



## Request for City Council Committee Action from the Department of CPED and the Minneapolis Arts Commission

Date: August 23, 2007

To: Council Member Gary Schiff, Chair, Zoning and Planning Committee;

Referral to: Council Member Paul Ostrow, Chair, Ways and Means Committee

**Subject:** Proposed Donation of Sculpture to the City of Minneapolis for the Second Precinct

**Recommendation:** Recommend the Minneapolis City Council Accept the Gift of the East Side Guardian by Neil Brodin from the Minneapolis Police Federation Charity's Eastside Guardian Project contingent upon securing sufficient funds for maintenance.

### Previous Directives:

Prepared by: Mary Altman, Public Arts Administrator

Approved by: Barb Sporlein, Planning Director \_\_\_\_\_

Presenters in Committee: Mary Altman, Public Arts Administrator

### Reviews

- Permanent Review Committee (PRC): Approval \_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_
- Policy Review Group (PRG): Approval \_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

### Financial Impact

- √ No financial impact
- Action requires an appropriation increase to the \_\_\_ Capital Budget or \_\_\_ Operating Budget
- Action provides increased revenue for appropriation increase
- Action requires use of contingency or reserves
- Action is within the Business Plan
- Action requires a change to the Business Plan
- Other financial impact
- Request provided to the Finance Department when provided to the Committee Coordinator

### Community Impact

- Neighborhood Notification
- City Goals: 5

- Comprehensive Plan: Chapter 6
- Zoning Code
- Other: State Statute 465.03, **Gifts to Municipalities**, requires two-thirds vote of the governing body.

### **Supporting Information**

The Minneapolis Police Federation Charity's Eastside Guardian Project proposes to donate to the City of Minneapolis the Eastside Guardian Statue for placement at the Second Precinct at 1911 Central Avenue N.E. Consistent with City policy on donations of public art gifts, their proposal includes funding for future maintenance. The Minneapolis Arts Commission reviewed this proposal at their August 15 meeting and recommends accepting the gift. The attachments detail this project more specifically.

### **Attachments:**

- East Side Guardian Proposal

July 25, 2007

## Memorandum

To: Minneapolis Arts Commission Public Art Advisory Panel

From: Mary Altman, Public Arts Administrator

Re: Gift Proposal of East Side Guardian from the Police Federation for the Second Police Precinct

CC: Paul Ostrow, Barbara Sporlein, Karen Berkholtz, Lorrie Stromme, Joe Bishop, Dennis Morris

This project was originally reviewed by the Panel and recommended to the Arts Commission as an encroachment permit in May 2004. The original approved action, by the Panel and the Arts Commission was:

*Recommend acceptance of the loan (permit) contingent upon no changes in scale or other changes in the statue as presented.*

Since this review, the volunteer community group coordinating the project has raised the funds and commissioned the work. They no longer want to own and maintain the statue and are bringing it forward again as a gift. City policy requires that gifts of art also provide for future maintenance, so they are proposing to also give the City \$11,000-\$14,000 for funding future maintenance. Permits do not need to be approved by the City Council, however gifts do, so the Commission's new recommendation will be forwarded to them for consideration. The attached materials provide information on this project, but I am also outlining some additional information below, in anticipation of some of your questions:

**Artist Information.** Information about the artist and Brodin Studios is available at [www.brodinstudios.com](http://www.brodinstudios.com). Attached is the page that contains information about the artist, Neil Brodin, who is a former Minneapolis Police Officer. His brother designed the statue of Hubert Humphrey outside of City Hall. The artwork is a one-of-a-kind edition. It is not yet complete. The timeline is to install it this fall.

**Maintenance:** The draft artist contract agrees that City will contract with the artist for necessary repairs, but I have spoken with the artist, and he is open to having a contracted conservator do repairs as well. \$11,000 has been raised to date to give to the City for maintenance. Another \$3,000 in funds is pending.

**Copyright:** I have a copy of the draft contract between the artist and the Federation. As per that draft, the Artist retains copyright, but City has permission for "two-dimensional reproductions for non-commercial purposes."

