

PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURE MEMORANDUM
#22-2023

DATE: Aug. 14, 2023

TO: Honorable Mayor Meredith Leighty and City Council Members

THROUGH: Heather Geyer, City Manager *hmg*
Jason Loveland, Interim Deputy City Manager *ALZ*

FROM: Amanda J. Peterson, Director of Parks, Recreation & Culture *ajp*
Michael Stricker, Recreation Manager for Arts, Culture & Community

SUBJECT: CR-108 – Placement of Sculpture *American Steel Eagle*

PURPOSE

To consider CR-108, a resolution accepting the donation of the 2022/23 People’s Choice winning sculpture *American Steel Eagle* and approving installation of the piece at the entrance of the Water Treatment Facility.

BACKGROUND

Historically, the Northglenn Arts & Humanities Foundation (NAHF) has committed to purchasing the People’s Choice winner and gifting the sculpture to the City of Northglenn as an addition to its growing public art collection. The NAHF has secured funding and is pleased to purchase the winning sculpture for 2022/23 and gift it to the City. A map depicting the proposed sculpture location, as well as all the permanent sculpture locations within Northglenn, is included as Attachment 1.

Through the Art on Parade program, up to six sculptures are temporarily placed at E.B. Rains, Jr. Memorial Park. The six sculptures are chosen by a diverse volunteer committee that includes residents, park visitors, students, seniors, and board and commission members. Visitors to the park can then vote online or with paper ballots for their favorite, and the sculpture with the most votes is designated as the People’s Choice winner for that year.

American Steel Eagle, by Colorado artist Vanny Channal, is made of recycled steel, making it extremely durable. The NAHF recommends installation of *American Steel Eagle* at the southwest corner of the Water Treatment Facility entrance, south of West 112th Avenue and Ranch Drive. This site is conducive to sculpture placement because of high vehicle traffic, its patriotic theme is complementary for a City facility, and it uniquely represents the skilled-tradesperson connection between Public Works and the artist. Vanny is Cambodian-American; his parents came here as refugees in 1983, having survived the Killing Fields of Cambodia. Vanny had been working in a metal fabrication shop in Denver for years, in 2013 took up scrap metal sculpting, and now runs Steel N Pacific. He met several Public Works employees after winning the People’s Choice and found that they, too, have a deep affinity for metalcraft. A photograph of the sculpture and a map of the proposed location is included as Attachment 2.

A letter from the NAHF Board of Trustees stating support for the placement of *American Steel Eagle* as proposed is included as Attachment 3.

BUDGET/TIME IMPLICATIONS

American Steel Eagle is intended to be installed this fall. There is no direct budgetary impact to the City associated with the installation of this sculpture. All installation expenses, including any stone or concrete and plaque, would be paid for by the NAHF. Consistent with past practice, the

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City's Facilities Maintenance Division, in collaboration with Cultural Programs staff, would source the necessary materials and complete the installation.

The sculptures would be added to the annual NAHF-funded maintenance program.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends approval of CR-108.

STAFF REFERENCE

If Council Members have any questions, please contact Amanda Peterson, Director of Parks, Recreation & Culture, at apeterson@northglenn.org or 303.450.8950.

