



**City of Rowlett**  
**Joint Work Session Agenda**  
**City Council**  
**Arts and Humanities Commission**

4000 Main Street  
Rowlett, TX 75088  
www.rowlett.com

*City of Rowlett City Council meetings are available to all persons regardless of disability. If you require special assistance, please contact the City Secretary at 972-412-6115 or write 4000 Main Street, Rowlett, Texas, 75088, at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting.*

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Tuesday, July 12, 2016

6:30 P.M.

Annex Conference Room –  
4004 Main Street

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As authorized by Section 551.071 of the Texas Government Code, this meeting may be convened into closed Executive Session for the purpose of seeking confidential legal advice from the City Attorney on any agenda item herein.

The City of Rowlett reserves the right to reconvene, recess or realign the Regular Session or called Executive Session or order of business at any time prior to adjournment.

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
2. **WORK SESSION**
- 2A. Arts and Humanities Commission presentation of proposed Tornado memorial sculptures. (90 minutes)
- 3A. **ADJOURNMENT**

*Stacey Chadwick*

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Stacey Chadwick, Deputy City Secretary

I certify that the above notice of meeting was posted on the bulletin boards located inside and outside the doors of the Municipal Center, 4000 Main Street, Rowlett, Texas, as well as on the City's website (www.rowlett.com) on the 8<sup>TH</sup> day of July 2016, by 5:00 p.m.



City of Rowlett  
Staff Report

4000 Main Street  
P.O. Box 99  
Rowlett, TX 75080-0099  
www.rowlett.com

**AGENDA DATE:** 07/12/16

**AGENDA ITEM:** 2A

**TITLE**

Arts and Humanities Commission presentation of proposed Tornado memorial sculptures. (90 minutes)

**STAFF REPRESENTATIVE**

Brian Funderburk, City Manager  
Kathy Freiheit, Director of Library Services

**SUMMARY**

As part of the FY2016 budget, Council appropriated \$40,000 for a public arts program. On January 19, 2016, Arts and Humanities Commission members met with Council to discuss and refine the vision for such a program.

Commission members have spent significant time and effort in deliberating possibilities for an inaugural public art offering. The purpose of this item is to present information on two sculpture proposals and their recommended locations.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

Drawing on Council's input from the January 19<sup>th</sup> meeting, Commission members explored and vetted sculpture possibilities which would be visible, identifiable with Rowlett, meaningful to community residents, and thematic. Recognizing the indelible impact of the December 26<sup>th</sup> tornado event and the community's outstanding response, interests focused on public artwork which might serve as a healing element for the citizens of Rowlett.

Public Art Committee members discussed a local artisan's concept for a tornado memorial created from debris and also made inquiries into commissioned designs. In March, with project funding certain, discussion expanded to include location options and project timelines. Commission members also engaged City staff about city-owned properties of sufficient size and character for different types of sculptures. At the May 10, 2016, meeting, the Commission unanimously recommended the following projects:

1. Rowlett sign (budget not to exceed \$14,000)
2. "Phoenix" sculpture (initial materials estimate of \$4,000)
3. Commissioned tornado spiral piece by Nic Noblique for Downtown (budget of \$17,000, plus installation costs)

A map of City-owned properties within the tornado-affected area, as well as suggested evaluation criteria were provided by Assistant City Manager, Jim Proce. Members of the Public Art

Committee also enlisted the assistance of City parks, planning, engineering, and public works staff in subsequent discussions over locations, engineering design, cost estimates, and installation logistics.

## **DISCUSSION**

### Locations

A number of areas within the community have been considered for the siting of public art. The uses made of those locations are especially important to selection and artwork design.

Park locations, particularly those in areas impacted by the tornado, were favored for their potential to offer visitors a place for meditation, reflection, and repose. The visibility of the Downtown area was also highly regarded for its immense civic benefit, in that all who frequent this expanding segment of the Rowlett community may be able to identify with and be inspired by the presence of public artwork.

