



# CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH CITY ARTS COMMISSION STAFF REPORT

June 11, 2026  
Agenda Item No. 4

**TO:** CITY ARTS COMMISSION

**FROM:** Library Services Department  
Melissa Hartson, Library Services Director  
(949) 717-3801, [mhartson@newportbeachca.gov](mailto:mhartson@newportbeachca.gov)

**PREPARED BY:** Rebecca Lightfoot, Library Services Manager

**TITLE:** Placement of Sculpture *Chairman of the Board*

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## **RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff is recommending the City Arts Commission review and approve the Art in Public Places Ad Hoc Subcommittee's recommendation to keep *Chairman of the Board* in its current location at Civic Center Park.

## **DISCUSSION:**

*Chairman of the Board* by artist Steven Rieman was part of Phase IV of the Sculpture Exhibition. Artist Rieman donated the sculpture to the City, and the Art in Public Places Ad Hoc subcommittee at the time recommended the Arts Commission accept the piece. The Art in Public Places Ad Hoc Subcommittee proposed moving the work from Civic Center Park to Marina Park at the November 12, 2020, regular Arts Commission meeting, but that recommendation was rejected by the Arts Commission.

Staff returned at the May 13, 2021, Arts Commission meeting and recommended leaving *Chairman of the Board* in its current spot at Civic Center Park until another location could be determined. The Arts Commission voted to accept that recommendation and deferred choosing a spot until a later date.

Without a recommendation for placement, staff were unable to go to City Council to ask them to accept this piece into the art inventory.

Artist Rieman passed away in 2022. *Chairman of the Board* has remained at Civic Center Park. The current Art in Public Places Ad Hoc Subcommittee has recommended formally placing *Chairman of the Board* at Civic Center Park, leaving it in its current location. If the Arts Commission approves, staff will go to the Parks, Beaches, and Recreation Commission (PB&R) for their approval. Upon PB&R approval, staff will bring the Arts Commission's recommendation to City Council to approve accepting this piece into the City's art inventory.

Annual maintenance cost estimate is approximately \$1,200.

## **NOTICING:**

This agenda item has been noticed according to the Brown Act (72 hours in advance of the meeting at which the City Arts Commission considers the item).

**ATTACHMENT:**

Attachment A: Photo of *Chairman of the Board* in its current location at Civic Center Park.