



City of Berkeley, District 3
2180 Milvia Street, 5th Floor
Berkeley, CA 94704
PHONE 510-981-7130
EMAIL: bbartlett@cityofberkeley.info

CONSENT CALENDAR
May 28, 2019

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
From: Councilmembers Ben Bartlett, Kate Harrison, Cheryl Davila, and Mayor Jesse Arreguin
Subject: Referral to the Public Works Department and the City Manager: Finishing the installation of Sculpture Lighting into Adjacent Street Lights for the William Byron Rumford Statue on Sacramento and Julia St.

RECOMMENDATION: I

Refer to the City Manager a request to finish the installation of sculpture lighting into adjacent street lights for the William Byron Rumford statue on Sacramento and Julia Street. Refer to the Public Works Department for its installation.

BACKGROUND:

In July of 2016, the South Berkeley Legacy Project unveiled their statue of William Byron Rumford, a former Berkeley resident and California State Assemblymember renowned for legislation targeting housing and employment discrimination.

Currently, the statue languishes in total darkness upon nightfall. In the absence of light the statue takes on a shadowy figure, confusing passing vehicles.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

Staff time to compile a cost estimate and an installation plan.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

No adverse effects to the environment

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

By installing lightings on the sculpture of a community leader who fought for social justice, the city pays its respects to its history and tradition of political activism and civil right struggles.

By installing permanent lighting fixtures on the streetlights next to the Sacramento and Julia crosswalks, the potential for confusion of passing vehicles is eliminated. (See Attached for an illustrated diagram.)

Also, better lighting also contributes to a healthier business district. Poorly lit areas of Sacramento receive less commercial attention. By investing in a long-term, structural solution, the City will be providing City resources to an underserved geographical area.

Therefore, this item requests that the City Manager and the Public Works Department lay out the procedures and finish the installation of the lightings on the statue. This item is vital toward improving safety and visibility on Sacramento Street, as well as paying tribute to the harbingers of civil rights struggles in our city's history.

CONTACT PERSON

Office of Councilmember Ben Bartlett: 510-981-7130
Yiyang Yuan yiyang.yuan@berkeley.edu

Attachments:

1. Picture

