



CITY COUNCIL STAFF REPORT

DATE: June 5, 2013

NEW BUSINESS

SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF THE PUBLIC ARTS COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSED AESTHETIC DESIGN CONCEPT FOR THE RAMON ROAD BRIDGE WIDENING PROJECT BY ARTIST PHILIP K. SMITH AND THE AESTHETIC DESIGN CONCEPT FOR THE NEW VISTA CHINO DRIVE BRIDGE PROJECT BY ARTIST HEATH SATOW

FROM: David H. Ready, City Manager

BY: Public Works and Engineering Department, Public Art

SUMMARY

This action is to approve the recommendation by the Public Arts Commission to accept the aesthetic design concepts for the Ramon Road bridge widening project by artist Philip K. Smith and for the new Vista Chino Drive bridge project by artist Heath Satow.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Approve the recommendation to accept the aesthetic design concept for the Ramon Road bridge widening project by artist Philip K. Smith
2. Approve the recommendation to accept the aesthetic design concept for the new Vista Chino Drive bridge project by artist Heath Satow

STAFF ANALYSIS:

Both bridge projects are funded by Caltrans Highway Bridge Program (HBP) funds, where construction items are eligible for reimbursement if it meets Caltrans Local Assistance Guidelines. Construction costs for bridge aesthetic or architectural treatment shall be no more than 5% of construction costs. In addition, "unusual architectural treatments" must be approved by Caltrans in order for funds to be eligible for reimbursement as they typically are not eligible. The City is taking the necessary steps to bring its case of fund eligibility to Caltrans by seeking direction and approval from the Palm Springs Art Commission, the Cathedral City Arts Commission, the Cathedral City Council, and the Palm Springs City Council, whereby allowing the public opportunities to comment on the aesthetic design concept before seeking approval from Caltrans. A timeline of key events and approvals is as follows:

ITEM NO. 50

September 25, 2012:

The Palm Springs Public Art Commission subcommittee met at City Hall. The meeting discussed the preliminary aesthetic options. The goal was to set one preferred option with all necessary modifications. It was recommended that artists be brought on board to work with the project teams for both bridges in creating an aesthetic design. Once a selected option had been chosen it would be fine-tuned and presented to the full Palm Springs and Cathedral City Arts Commissions for approval.

October 18, 2012:

A joint meeting of the Palm Springs Public Arts Commission and Cathedral City Public Arts Commission was held at Palm Springs City Hall. Each commission offered comments and direction on how to proceed with the aesthetic design.

March 14, 2013:

The City of Palm Springs Public Arts Commission approved the designs presented from both artists and gave direction to proceed with the aesthetics for the Ramon Road and Vista Chino Drive bridge projects. The motion was unanimously approved— a simple and elegant aesthetic treatment that includes colored post modules spaced approximately 10 feet on center that rotate 6 degrees in relation to the previous post. The elements are 9 feet high and four sided, allowing two sides to be painted one color, while the remaining two sides are painted another. Given the post arc module's radius of 9 degrees and a rotation of 6 degrees (post to post), the effect is a colorful array that appears to move gently back and forth. These post arc modules continue across the entire bridge, embedded within the 42" high decorative bridge barrier which displays a simple design depicting 'movement'. Pedestrian lighting provides subtle illumination along the interior sidewalk. The Caltrans Type 80 barrier which separates traffic from the sidewalk will consist of a smooth finish with openings at the ground plane to further emphasize the rhythm created by the colorful post modules.

March 21, 2013:

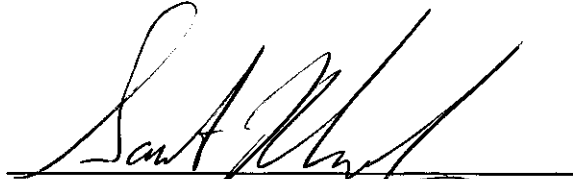
The designs were presented to Cathedral City Public Arts Commission and the bridge aesthetic design concepts were approved unanimously.

May 22, 2013:

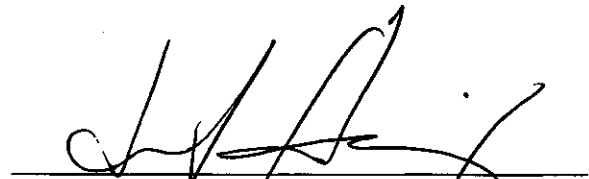
Cathedral City City Council voted to approve the aesthetic design concept for the Ramon Road and Vista Chino Drive bridge projects. Some concerns were expressed by a Councilmember regarding the design and safety aspects, which were addressed. A motion to approve the design concept was approved with 1 abstention.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The cost to include the aesthetic treatment, if approved by Caltrans, will be paid for with Caltrans Funding (88.53%), and local share (11.47%). Coachella Valley Associated Governments (CVAG) will pay for 75% of the local share, whereas the City of Palm Springs and Cathedral City will split the remaining 25% of the local share for the Ramon Road bridge. Palm Springs will pay most of the 25% local share for the Vista Chino bridge.