In evaluating locations, Public Art Committee members utilized a matrix comprised of criteria relating to:

- property ownership, size and suitability,
- access and availability of parking,
- proximity to the tornado event,
- conflicts with surroundings or existing/proposed uses,
- the availability of utilities or cost to acquire them,
- potential for legal, environmental or neighborhood impediments, and
- site “shovel-readiness”

### Park Settings

While consideration was given to Paddle Point Park and the Martha Lane water tower area, the size and potential for future development afforded by larger City-owned properties narrowed the focus to: (1) Lakeside Park, (2) Schrade Bluebonnet Park, and (3) Shorewood Park.

Using the criteria noted above, ranked averages for these locations (highest to lowest) were as follows:

Bluebonnet Park	50.66
Shorewood Park	47.66
Lakeside Park	44.66

Highest-ranked Schrade Bluebonnet Park is centrally located within the path of the December 26<sup>th</sup> tornado. Its 4.49 undeveloped acres are bordered by a City streets and paved alley. The site could support construction of a public parking area off Sunnybrook Drive. Bluebonnet is especially valued for its immense potential for future development, perhaps even as a dedicated tornado memorial park. City staff estimate that installation costs for a 20' x 120' parking area (10 spaces) and sidewalk (1,050 lineal feet) would be approximately \$35,000 to \$40,000.

## Downtown

With respect to Downtown locations, while the City Hall front lawn was identified as a possible site, the impact of future development might require sculpture relocation, making it less desirable. The Public Art Committee gave consideration to two other locations: (1) the center park area on Main Street, across from City Hall, and (2) a pocket park area on Martin Drive at Melcer, across from the DART plaza windscreen art garden.

Ranked averages for these locations (highest to lowest) are as follows:

Downtown – Main Street	50.33
Downtown – Martin Drive	43.00

## Sculptures

- Local artisan Troy Connatser created a design and proposal for construction of a “Phoenix” memorial structure (Exhibit A). Original plans called for the use of tornado debris in the creation of such an artwork. Cost is now estimated at \$31,182, including materials and installation (Attachment One).

Mr. Connatser, a Rowlett resident and business owner, has lived in Rowlett with his wife and four children for over three years. A graduate of North Mesquite High School, Troy was active in the arts, designing the NMHS logo at the front entrance and assisting in the design and painting of the Stallions Mural in the courtyard. He has participated in ArtCon Dallas and has done several private commissions. Troy’s welding skills and general construction practices cross over to the Phoenix project. His interest in the project stems from his strong sense of community.

Web site info: [www.eccoservices.net](http://www.eccoservices.net) Facebook: **ECCO Services**

- Abilene artist Nic Noblique provided a proposal and quote for a custom commissioned tornado spiral piece (Exhibit B). After a 50% discount donated by the artist, cost for the piece is \$13,500. Additional City expense in providing a 5’ x 5’ / 8” deep pad (\$200, installed) and use of a forklift increases the cost to \$13,700.

Mr. Noblique is a Texas-based sculptor whose preferred medium is steel. A self-taught artist, he has participated in many sculpture competitions, solo, and group exhibitions with galleries and art centers nationally. Nic also works with numerous charities and arts initiatives to improve communities and lives through art. He has taught graduate level 3D art at Hardin Simmons University and continues to foster young talent through apprenticeships at McMurry University.

Nic has commissioned hundreds of works both privately and publicly, and has been honored with sculpture awards, including the international Navy Pier Walk Competition (2003) and First Place recognition for “Even Your Emotions Have an Echo,” in cooperation with the Henderson

Art Project (2012). After losing his studio to Hurricane Ike, he was awarded a Joan Mitchell Foundation disaster relief grant in 2008.

Noblique Studio artworks are currently on display at the Southwest Gallery, 4500 Sigma Road, Dallas: [www.southwestgallery.com](http://www.southwestgallery.com). Additional pieces and Mr. Noblique’s credentials can be found on his website: [www.nobliquestudios.com](http://www.nobliquestudios.com)

Recommendations

The Arts and Humanities Commission has two recommendations.

