



City of Coral Gables  
CITY COMMISSION MEETING  
July 7, 2015

**ITEM TITLE:**

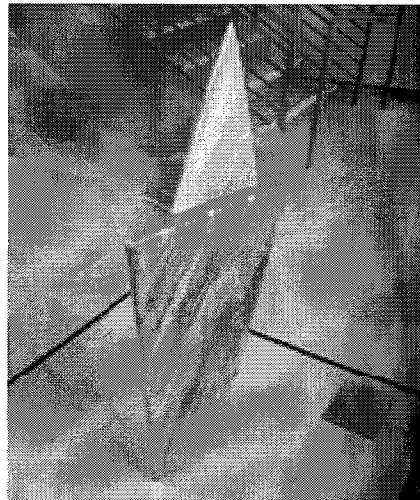
A Resolution authorizing acceptance of a donation of a sculpture by Leonel Matheu, authorizing funds from the Art Acquisition Fund, and placing the sculpture on the northwest portion of Cartagena Plaza overlooking the waterway; further authorizing an amendment to the Fiscal Year 2014-2015 Annual Budget to recognize as revenue a transfer from the Art Acquisition Fund, and to appropriate such funds to put toward the cost of the project.

**DEPARTMENT HEAD RECOMMENDATION:**

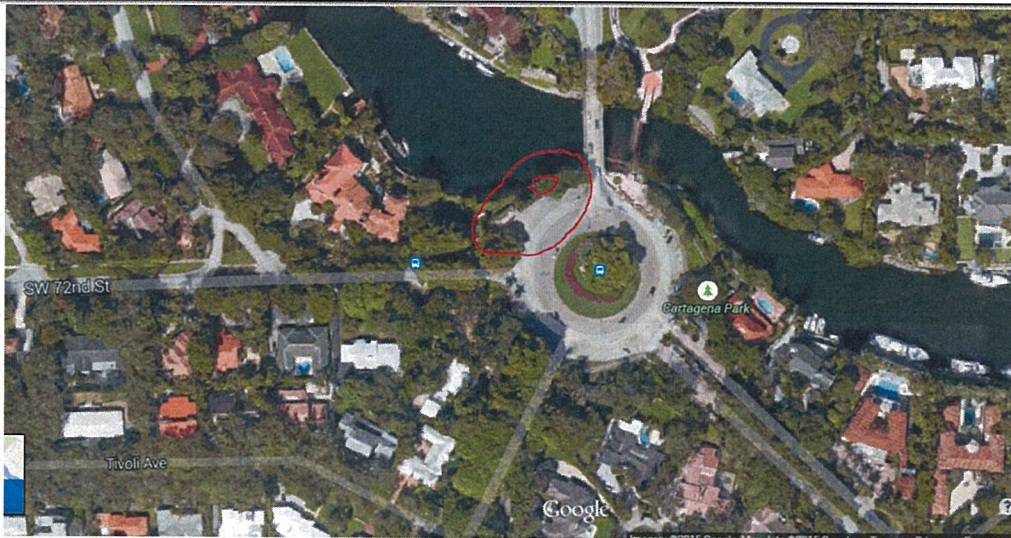
Approval

**BRIEF HISTORY:**

Artist Leonel Matheu has generously offered to donate a marble sculpture entitled "Vessel" to the City of Coral Gables. He was born in Havana Cuba in 1967 and resides in both Miami and Los Angeles. He has exhibited internationally over the past 20 years, and has work in such collections as The Lowe Art Museum, The Frost Art Museum, The Mobile Museum of Art in Alabama, the Bass Museum, the Georgia Museum of Art in Athens, and the Museo Iberoamericano de Arte Contemporaneo in Spain, among others. Much of Mr. Matheu's work includes a motif of the paper boat. This motif is transformed into a marble sculpture in his 2004 work "Vessel," which was recently displayed in a retrospective of Mr. Matheu's work at the Frost Art Museum.



It is recommended that the piece be accepted and that it be installed on a concrete base with an appropriate plaque in the location shown on the northwest perimeter of Cartagena Plaza overlooking the waterway.



The donation and placement were presented to the Landscape Beautification Advisory Board, the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board, the Arts Advisory Panel, and the Cultural Development Board, all of whom voted to recommend acceptance of the piece. The Landscape Beautification Advisory Board, the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board and the Cultural Development Board also recommend the location in Cartagena Plaza, which is not historically designated.