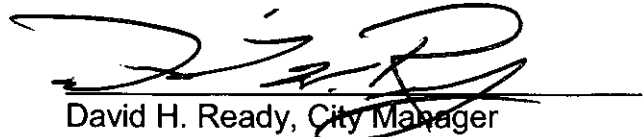
Savat Khamphou
Assistant City Engineer



Jennifer Henning
Arts and Special Projects Coordinator



David Barakian
Director of Public Works / City Engineer



David H. Ready, City Manager

Attachments: Concept Proposal

PUBLIC ART PROPOSAL

RAMON ROAD BRIDGE AND VISTA CHINO BRIDGE



proposals by:

Phillip K. Smith, III

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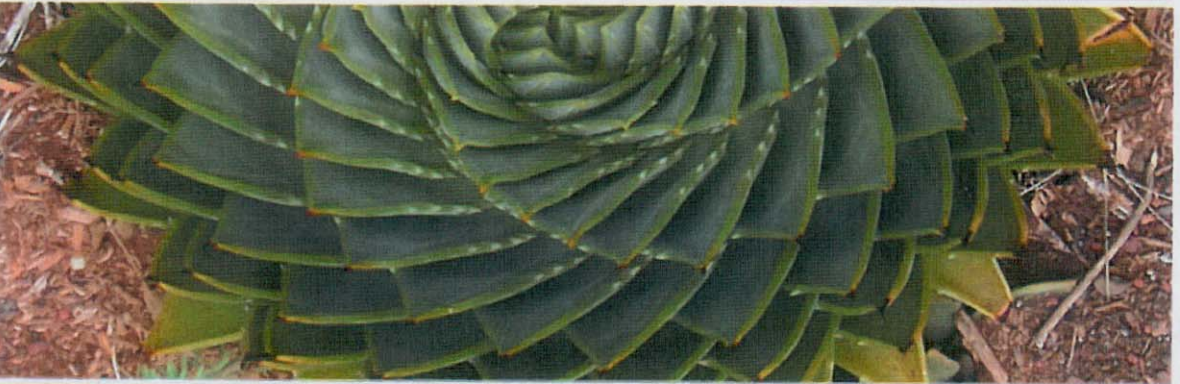
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Heath Satow