1. Creating a park area dedicated as a memorial to the December 26<sup>th</sup> tornado event is truly “dreaming big.” It is the Commission’s recommendation that a “Phoenix” concept be installed and incorporated into the design and development of the Schrade Bluebonnet Park for this purpose. This was originally approved by the Commission at \$4,000; however, the proposal from Mr. Connatser brings the total to \$31,182. This does not include the park improvements necessary to provide access which would add another \$35,000 to \$40,000.
  
2. The Commission also recommends that the proposed Noblique commissioned piece be placed in the Downtown area. This artwork stands not only as a memorial to the tornado event, but also initiates the beginnings of an ongoing public art program. The preferred Main Street location brings high visibility, community recognition, and serves to spark future art project growth. The estimated cost of this item is \$13,700.

Public Art Program Policy

Also approved at the May 10, 2016, Commission meeting was a draft Public Art Policy document, recommending program structure and processes. After review by City staff and final approval by the Arts and Humanities Commission, it will be brought forward for Council consideration at a future date.

**FINANCIAL/BUDGET IMPLICATIONS**

<b>Budget Account Number and/or Project Code</b>	<b>Account or Project Title</b>	<b>Budget Amount</b>	<b>Proposed Amount</b>
1015525 6699	Miscellaneous Expense	\$40,000	
	“Phoenix” sculpture		\$31,182
	Commissioned sculpture		13,700
	Bluebonnet Park development		40,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$40,000</b>	<b>\$84,882</b>

Support for the Public Art Program commenced in FY2016, with Year One funding in the amount of \$40,000. With Council approval of both recommended art pieces, the cost would be \$44,882. Inclusion of access improvements at Schrade Bluebonnet Park increases the total to \$84,882.

Options for funding all of the above include accessing a portion of the FY2017 funding which is programmed at \$50,000. In addition, the City could opt to cover the infrastructure costs for Schrade Bluebonnet Park improvements out of Parks Maintenance funding.

### **RECOMMENDED ACTION**

This item is presented for purposes of discussion. The Arts & Humanities Commission seeks Council feedback and direction on the following questions:

1. Is there Council consensus for the location/s of the proposed sculptures?
2. Is there Council consensus for acquisition of the proposed sculpture/s?
3. Is there Council consensus in moving forward with the initial installation for access (i.e. parking and sidewalk) infrastructure at Schrade Bluebonnet Park?

