

LEGISLATIVE DIGEST

[Administrative Code - Maya Angelou Statue at Main Library - City Policy Regarding Depiction of Women on City Property - Women’s Recognition Public Art Fund]

Ordinance directing the Arts Commission to erect a statue of Maya Angelou at the Main Library; setting a City policy that at least 30% of nonfictional figures depicted or commemorated in statues and other works of art on City-owned property, public building names, and street names, be women; amending the Administrative Code to create a fund to accept gifts to pay for the design, construction, repair, maintenance, and improvement of public art depicting historically significant women on City property; and affirming the Planning Department’s determination under the California Environmental Quality Act.

Existing Law

The Library may erect statues or other works of art on Library property. The Arts Commission is responsible for approving the design and location of all works of art before they are acquired, transferred or sold by the City, or are placed upon or removed from City property. The Arts Commission also is responsible for maintaining works of art owned by the City.

The City does not have a policy regarding the proportion of statues, works of public art, building names, or street names that should depict or recognize women.

Amendments to Current Law

The ordinance would require the Arts Commission to erect a statue of Maya Angelou at the Main Library by December 31, 2020. The ordinance would require the Arts Commission to determine the design of the statue, the specific location, and the artist, and to oversee the construction and placement of the statue. The Arts Commission would consult with the Library Commission and the City Librarian at all stages in the process, and the Library Commission would appoint a person to serve on the Arts Commission’s selection committee for the artist. The Arts Commission would be responsible for maintenance and upkeep of the statue.

The ordinance would also create a fund to accept gifts, donations, contributions, and budget appropriations to support the design, construction, repair, maintenance, and improvement of statues and other works of public art depicting historically significant women, including the statue of Maya Angelou. The Arts Commission could accept and expend any gifts or donations to the fund without further Board of Supervisors approval.

Finally, the ordinance would adopt a City policy that the City will endeavor to make women 30% of nonfictional people represented in statues, monuments, memorials, plaques, other works of public art, street names, and names of City-owned buildings or designated rooms or

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spaces in those buildings. Each year, the Department on the Status of Women would report to the Board of Supervisors and the Mayor regarding the proportion of women represented in these categories.

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