July 15, 2014

MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. Mark A. Hussey
Interim President, Texas A&M University

SUBJECT: CBE Recommendation: Relocation of E. King Gill Statue

At its July 8, 2014 meeting, the Council for the Built Environment (CBE) discussed a request from the Athletic Department to Relocate the E. King Gill Statue. The Kyle Field Redevelopment project necessitates the relocation of the E. King Gill statue currently located in the plaza area North of Kyle Field. In conjunction with the original donor of the statue, the Class of 1980, it was proposed that the statue be relocated to one of two campus locations: the North end of Rudder Fountain or the 12th Man Hall within the Memorial Student Center (MSC).

The statue, crafted by artist George E. Foley, was originally set in place at Kyle Field in 1980 at a cost of $21,000. The Class of 1980 has offered to fully underwrite the cost of the relocation, including any related site work, and will provide a maintenance endowment to ensure the long-term quality of the statue. The relocation cost estimates, provided by SSC for the relocation are approximately $7,500 for a move to the exterior site and $5,800 for the relocation to inside the MSC. The maintenance cost is dependent upon the final location and design and will be estimated during the sub-council analyses. To support the schedule of the Kyle Field Redevelopment project, this statue must be relocated prior to October 2014.

- Design Review Sub-Council (DRsc)
  The Design Review sub-council reviewed the request for the relocation of the E. King Gill statue and proposed an alternate location. To avoid the issue of symmetry on the north side, the statue could be placed on the west side of the fountain where there is currently a grouping of three trees. The middle tree would have to be removed and the statue would then be placed inside that tree well, aligning with the center of the fountain’s five jets. DRsc members support the relocation or replanting of the tree that would be removed. The tree well could be modified to create an appropriate setting for the statue. With the statue being centered between two trees, concerns were expressed with the tree canopies and potential issues with birds. If approved, the redesign of this location requires further study.

DRsc members suggested the incorporation of a teaching plaque at either location to tell the story of E. King Gill’s willingness to serve and his significance as it relates to the Aggie Core Values.

The DRsc recommends approval of the request for relocation of the E. King Gill statue within Rudder Plaza at either of two proposed sites within Rudder Plaza: 1) north of the fountain, which would necessitate work to existing paving patterns to create symmetry, and 2) west of the fountain within the middle tree well. The DRsc’s preference is Option 2, west of the fountain within the middle tree well. This approval is given with the following caveat:
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- Further design details shall be presented to the DRsc for review and approval, to include a study on lighting, incorporation of a hose bib, incorporation of a teaching plaque, effects of water distribution during high winds, and revised relocation costs.

- Technical Review Sub-Council (TRsc)
The Technical Review Sub-council supports the proposed E. King Gill Statue Relocation and recommends approval of the relocation to the Rudder Fountain area provided the following issues/concerns are addressed and funded.

- EHS and SASE
Relocation of the E. King Gill statue into the MSC’s 12th Man Hall may present safety hazards that would be avoided if it were placed at the north end of Rudder Fountain. Because the statue draws crowds, particularly during football game weekends, but also throughout the year depending on the activities taking place, the placement of the statue directly in front of a stairway (blocked only by a four-foot high glass wall) is of concern. In addition, there will likely be an impact on the travel path through the hallway as individuals attempt to take photographs and block the hallway as they obtain a clear shot of their subjects and the statue. For these reasons, EHS recommends the statue’s relocation to the Rudder Fountain area.

Action/Recommendation: The CBE voted unanimously to recommend the President’s approval, with noted caveats, the request to relocate the E. King Gill statue to the west side of Rudder Fountain.

Karan L. Watson
Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs
Co-Chair, Council for the Built Environment
Date

B. J. Crain
Vice President for Finance and Administration
Co-Chair, Council for the Built Environment
Date

Concur or not concur with CBE’s recommendation:

Mark A. Hussey
Interim President
Date

cc: Eric Hyman, Athletics Director
Sub-Council Chairs, Council for the Built Environment
MEMORANDUM

Date: May 23, 2014

To: Dr. Karan Watson, CBE
    Ms. B. J. Crain, CBE

From: Tom Reber, Associate Vice President for Student Affairs
       Eric Hyman, Athletics Director

Subject: Relocation of E. King Gill Statue

The Kyle Field Redevelopment project necessitates the relocation of the E. King Gill statue currently located in the plaza area North of Kyle Field Zone. In conjunction with the original donor of the statue, the Class of 1980, it is proposed that the statue be relocated to one of two campus locations: 1.) the North end of Rudder Fountain or 2.) the 12th Man Hall within the Memorial Student Center (MSC). While both sites are acceptable to the Class representatives, their strong preference is for the exterior site, adjacent to Rudder Fountain.

The choices of the proposed locations are offered with the intent to support the following objectives identified by the Agents of the Class of 1980:

- The statue is placed in a highly visible and easily accessed area by students, faculty, former students, visitors, and media (not just game day attendees) but does not deter other daily activities or normal flow of traffic.
- The background setting is aesthetically pleasing and blends in with the ideals of the 12th Man and the core values of Texas A&M University.
- The location does not compete with the planned elements of the Kyle Field redevelopment project.
- The location meets University design, maintenance and other infrastructure standards.
- Reinforces the value of class gifting to the University and the relationship between former students and Texas A&M.
- Supports the University’s 12th Man Branding Objectives.