**Structural Issues and Installation:** The artist is providing me with structural drawings of the artwork, but it appears that the necessary stainless steel rod reinforcement is being used. Also, the artist is willing to work with us to install the artwork so that it is theft-proof. In the contract, the artist warrants the work for all "inherent flaws." LaMere Concrete and Construction will be installing the concrete slab (details attached). The artist will be installing the sculpture.

### Attachments:

Original Rendering  
Photos of sculpture at wax stage  
Site map  
Slab information and site plan  
Company Profile (Artist Information)











CENTRAL AVE NE

29 feet

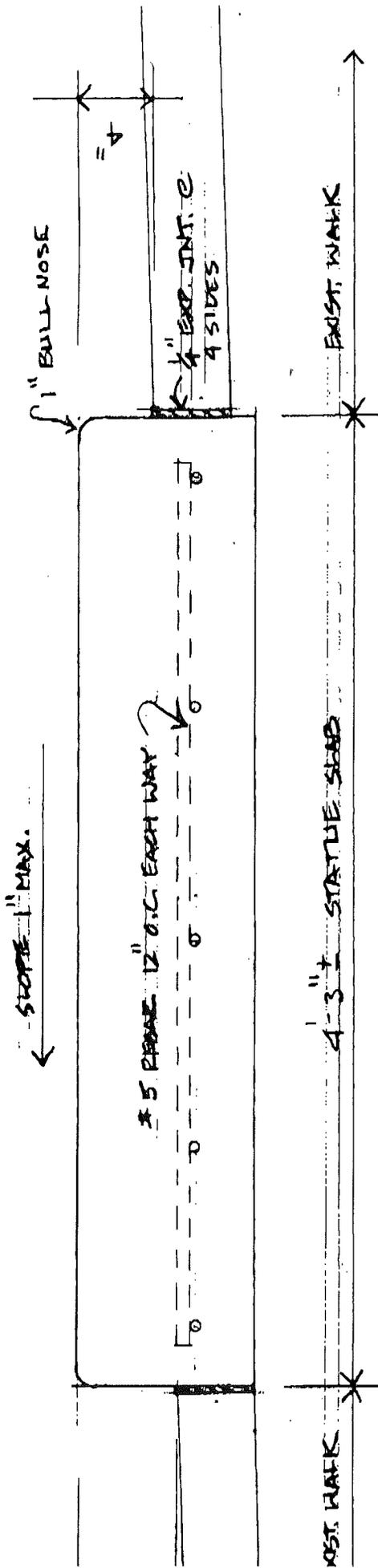
14 feet

945

Statue Location

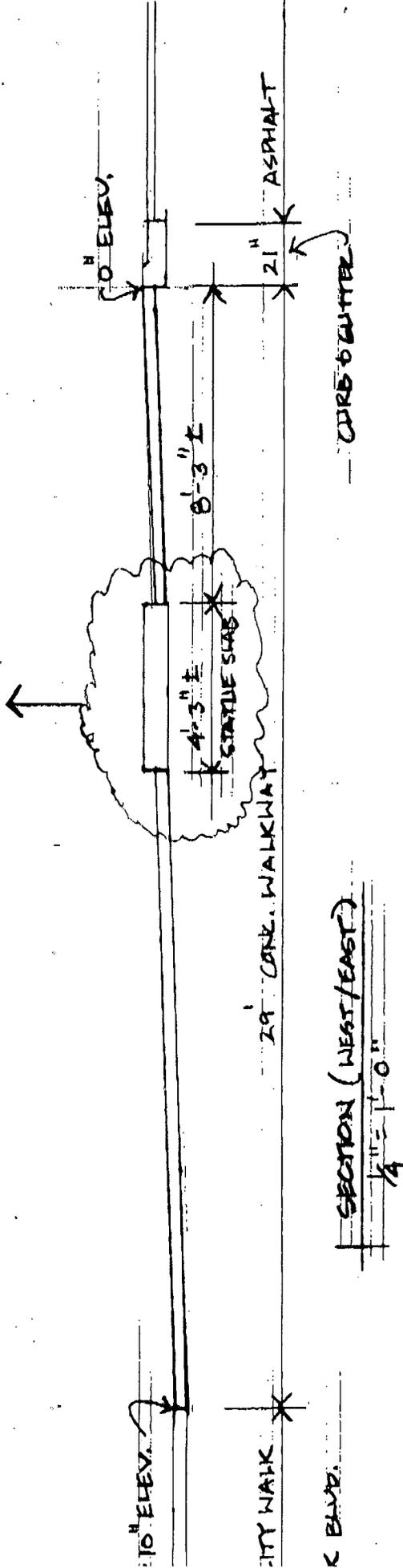
19TH AVE NE

28ft

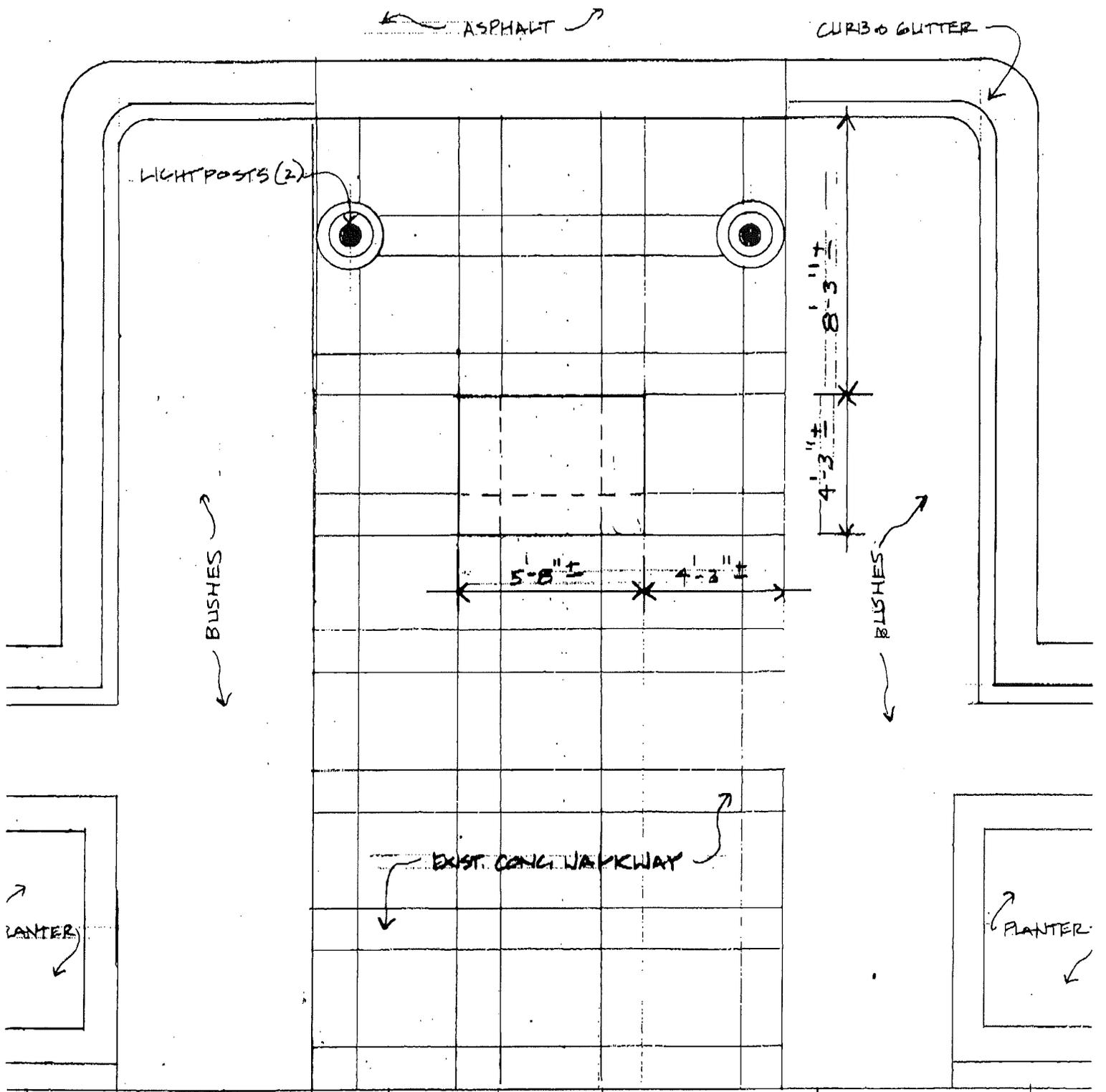


SECTION DETAIL

1/2" = 1'-0"



