



Legislation Text

File #: 17-0289, **Version:** 1

ITEM TITLE:

Approval of Site Location for Air National Guard Memorial

SUBMITTED BY: Sheri L. Pierce, MMC, City Clerk

FISCAL NOTES:

Expenditure Required: NA

Unencumbered Balance: NA

Funding Source: NA

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve site location as recommended by the Beautification Task Force.

SUMMARY STATEMENT:

The City Council approved funding in the 2017 City budget in the amount of \$35,000 for the National Guard Memorial. This amount was approximately half of the proposed project cost. Working within this budget it is not possible to purchase the monument designed by Rhonda Green which was selected by the museum sub-committee. Patricia Relay has reached out to the Governor's Office to ask for funding but was told there was no funding available for this project. Carol and Bill Harris have provided the rock base for the sculpture. In discussions with the Capital Facilities department it was suggested that this monument/artwork would be appropriate for the New Boat Harbor Uplands. A certain amount has been allocated in the project for uplands landscaping and artwork which could be allocated toward the monument. The Beautification Task Force was asked to provide a recommendation on the site location for the National Guard Monument and the Alyeska Pipeline Worker statue. The task force has recommended in favor of locating the National Guard Memorial monument on the knoll near the entrance to the new boat harbor. This location overlooks the site of the 1964 plane crash which claimed the lives of four members of the State of Alaska Air National Guard who transported Governor Egan to Valdez following the earthquake. After delivering the Governor, the transport plane left Valdez and shortly after takeoff crashed into the Port.

I have attached a site map, monument cost (costs highlighted were estimated by the artist as city expenses and should be deducted), and the artist drawing of the sculpture. The Clerk's office has received monthly emails from Mr. Chuck Volanti regarding the status of this project and I have kept Mr. Volanti updated on my efforts to bring the memorial to fruition with the funds allocated. At his request, I have included his latest email response.