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INSPIRATION IMAGES



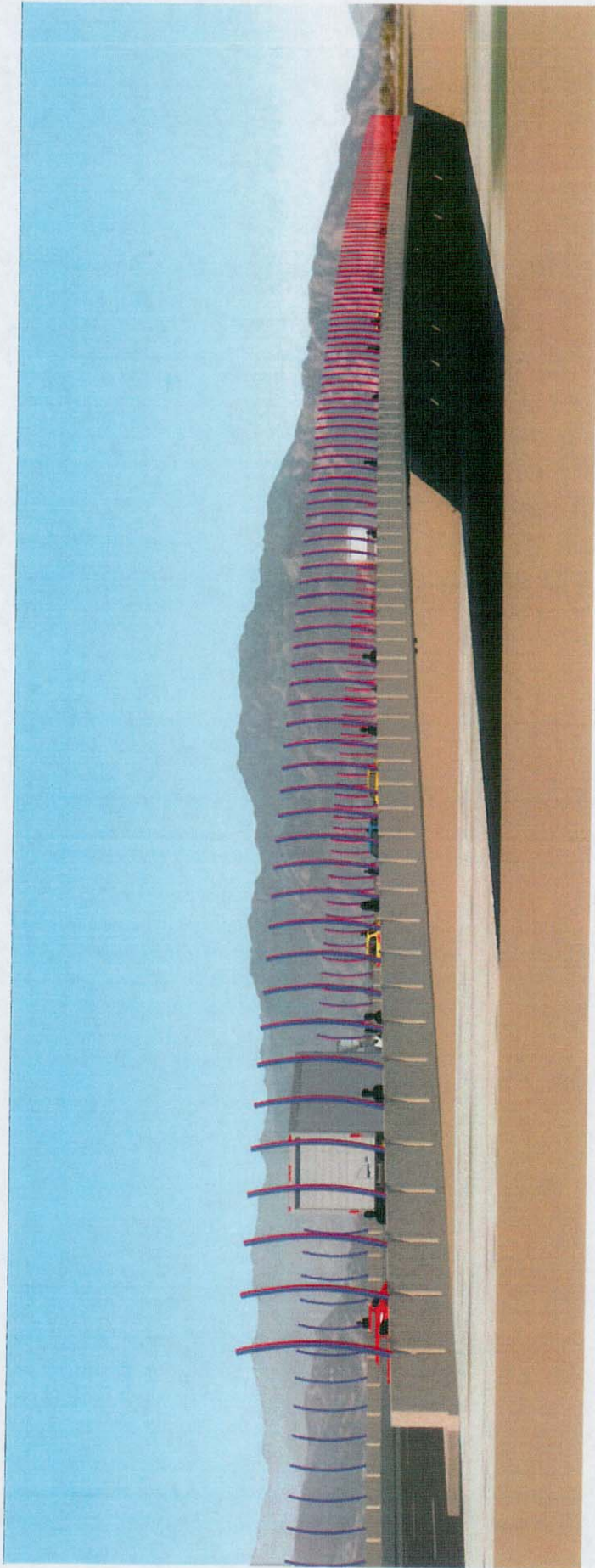


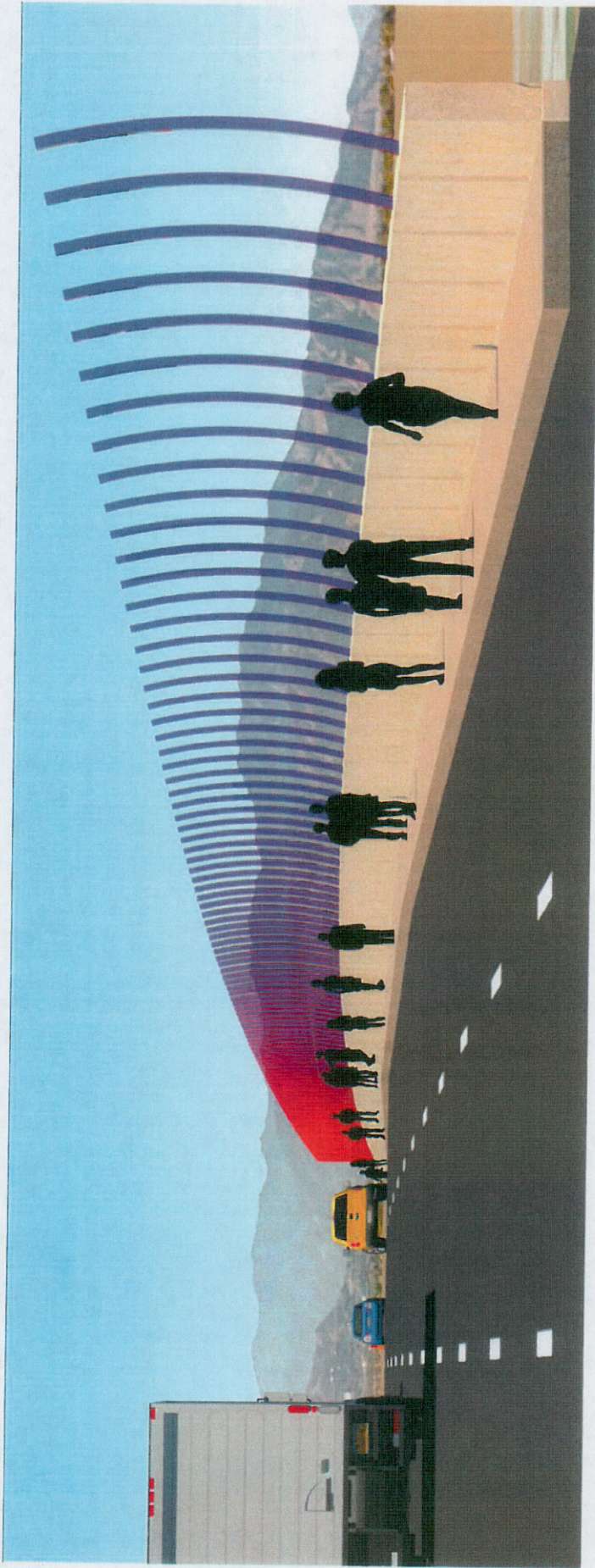
INITIAL CONCEPT

RAMON ROAD BRIDGE

PKSIII + TKD Associates Inc







INITIAL CONCEPT

VISTA CHINO BRIDGE

Heath Satow + David Evans and Associates, Inc.