EASTSIDE GUARDIAN PROJECT  
2<sup>ND</sup> PRELINCT



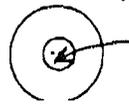
CHY. WALK

SITE PLAN  
 $\frac{1}{4}'' = 1'-0''$



GRATE

EXIST. BRICK



8" TREE

EASTSIDE GUARDIAN  
 2ND PRECINCT

Brodin Studios  
Inc.

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Company Profile

Home

Company Profile

Products Offered

Photo Gallery

Contact Info

Brodin Links

Calendar of Events

## Company Profile:

Back in 1978, Brodin Studios began as a little company in the second story of a warehouse on the outskirts of downtown Minneapolis.

Personal Service

In 1982, the first statue in what would later become known as "The Law Enforcement Recognition Program" was created--a miniature sculpture of a Minneapolis street cop. Hungry for a personal pat on the back (an "atta boy") for a job well done, if from no one else other than themselves, the Minneapolis cops bought them by the hundreds. Word spread, and the company has grown steadily over the years, carving out a unique niche, becoming known as the premier provider of art for the law enforcement and public safety communities.

By the way, when you call the Studios, you usually get Danny or Neil, unless they're at one of several law enforcement conventions or attending the dedication ceremonies for one of their memorials.

Quality Workmanship

Neil Brodin, the artist, put in 21 years as a patrolman with the Minneapolis Police Department. Danny Rodgers was a deputy sheriff with the Hennepin County Sheriff's Office. Even Nikki, the company mascot, was a retired K-9. Brodin Studios always uses real officers as the models for its work.

### Attention To Detail



We use the ancient "Lost Wax" process of hot bronze casting. More than 5,000 years old, this method involves 22 separate steps, and ensures a level of detail and quality that is unsurpassed. **And it allows us to "customize" each sculpture for any department and every individual - with your uniform, your badges, your patches, and the equipment you wear.** The style we specialize in is realistic representational; we've found that people who deal in real, hard facts everyday -- like cops and fire fighters, prefer it to abstract, modern art. When you pick up a Brodin bronze, it feels **heavy** in your hand -- you know that you hold a thing of value, beauty and meaning.

### Experience/Reliability

Brodin Studios, Inc. began as a little company on the second story of a warehouse on the outskirts of downtown Minneapolis. Founded by two brothers, Rodger, the artist, and Neil, a Minneapolis police officer, it has grown steadily over the years, carving out a unique niche in the competitive art world. Dedicated to creating sculpture of exceptional quality and detail at conspicuously affordable prices, Brodin Studios has become known as the premier provider of art for the law enforcement and military communities.

Early in his career, Rodger had turned his considerable talents in a variety of directions...but it was his particular interest in human form, and his fascination with the common man, the ordinary individual caught in extraordinary circumstances, that led the company to its current specialties. Sadly, in 1995, Rodger Brodin passed away, leaving a legacy of artwork and a series of molds that continue in use today.

For 15 years, Neil Brodin had worked along side Rodger in the Studios, helping to create the many monuments, momorials and other works of art the Studios developed. Possessing his own considerable artist talents, Neil perfected his techniques over the years, and handles all the artistic duties in the law enforcement and fire fighter area, creating new designs each year.

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**Brodin Studios, Inc.**

130 North Sibley Avenue

Litchfield, MN 55355

Phone: 1-320-593-1495

1-800-274-5194

Fax: 1-320-593-1498

E-Mail: [info@brodinstudios.com](mailto:info@brodinstudios.com)

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