### **ATTACHMENTS**

Exhibit A – Phoenix Conceptual Design

Exhibit B - Commissioned Artwork Conceptual Design

Attachment One – Troy Connatser Quote

Attachment Two – Nic Noblique Quote

ROWLETT

TORNADO

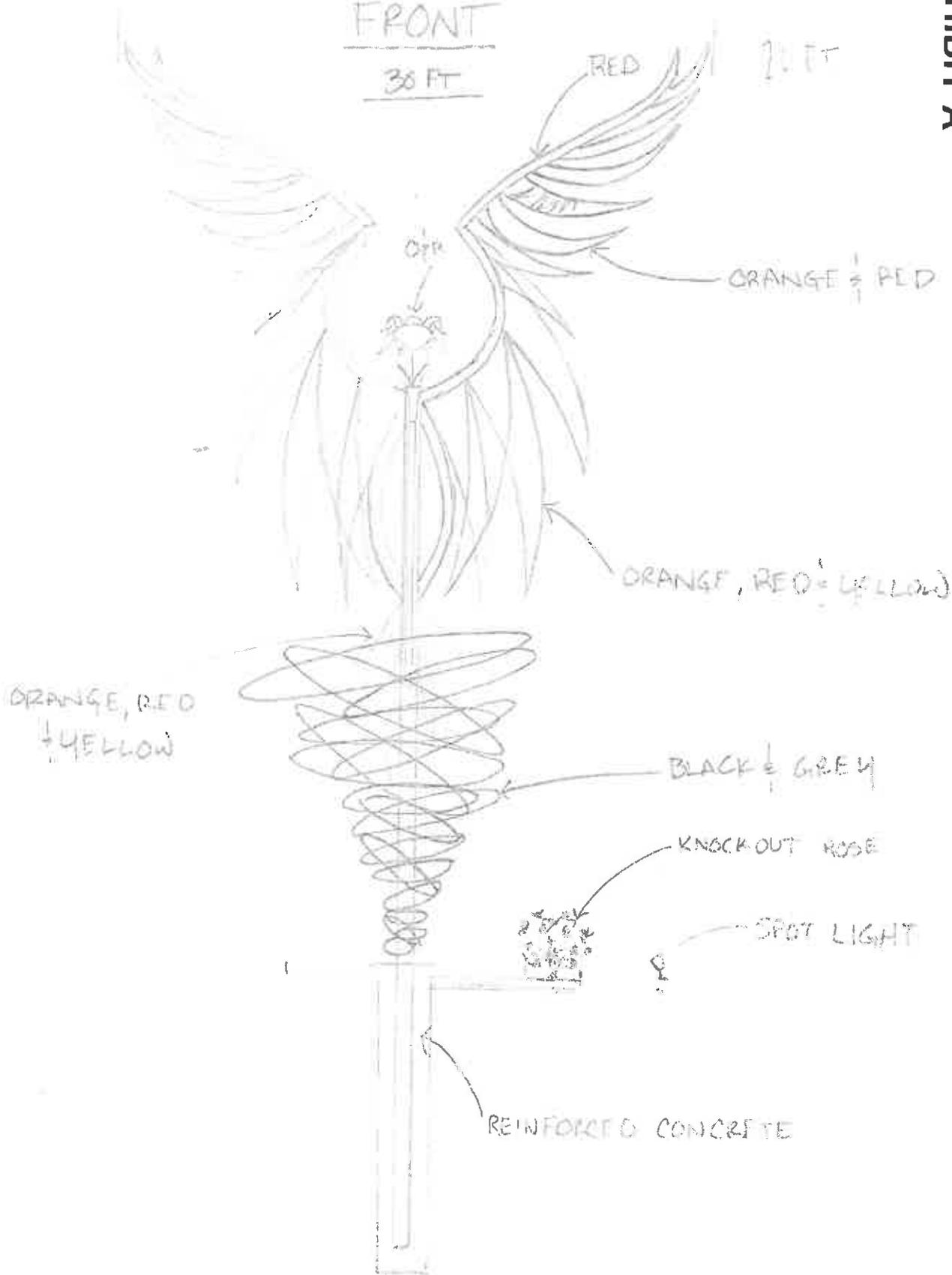
MEMORIAL

EXHIBIT A

FRONT

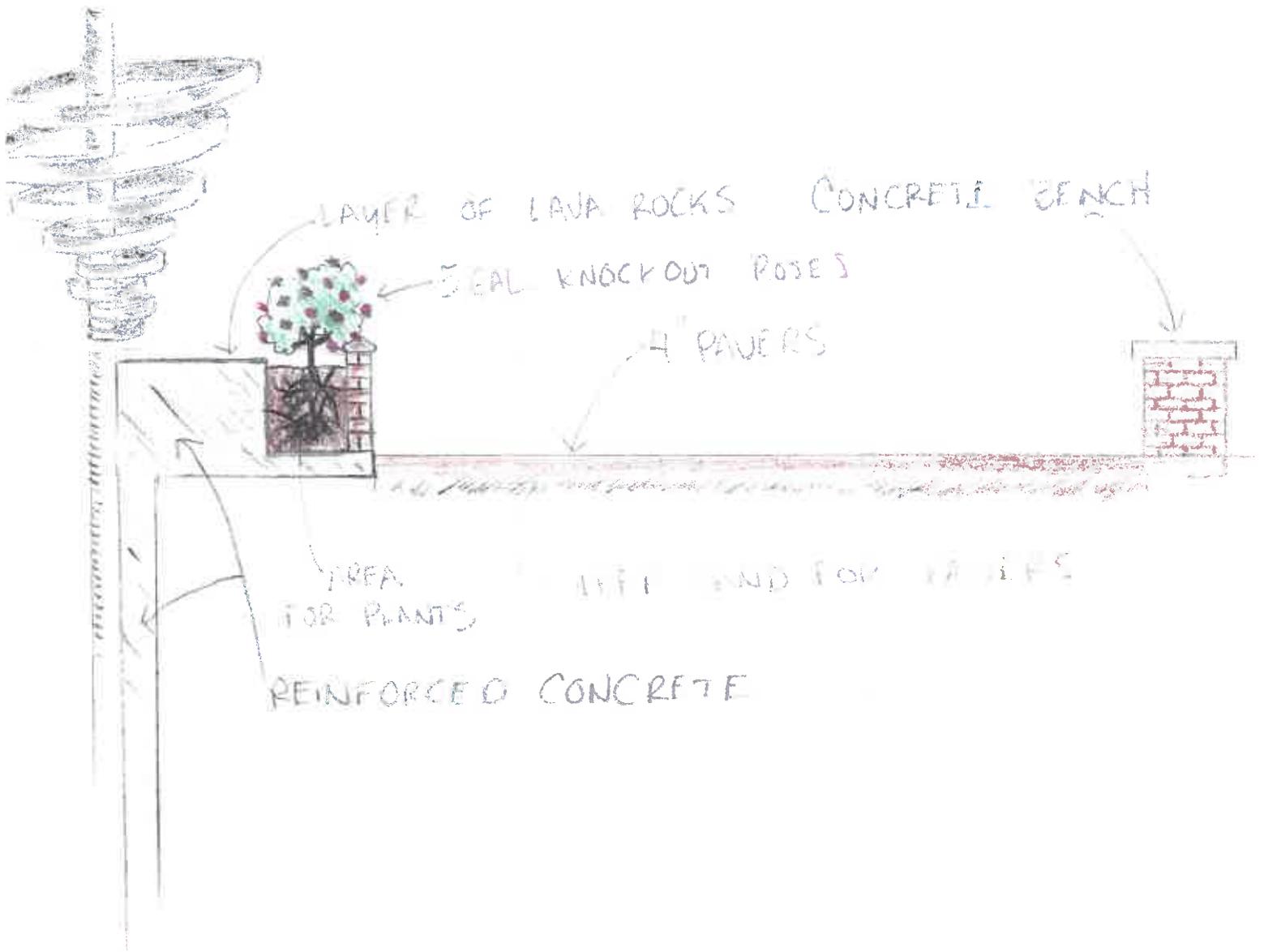
30 FT

SCALE  
1" = 5'

