granting the requested approval.