



**Meeting Date: March 25, 2026**

**TOWN OF MORAGA**

**STAFF REPORT**

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**To: Honorable Mayor and Councilmembers**

**From: Mackenzie Brady, Parks and Recreation Director**

**Subject: Acceptance of Donation and Placement of Sculpture by Artist Pierre Riche at the Moraga Commons**

**RECOMMENDATION**

Adopt a Resolution:

1. Accepting the donation of \$20,000 (\$10,000 from Sue Olsen and \$10,000 from the Moraga Park Foundation) for commission of a sculpture to be placed at the Moraga Commons Park; and
2. Accepting the placement of the commissioned sculpture , created by artist Pierre Riche, for placement at the Moraga Commons; and
3. Authorizing the Town Manager, or their designee, to execute applicable Agreements associated with the commission and placement in a form approved by the Town Attorney.

**BACKGROUND**

In November 2015, the Town Council established the Art in Public Spaces Committee (APSC) to promote and advance public art within the Moraga community. Concurrently, the Town Council adopted the Art in Public Spaces Policy and established the Art in Public Spaces Fund.

The Town currently has twelve (12) sculptures on loan from five artists, thirteen (13) sculptures that are part of the Town's permanent public art collection, one utility box wrap, and one mural, for a total of twenty-seven (27) pieces of art located throughout the community. The APSC continues to work toward expanding and enhancing public art opportunities in Moraga.

**DISCUSSION**

The Art in Public Spaces Committee has been working with community partners to identify

opportunities to expand the Town's public art collection through both donations and commissioned pieces.

A total of \$20,000 has been generously donated to the Town to fund the commission of a new sculpture to be installed at Moraga Commons. The donation includes \$10,000 from Sue Olsen and \$10,000 from the Moraga Park Foundation.

The APSC reviewed artist qualifications and concepts and is recommending a commissioned sculpture by artist Pierre Riche for placement at Moraga Commons. The proposed sculpture is a pear, reflecting Moraga's agricultural heritage and long-standing association with pear orchards. The piece is intended to celebrate the Town's cultural identity while enhancing the visual character of Moraga Commons as a central gathering space.

Moraga Commons was identified as an appropriate location due to its central location, high visibility, and role as a primary site for community events, including the annual Pear and Wine Festival. The sculpture will serve as both a visual landmark and a symbolic representation of the community's history and identity.

The Art in Public Spaces Committee is targeting an unveiling of the sculpture at the Town's July 4th celebration, aligning the installation with one of Moraga's most well-attended community events.

Upon approval, staff will work with the artist and relevant stakeholders to finalize design details, fabrication, and installation logistics. The Town will enter into appropriate agreements related to the commission and placement of the artwork, in a form approved by the Town Attorney.

Visual exhibits and conceptual materials for the proposed sculpture and location are included with this report.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

The total project cost of \$20,000 will be fully funded through donations (\$10,000 from Sue Olsen and \$10,000 from the Moraga Park Foundation) and appropriated to the Art in Public Spaces Fund.

Installation costs are anticipated to be minimal and may include staff time and materials, which can be accommodated within existing budget allocations for public art installation and maintenance.

Ongoing maintenance costs are expected to be minimal. The Town will be responsible for insuring the artwork following installation.

### **CEQA COMPLIANCE**

Acceptance of the donation, commissioning of the sculpture, and placement at Moraga Commons is not subject to review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21000 et seq. and CEQA Guidelines (14 Cal. Code Regs. §§ 15000 et seq.), including without limitation Section 15378, as this action does not constitute a "project" that may cause a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical

change in the environment.

### **ALTERNATIVES**

1. Do not adopt the proposed Resolution and decline the donation and sculpture placement; or
2. Request additional information and direct staff to return with further details or alternative options.

### **NEXT STEPS**

Upon adoption of the Resolution, staff will:

- Finalize agreements related to the commission and placement of the sculpture;
- Work with the artist on final design, fabrication, and installation; and
- Coordinate installation of the sculpture at Moraga Commons.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

[Attachment A - Draft Resolution](#)

[Attachment B - Project Locations 4](#)

[Attachment C - Sculpture Rendering 11 x 8.5 in](#)