

Consideration of a Recommendation from
the Cultural Arts Commission to Decline
the Donation and End the Lease of the
Surf Ascension Sculpture in North
Manhattan Beach and Remove Artwork from
the Public Domain

August 19, 2025



Background

Agreement

April 4, 2023 Resolution No. 23-0038 approved the installation, location, and a \$9,000 allocation from the PAF to support installation, light shows, and a maintenance contingency

Recommendation

On May, 19 2025 the Cultural Arts Commission reviewed the one-year lease of Surf Ascension and has recommended the removal of the artwork



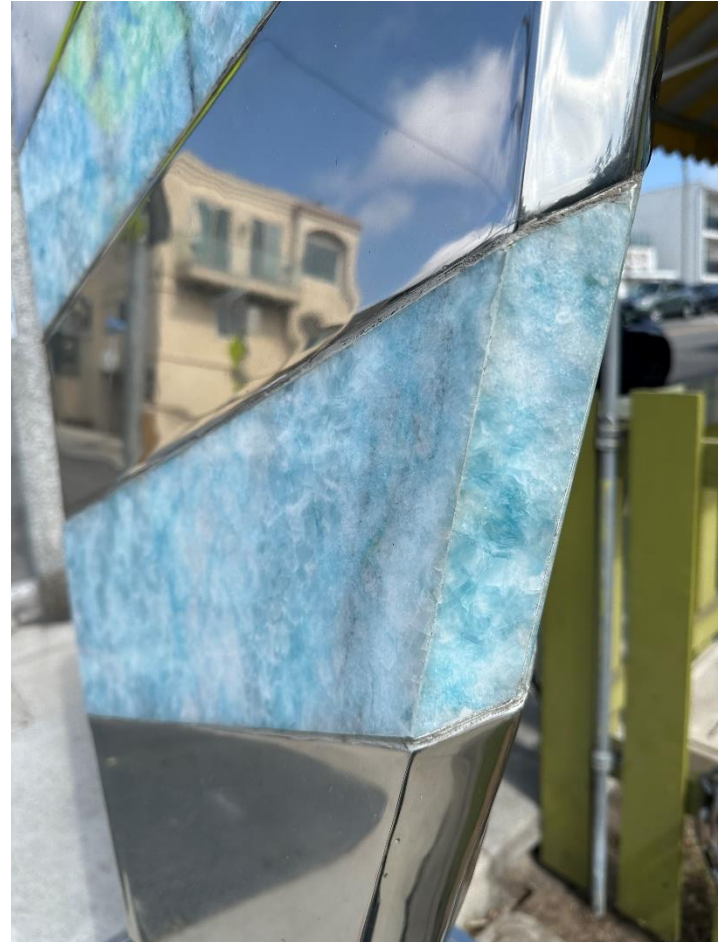
Recommended Option

Remove artwork

With the loan agreement set to expire on July 1, 2025, the Cultural Arts Commission recommended ending the temporary lease and removing the artwork at their May 19, 2025 Cultural Arts Commission meeting

Reasons for removal:

- Fragile
- Coordinating with artist for light shows
- Repair difficulties
- Fiscal impacts



Alternative Options

1. Extend loan agreement

Pros

- Maintains public access to the artwork; defers permanent maintenance obligations

Cons

- Requires new funding allocation; continued logistical coordination with artist for light shows

2. Accept donation

Pros

- Adds a large-scale artwork to the City's permanent collection; reinforces cultural investment in North Manhattan Beach; no future lease costs

Cons

- City assumes long-term responsibility and financial liability for maintenance and repairs, including for custom materials