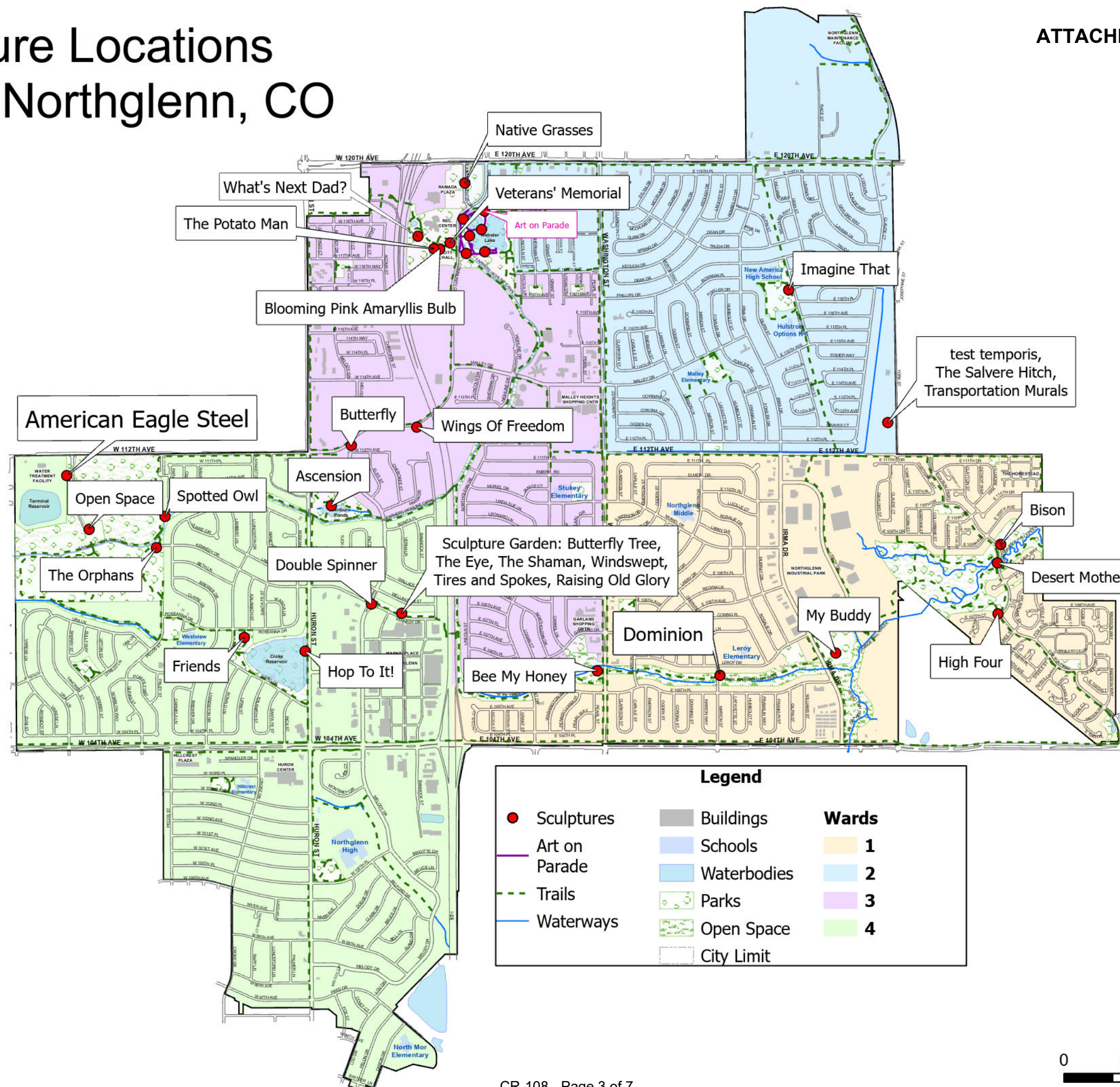
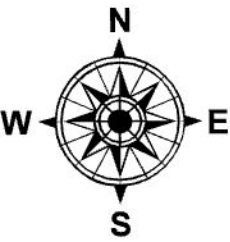
ATTACHMENTS

1. Existing Sculpture Locations Map
2. *American Steel Eagle* Proposed Location and Photograph
3. Letter from the NAHF Board of Trustees

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Sculpture Locations City of Northglenn, CO



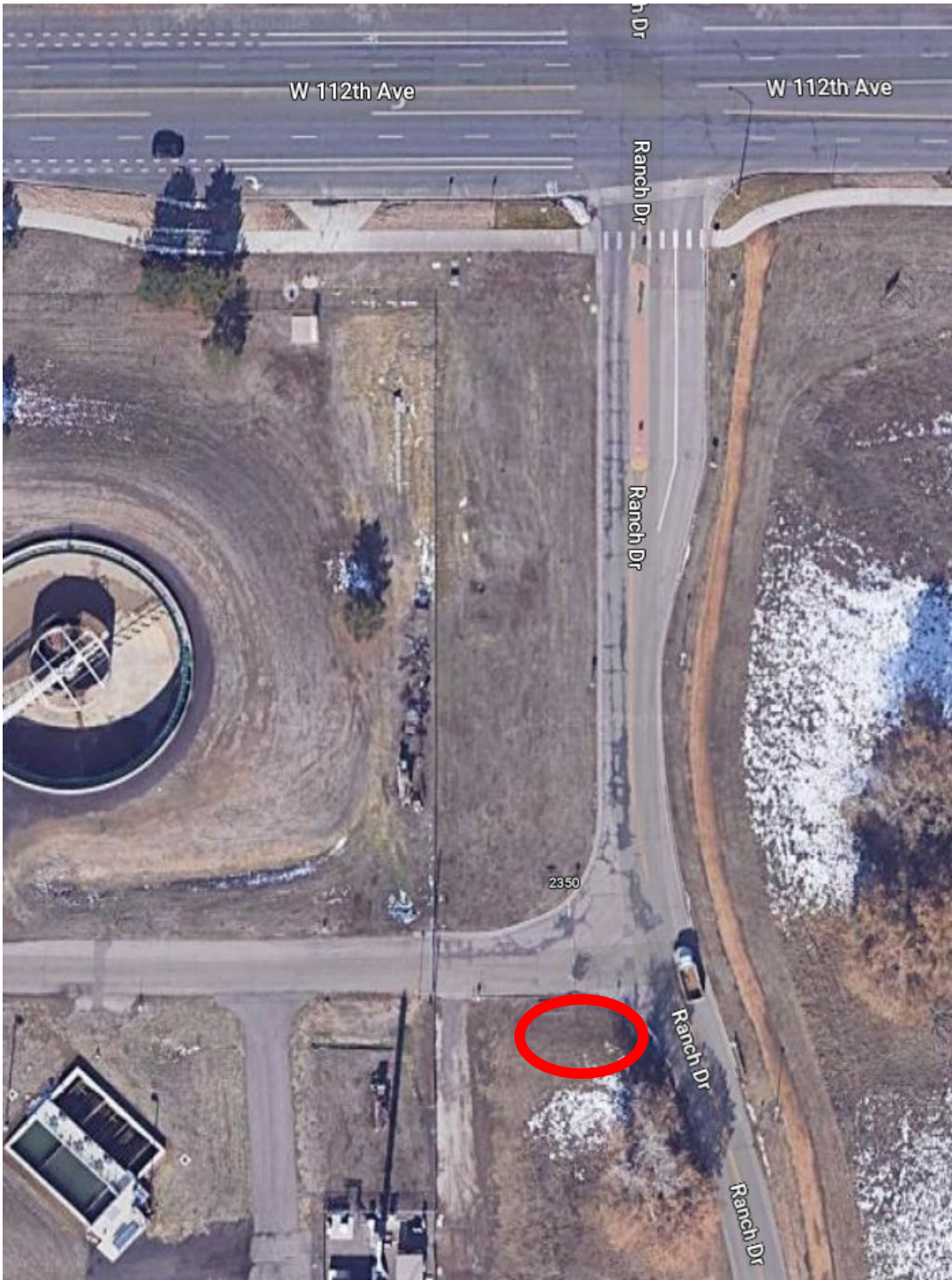
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Northglenn Arts
Parsons Theatre
1 E. Memorial Parkway
Northglenn, CO 80233
P: 303.450.8888
Northglennarts.org