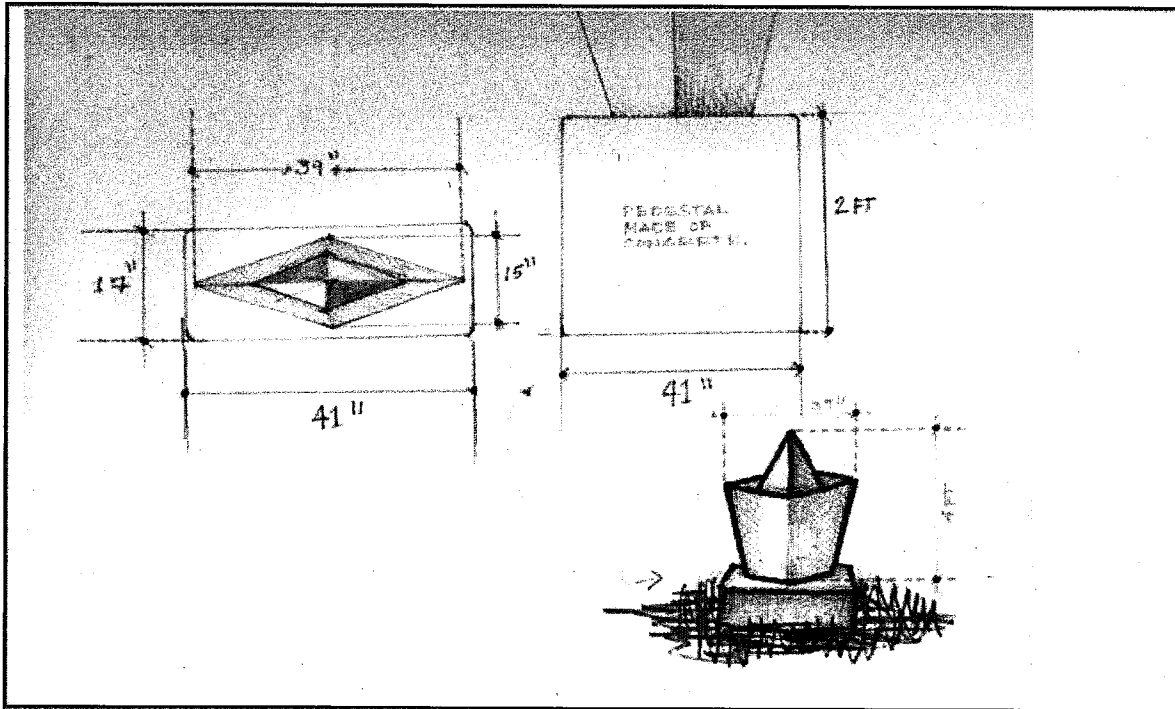
In addition, the Arts Advisory Panel and the Cultural Development voted to recommend using Art Acquisition Funds to facilitate the donation and installation. It is estimated that it will cost the City approximately \$2,000 to \$3,000 to construct the concrete base, \$800 to fabricate and install a plaque, \$1,500 to move the piece to the park, \$900 for lighting and \$2,000 to review structural engineering, for a total cost of \$8,200.

The Artist values the work at \$20,000, based on the Artist's estimate. Regular maintenance of the piece includes approximately \$500 per year for buffing.

As stated in the FY 14 Financial Statements (CAFR), the current Art Acquisition Fund has a balance of \$1,216,616. Of that amount, \$54,500 was designated for a capital project in the FY 15 budget to restore four of the Jean Ward Sculptures (three at the Library and one in Pittman Park) and \$1,100,000 has been appropriated for the Miracle Mile streetscape project. This leaves a remaining balance of \$62,116 (prior to consideration of additional funds paid by developers in FY 15).

It is proposed that up to \$8,200 of this balance be allocated to this project. An amendment to the Fiscal Year 2014-2015 annual budget is required to recognize as revenue the \$8,200 transfer from the Art Acquisition Fund and to appropriate such funds to put toward the cost of the project.

Below is the artist's rendering of the desired concrete pedestal.



**LEGISLATIVE ACTION:**

Date	Resolution/Ordinance No.	Comments
N/A		

**ADVISORY BOARD/COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION(S):**

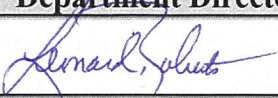
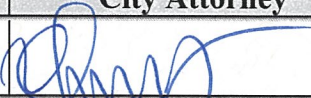
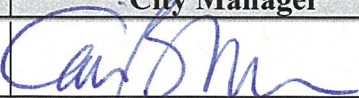
Date.	Board/Committee	Comments
January 8, 2015 & June 4, 2015	Landscape Beautification Advisory Board	Recommends Approval
January 16, 2015 & June 19, 2015	Parks & Recreation Advisory Board	Recommends Approval
January 20, 2015	Arts Advisory Panel	Recommends Approval and use of Art Acquisition Funds
January 28, 2015 & May 27, 2015	Cultural Development Board	Recommends Approval and use of Art Acquisition Funds

**FINANCIAL INFORMATION: (If Applicable)**

No.	Amount	Account No.	Source of Funds
1	\$8,200	310-1500-559-63-00	Art Acquisition Fund
		<b>APPROVED BY:</b>	



**APPROVED BY:**

Department Director	City Attorney	City Manager
		

**ATTACHMENT(S):**

1. Proposed Resolution with images
2. Artist's Curriculum Vitae
3. Minutes of Landscape Beautification Advisory Board 1/8/15 & 6/4/15
4. Minutes of Parks & Recreation Advisory Board 1/16/15 & 6/19/15
5. Excerpt Minutes of the Arts Advisory Panel 1/20/15
6. Excerpt Minutes of the Cultural Development Board 1/28/15 & 5/27/15