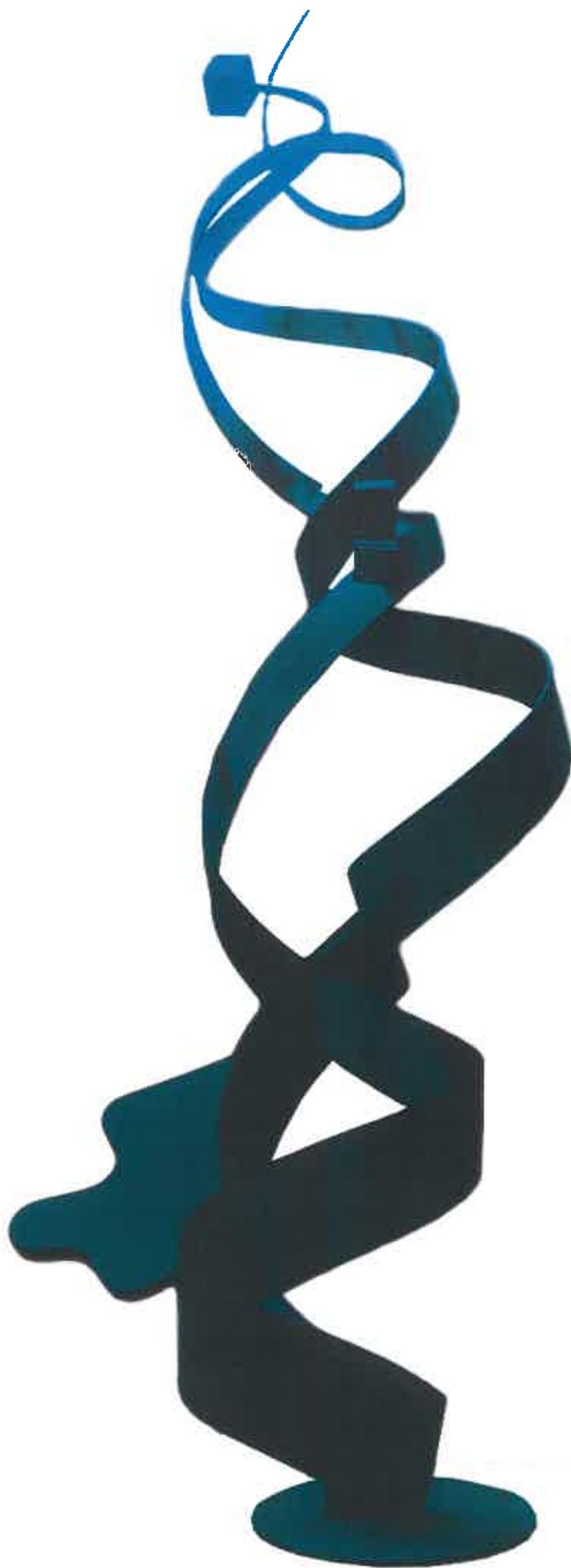


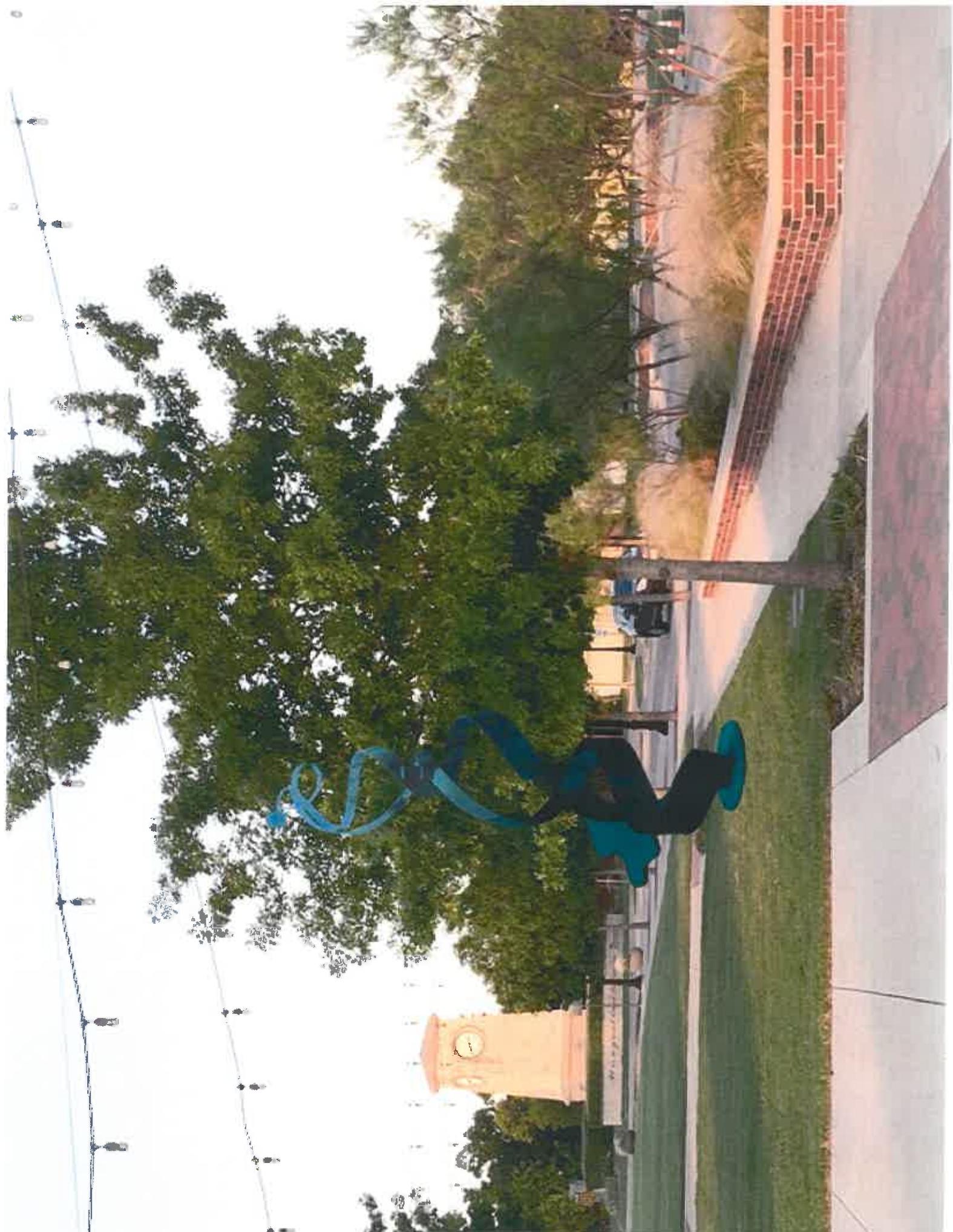
BASE DETAIL  
SIDE VIEW

SCALE  
1" = 2'









# ATTACHMENT ONE

## Pricing for materials and install only for Phoenix statue

Steel .....	2571.00
Concrete footing.....	1260.00
welding wire need 3 rolls at 200 a roll.....	600.00
Flanges for mounting wings need 4 at 200 each...	800.00
Powder coating.....	1200.00
Lighting .....	600.00
Weather station wireless.....	500.00
5 gallon Knock out roses 14 at 45 each.....	560.00
18inch brick planter around statue.....	2100.00
Wiring cable run for lighting in future .....	600.00
Crane and rigging crew for install .....	2500.00
Boom lift for install priced at per week .....	1500.00
Security fencing during fabrication and install.....	800.00

### Totals:

Materials.....	\$15,591.00
Tax.....	\$1286.25
Labor.....	\$15,591.00

8-12 Benches around the perimeter "conceptual idea" anything from simple wooden benches 150 each to brick and stone benches at 750 each.



**NOBLIQUE STUDIOS**  
 12686 COUNTY ROAD 205  
 CLYDE, TEXAS 79510

**July 7, 2016**  
**PROPOSAL NO. ROW001**

(325) 829-5429  
[info@nobliquestudios.com](mailto:info@nobliquestudios.com)  
[www.nobliquestudios.com](http://www.nobliquestudios.com)

