Interdepartmental Communication

To: Arts & Culture Commission

From: Cindy Cleary, Director of Library, Arts & Culture

By: Dan Bell, Community Relations Coordinator

Date: June 14, 2013

Subject: Installation of a Korean Sister City “Comfort Woman” Monument.

RECOMMENDATION
This is an information item and does not require approval.

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS
On September 6, 2011, Community Services and Parks (CSP) staff submitted a report to the City Council seeking direction on the City Council’s interest in renaming Central Park as “Veterans Memorial Park”. The Council opted to keep the name “Central Park”. However, included in that report was a staff inquiry regarding dedication of a portion of an area adjacent to the ARC lower patio in Central Park as a potential site to showcase and honor Glendale’s sister cities. The City of Glendale currently has a total of 7 sister cities in four countries (Armenia, Japan, Korea and Mexico). At that time, the City Council agreed that dedicating a portion of land near the ARC plaza for the acceptance and installation of memorials, monuments and/or artifacts representative of Glendale’s sister city partners may be an option.

Until recently, there had been no follow-up action taken on designs, or formal approval to dedicate an area in the park for the purpose of sister city-related monuments and memorials. Earlier this year staff received a request from representatives from Glendale’s Korean sister cities program. The request revolves around the donation and installation of a “Korean Comfort Women” memorial.

As a result of this request staff revisited the earlier concept of allocating a portion of land in central park for a Sister City dedication which would also include a dedication to Korean Comfort Woman. On March 26, 2013 the City Council approved a motion to dedicate a plot of land in Central Park adjacent to the Adult Recreation Center to be used for Sister City related monuments, which at the appropriate time, would include a “Korean Comfort Women” memorial.

With this direction, CSP, Community Development, and City Manager’s Office staff moved forward on finalizing the development of a design plan for a dedicated sister city monument area in Central Park. The Korean Comfort Women memorial has been integrated into the Sister City design plan.

FISCAL IMPACT
Should the City Council ultimately approve the monument’s installation in the designated area, there would be no direct fiscal impact to the City. Unless otherwise directed by the City Council, any erection of a monument or memorial by a Sister City would be funded by private sources.
and approved through the City of Glendale’s normal review/approval process.

EXHIBITS

Exhibit 1: Power Point slide displaying the proposed location of the Sister City Memorial location.

Exhibit 2: Power Point slide displaying the proposed Comfort Woman Monument.
<Material>- BRONZE, GRANITE, OBSIDIAN
<Method>- MOLDING, BRONZE CASTING, MOSAIC
<Weight>- 1,100 LBS TOTAL