



City of Camarillo

Planning Commission AGENDA REPORT COVER

DATE: February 28, 2023

TO: Planning Commission

FROM: Joseph R. Vacca, AICP, Director of Community Development

SUBMITTED BY: Paul McClaren, Senior Planner

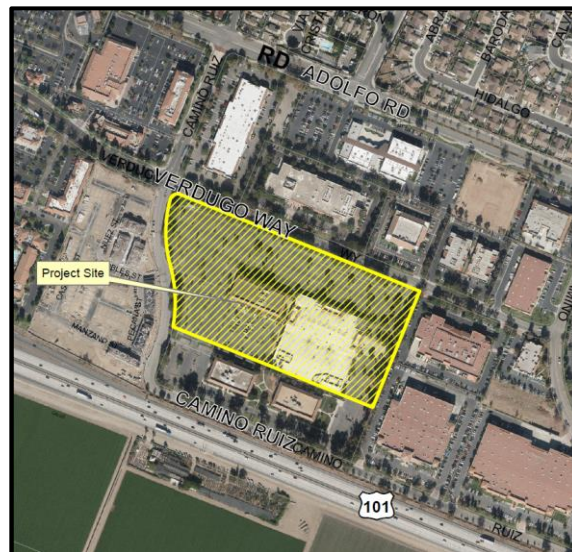
SUBJECT: Public Art for RPD-201, Fairfield Camino Ruiz, LLC

PROJECT INFORMATION SUMMARY

Request: The applicant requests approval of public art for Camino Ruiz Apartments.

Applicant/Property Owner: Grant Williams, Fairfield Camino Ruiz, LLC, 2 Venture, Suite 350, Irvine, CA 92618.

Project Site Size, Location, and Parcel Number: The 14.17-acre project site is located at the southeast corner of Verdugo Way and Camino Ruiz, within the City of Camarillo. The Tax Assessor's Parcel Numbers (APN) for the project site are 160-0-093-295 & 160-0-093-305.



General Plan Land Use Designation: High Density Residential (18.1-30 dwelling units per acre)

Zoning: Residential Planned Development – 30 Units per acre maximum (RPD-30U)

DISCUSSION

Environmental Review

An Environmental Impact Report, (EIR 2017-4 State Clearinghouse #2019039127) was prepared and certified by the City Council on December 9, 2020, for the project in accordance with City and State guidelines for General Plan Amendment (GPA 2017-1), Change of Zone (CZ-331), and Residential Planned Development Permit (RPD-201). A Notice of Determination for the EIR was recorded with Ventura County on December 17, 2020.

Background

On February 2, 2021, the Planning Commission approved the 385-unit apartment complex comprised of 14 buildings with approximately 364,000 gross square feet of habitable space. The General Plan Community Design Element encourages larger projects with over 25,000 square feet to incorporate public art. Therefore, condition of approval number 194 for the incorporation of public art was placed on the project, as follows:

- That public art be provided in the Village Park at the corner of Verdugo Way and Camino Ruiz to be reviewed and approved by the Planning Commission prior to the issuance of a building permit. The public art must be installed prior to the first Certificate of Occupancy.

The City of Camarillo General Plan Community Design Element includes the following public art design guidelines:

- a. Use public art and cultural amenities to celebrate Camarillo's diversity, history and unique character.
- b. Take advantage of opportunities to emphasize, through art, the cultural connections between Camarillo, CSUCI and local arts groups.
- c. Use public art and cultural amenities to help commemorate local history and culturally significant places.
- d. Support artworks and cultural activities that explore and reflect the diverse facets of Camarillo life.
- e. Encourage larger projects (construction > 25,000 sf) to incorporate public art.

The applicant has commissioned artists, Joe Adams (a stone sculptor) and Judy Winard (a ceramicist), both based out of Studio Channels Islands Art (SCiART) in Camarillo. Their existing body of work can be viewed on their websites accessed via the SCiART website <https://studiochannelislands.org/artists/artist-members/>.

The proposed sculpture will enhance the public environment at the approach to the housing development and provide a visual landmark. The sculpture would be installed in a plaza space at the corner of Camino Ruiz and Verdugo Way and consists of a four-sided, 11-foot-tall limestone obelisk. Two sides of the obelisk will be carved with native plants in their natural habitat and the other two sides will be inset ceramic designs depicting the native plants in detail. The plants included in the work have been chosen for their historical significance to the Chumash people and to inspire residents to explore their natural environment. The sculpture will be up lit at night and finished with a clear anti-graffiti coating. The artwork responds to the City's identity as an urban community surrounded by natural beauty and agricultural heritage. The signage at the base of the sculpture will provide information on the river trails within walking distance of the development and native species to be found in the open areas and natural preserves within the county.

Staff has reviewed the proposed public art and finds it to be consistent with the General Plan and the conditions of approval for RPD-201.

SUGGESTED ACTION

Via minute action, approve the proposed public art for Fairfield Camino Ruiz, LLC.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Public Art Proposal
2. Examples of Artists' Work