**To: CITY OF ROWLETT**  
**Sculpture Proposal / Quote**  
 C/O Kathy Freiheit  
 Director of Library Services  
 Rowlett Public Library  
 5702 Rowlett Road  
 Rowlett, Texas 75089  
 972.412-6160 (Office)  
 972.333-3488 (Cell)

**Ship to (if different address):**  
**[Customer Name]**  
 [Customer Address Line 1]  
 [Customer Address Line 2]  
 [Customer City, State ZIP Code]

Line Item	Description	Suggested Retail	Rate	Amount
Proposal / Quote: Sculpture Commission AND Installation (City Provides Concrete Pad)	Custom Commissioned Sculpture: Powder Coated Steel (Black fade to blue) Requires concrete base Weight: Less than 1 ton Height: 15 Feet  **2 to 3 Month Lead time to completion and installation**  Nic would donate 50% of the value of the sculpture to the city and installation is provided by the artist as well.	\$27,000 (Less 50% Artist Contribution)		13,500.00
<b>TOTAL THIS QUOTE</b>				13,500.00
<b>Tax @ 8.25%</b>				
<b>Total Down Payment (Commission Process Begins)</b>				9,000.00
<b>Total Due On Completion</b>				4,500.00
<b>Total Received</b>				

**THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING INDEPENDENT ARTISTS!**  
**Make checks payable to Nic Noblique, d.b.a. Noblique Studios.**