

TO: James L. App, City Manager
FROM: Joseph M. Deakin, Public Works Director
SUBJECT: "Bert"
DATE: December 17, 2002

NEEDS: For the City Council to consider relocating the Pioneer Statue "Bert" from storage to the Pioneer Museum.

FACTS:

1. The Pioneer Statue "Bert" is suffering from deterioration and core rot. On April 9, 2002, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee requested that staff contact the Pioneer Museum to seek a new venue for "Bert."
2. The Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee met on May 14, 2002 and voted to recommend to the City Council to not place "Bert" at the Pioneer Museum, unless the Museum allowed "Bert" inside.
3. On July 16, 2002, City Council directed staff to leave "Bert" at the current site in Downtown City Park, taking preservation measures as appropriate back in City Park.
4. Since the July 16, 2002 meeting "Bert" has been placed in storage (to allow the wood to dry before applying preservative) before being permanently placed.
5. During "Bert's" storage the City received another request from the Pioneer Museum requesting to add the statue to the Pioneer Museum collection (letter attached).

**ANALYSIS
AND**

CONCLUSION: Staff is implementing the plan directed by City Council on July 16, 2002 to repair and restore "Bert". The statue, once conditioned and treated, could be returned to City Park. In honor of the Pioneer Museum is their request to add "Bert" to their collection, staff requests the City Council provide further direction. Family members contacted by staff respond that they would support donating "Bert" to Pioneer Museum.

**POLICY
REFERENCE:** None

**FISCAL
IMPACT:** It is estimated to cost \$2,000 from existing Parks budget to construct a new base and to re-site "Bert" either at City Park or the Pioneer Museum.

OPTIONS:

- a. Authorize donating "Bert" to the Pioneer Museum as requested.
- b. Amend, modify or reject the above option.