



Agenda Item #: \_\_\_\_\_

# Staff Report

## City of Manhattan Beach

**TO:** Honorable Mayor Tell and Members of the City Council

**THROUGH:** David Carmany, City Manager

**FROM:** Richard Gill, Director of Parks and Recreation  
Megumi Sando, Acting Cultural Arts Manager

**DATE:** January 3, 2012

**SUBJECT:** Approve the Commitment of Public Art Trust Funds for a Public Art Project Commemorating the Centennial of the City in an Amount Not to Exceed \$200,000.

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### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends that the City Council approve up to \$200,000 from the Public Art Trust Fund for a public art project commemorating the City's Centennial.

### **FISCAL IMPLICATION:**

There are no fiscal implications on the general fund associated with the recommended action. The project will be supported through the Public Art Trust Fund. The current balance in the Public Art Trust is \$369,433 and the uncommitted balance is \$304,276.

### **BACKGROUND:**

The Public Art Trust was established in 2002 as an implementation of the City's 1% for the arts ordinance -- Ordinance No. 2040. This fund reserves a fee for art in public places on every residential development of four or more units, and every commercial and industrial building project with a building valuation exceeding \$500,000, and when remodeling such buildings with a valuation exceeding \$250,000. Fees paid into the Public Art Fund which are not committed to a specific project within five (5) years from the receipt by the City shall be returned to the then current owner of the development. Projects using the Public Art Fund should be designated by the Cultural Arts Commission and approved or accepted by the City Council.

### **DISCUSSION:**

During the Cultural Arts Commission meeting of November 4, 2011, the Cultural Arts Commission recommended that \$150,000 to \$200,000 of the Public Art Trust Funds be used to develop a high quality art piece for the City's Centennial in 2012. The Commission and regular participants discussed possibilities to install a permanent piece of art or a combination of permanent and temporary artwork to increase the festive atmosphere of the centennial celebration.

The Commission discussed several options for the project. They will look into works of art that have been completed and are available for sale as well as commissioning site specific works and temporary art works that will enhance the City's Centennial.

Tentative timeline of the Centennial Art Project (permanent) is as follows:

May 2012	Complete Selection of Artwork
June 2012	Present the Final Selections to City Council
June – July 2012	Exchange Agreements
July – November 2012	Fabrication or Customization by Artist
December 2012	Installation and Dedication Ceremony

Subsequent to the November 4, 2011 Cultural Arts Commission meeting when this recommendation for the \$200,000 was made, the City has been approached by the Los Angeles County Arts Commission to consider adding some of the City's Public Art Trust funds to the art project that is being discussed for the new Manhattan Beach Library. The budget for the art project for the new library is approximately \$100,000 to \$130,000 depending on contingencies. The City Council may want to discuss this request from the County when considering the Cultural Arts Commissions request for the Centennial Art Project.

**CONCLUSION:**

Staff recommends that City Council discuss the Cultural Arts Commission's recommendation to approve up to \$200,000 to public art project(s) commemorating the City's Centennial in 2012 and provide direction.