Proposed Location for *American Steel Eagle*



American Steel Eagle by Vanny Channal



1 E. Memorial Parkway, Northglenn, CO 80233-8061 | NorthglennArts.org | Phone 303.450.8727 | Fax 303.450.8723

To: Amanda Peterson
From: Michael Stricker
Date: July 17, 2023
Re: Placement of *American Steel Eagle* by Vanny Channal

Dear Amanda:

On behalf of the Northglenn Arts & Humanities Foundation (NAHF), I would like to request that the following location be presented to City Council for the permanent installation of the sculpture, *American Steel Eagle* by Vanny Channal. We anticipate the installation to be during the fall of 2023.

The NAHF is requesting placement of *American Steel Eagle* at the southwest corner of the entrance into the Water Treatment Facility. While the sculpture is being stored by Maintenance & Operations, Public Works staff have grown to have an affinity for the piece, not only in subject matter but for the materials and craft it took to make. The artist, Vanny Channal also had the opportunity to meet some Public Works employees after winning the People's Choice. Vanny has a long history of working in metal shops and he and staff found that their commonality in the trades created a further connection to the work. Vanny stated "I am so moved by their love and respect for my work." The NAHF believes this location is conducive for sculpture placement because of its connection to Public Works but also the high vehicle traffic exposure going into Northwest Open Space, as well as its representation of patriotism in front of a city building.

Site preparation: The sculptures will be installed directly to a large stone and placed near the Water Treatment Facility sign. The sculpture will be incorporated into any future redesign of the sign. The large stone will be sourced from the Water Treatment Facility supply or purchase by the NAHF from other sources.

The NAHF has committed to adding the sculptures to the regular maintenance schedule. Please let me know your thoughts or if you have any questions.

All the best,



Michael Stricker
Arts, Culture, & Community Manager – City of Northglenn
Director – Northglenn Arts & Humanities Foundation

NAHF Board of Directors

Rosie Garner, President; Jill Parsons, Vice-President; Laura Baukol, Secretary; Kit Steffen, Treasurer
Michael Stricker, Director; Jay Jaramillo, City Council Liaison
Jami Bhatti, Donna Cole, Joyce Downing, Steven George, Jennifer Nevins,
Lucille Rivera, Kirsten Tagestad, Andrew Vartabedian, Members

SPONSORED BY: MAYOR LEIGHTY

COUNCIL MEMBER'S RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION NO.

No. CR-108
Series of 2023

Series of 2023

A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE SCULPTURE KNOWN AS *AMERICAN STEEL EAGLE* AND APPROVING THE PLACEMENT OF THE SCULPTURE

WHEREAS, the Northglenn Arts and Humanities Foundation (NAHF) has committed to purchasing the People’s Choice winner as part of the Art on Parade program and gifting the sculpture to the City of Northglenn;

WHEREAS, the sculpture *American Steel Eagle* by artist Vanny Channal was chosen as the 2022/2023 People’s Choice winner by the public; and

WHEREAS, the NAHF has recommended that *American Steel Eagle* be installed at the southwest corner of the Water Treatment Facility entrance, south of West 112th Avenue and Ranch Drive.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTHGLENN, COLORADO, THAT:

Section 1. The City Council of the City of Northglenn, Colorado hereby accepts the donation of the sculpture known as *American Steel Eagle* from the Northglenn Arts and Humanities Foundation.

Section 2. The City Council of the City of Northglenn, Colorado hereby approves the placement of the sculpture *American Steel Eagle* at the southwest corner of the Water Treatment Facility entrance, south of West 112th Avenue and Ranch Drive.

DATED at Northglenn, Colorado, this ____ day of _____, 2023.

MEREDITH LEIGHTY
Mayor

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

JOHANNA SMALL, CMC
City Clerk

COREY Y. HOFFMANN
City Attorney