The statue, crafted by artist George E. Foley, was originally set in place at Kyle Field in 1980 at a cost of $21,000. The Class of 1980 has offered to fully underwrite the cost of the relocation, including any related site work, and will provide a maintenance endowment to ensure the long-term quality of the statue. The relocation cost estimates, provided by SSC for the relocation are approximately $7,500 for a move to the exterior site and $5,800 for the relocation to inside the MSC. The maintenance cost is dependent upon the final location and design and will be estimated during the sub-council analyses. To support the schedule of the Kyle Field Redevelopment project, this statue must be relocated prior to October 2014.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

/sll
Attachment
MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. Karan Watson  
Co-Chair, Council for the Built Environment  
Ms. B.J. Crain  
Co-Chair, Council for the Built Environment

FROM: Ms. Lilia Gonzales, AIA  
University Architect and Chair, Design Review Sub-Council

DATE: July 7, 2014

RE: Design Review Sub-Council (DRsc) Report  
Relocation of E. King Gill Statue

On June 2, 2014 the Design Review sub-council reviewed a request for the relocation of the E. King Gill statue. This statue relocation is necessitated by the Kyle Field Redevelopment Project and must occur prior to October 1, 2014.

Class of 1980 representatives reinforced their commitment to underwrite expenses related to the relocation, including the establishment of a maintenance fund. Two locations were presented for consideration: Rudder Plaza north of the fountain, and the 12th Man Hall inside the Memorial Student Center. The DRsc is in agreement with the Technical Review sub-council’s safety concerns related to the indoor location and does not recommend this location.

The proposed site north of Rudder Fountain would provide a maximum amount of exposure and provide an appropriate setting for the statue. It was noted that the statue being in close proximity to the fountain could create additional maintenance issues as the chlorine water would be sprayed onto the statue on windy days. The statue could not be moved further north as it would hinder use of this activity space. An additional concern with this location is that it would not align with the fountain jets. The existing maroon paving pattern is slightly off-center from the jets and would be accentuated by the addition of the statue. Paving patterns could potentially be modified to mitigate this issue. If approved, the redesign of this location requires further study.

An alternate location was proposed by DRsc members. To avoid the issue of symmetry on the north side, the statue could be placed on the west side of the fountain where there is currently a grouping of three trees. The middle tree would have to be removed and the statue would then be placed inside that tree well, aligning with the center of the fountain’s five jets. DRsc members support the relocation or replanting of the tree that would be removed. The tree well could be modified to create an appropriate setting for the statue. With the statue being centered between two trees, concerns were expressed with the tree canopies and potential issues with birds. If approved, the redesign of this location requires further study.

DRsc members suggested the incorporation of a teaching plaque at either location to tell the story of E. King Gill’s willingness to serve and his significance as it relates to the Aggie Core Values.
Recommendation
The DRsc recommends approval of the request for relocation of the E. King Gill statue within Rudder Plaza at either of two proposed sites within Rudder Plaza: 1) north of the fountain, which would necessitate work to existing paving patterns to create symmetry, and 2) west of the fountain within the middle tree well. The DRsc’s preference is Option Two, west of the fountain within the middle tree well. This approval is given with the following caveat:

- Further design details shall be presented to the DRsc for review and approval, to include a study on lighting, incorporation of a hose bib, incorporation of a teaching plaque, effects of water distribution during high winds, and revised relocation costs.

The DRsc vote was not unanimous, with one member voting against relocation to Rudder Plaza. Please let us know if you need additional information.

cc: Bill Jentsch
    Tom Reber
    Kevin Hurley
    DRsc Members
    Bettyann Zito
MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. Karan Watson
    Co-chair, Council on the Built Environment

              Ms. B. J. Crain
    Co-chair, Council on the Built Environment

FROM: Tom Reber
      Chair, CBE Technical Review Sub-council

DATE: June 26, 2014

SUBJECT: CBE TRsc Recommendation: E. King Gill Statue Relocation

On June 16, 2014 Mr. Tom Reber, Interim Vice President for Student Affairs and Mr. Kevin Hurley, Senior Associate Athletic Director presented to the CBE’s Technical Review Sub-council on the proposed E. King Gill Statue Relocation. There were two on campus sites proposed for the relocation of the statue 1.) The North end of Rudder Fountain or 2.) The 12th Man Hall within the Memorial Student Center (MSC).

Recommendation
The Technical Review Sub-council supports the proposed E. King Gill Statue Relocation and recommends approval of the relocation to the Rudder Fountain area provided the following issues/concerns are addressed and funded.

EHS and SASE:
Relocation of the E. King Gill statue into the MSC’s 12th Man Hall may present safety hazards that would be avoided if it were placed at the north end of Rudder Fountain. Because the statue draws crowds, particularly during football game weekends, but also throughout the year depending on the activities taking place, the placement of the statue directly in front of a stairway (blocked only by a four-foot high glass wall) is of concern. In addition, there will likely be an impact on the travel path through the hallway as individuals attempt to take photographs and block the hallway as they obtain a clear shot of their subjects and the statue. For these reasons, EHS recommends the statue’s relocation to the Rudder Fountain area.

Transportation Services:
Supports the Rudder Fountain location.
CIS:
As long as there no data connectivity required for display, no comments.

FGR/GIS:
No concerns with this project.

Telecommunications:
No concerns with this project.

Facilities Services:
No concerns with this project.

Utility & Energy Services:
No concerns with this project.

University Police:
No concerns with this project.

Procurement Services:
No concerns with this project.

No other concerns were expressed.

Xc: CBE Technical Review Sub-council
CBE Support Staff
MEMORANDUM

Date: May 23, 2014

To: Dr. Karan Watson, CBE
Ms. B. J. Crain, CBE

From: Tom Reber, Associate Vice President for Student Affairs
Eric Hyman, Athletics Director

Subject: Relocation of E. King Gill Statue

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Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

/sll
Attachment