

San Francisco Arts Commission Visual Arts Committee — Sept 16, 2026

Bruce Lee Public Sculpture Project

PRESENTED BY CHINESE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA (CHSA)



CHINESE
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY OF
AMERICA



ROSE PAK
COMMUNITY FUND

白蘭社區基金



 **BRUCE LEE**
FOUNDATION

Why a statue of Bruce Lee?

- ▶ A crucial addition to San Francisco's cultural landscape
- ▶ Honoring the city where this legendary figure was born
- ▶ The old park had a striking lack of Asian American representation within the monuments of Portsmouth Square itself – this is changing!
- ▶ Create a highly welcome tourist destination
- ▶ The statue will invite the public into the park
- ▶ A beloved community icon and a true global unifier
- ▶ A powerful beacon of hope, perseverance, and excellence
- ▶ An enduring symbol of unity, strength, and cultural resilience

Community Roots

- ▶ Twenty years in the making, this project began with a vision from Bruce Lee enthusiast Jeff Chinn.
- ▶ CHSA and RPCF partnered to advance the initiative.
- ▶ In collaboration with Stand with Asians, the San Francisco Recreation and Park Department, and the San Francisco Arts Commission, this long-held dream is coming to fruition alongside the historic renovation of Portsmouth Square Park.
- ▶ 100% fully grass-roots funded.
- ▶ Of/By/For the community.



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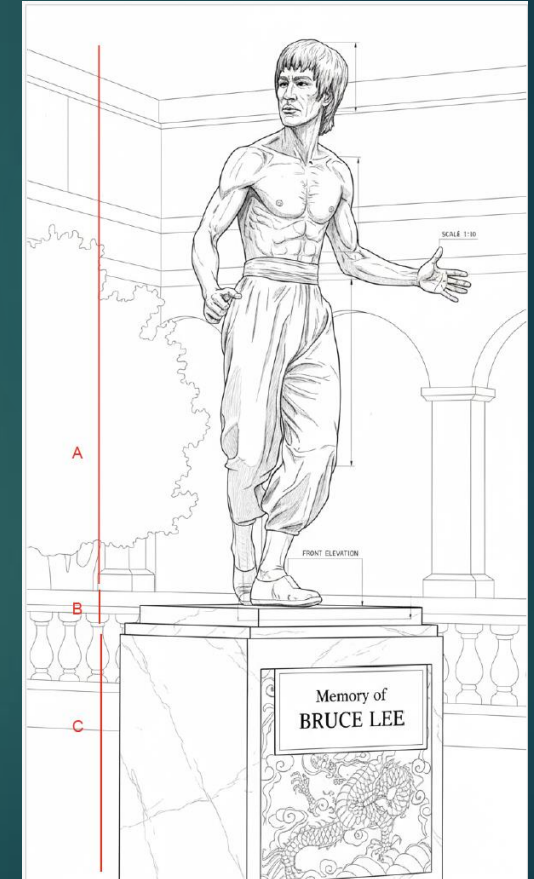


Community Support

- ▶ Social media partnerships with CCC, CMAC, CCDC and others to share to the public about this project and invite comment.
- ▶ Letters of Support from
 - ▶ Chinatown Media and Arts Collaborative – RECEIVED
 - ▶ Chinese Culture Center – RECEIVED
 - ▶ Chinatown Community Development Corporation – RECEIVED
 - ▶ San Francisco Recreation and Parks Department – RECEIVED
 - ▶ Assemblymember Matt Haney – RECEIVED
 - ▶ D-3 Chinatown Supervisor Danny Sauter – PLEDGED

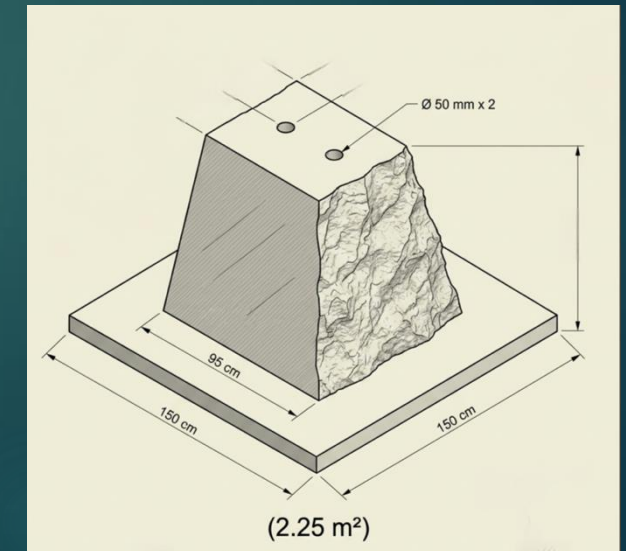
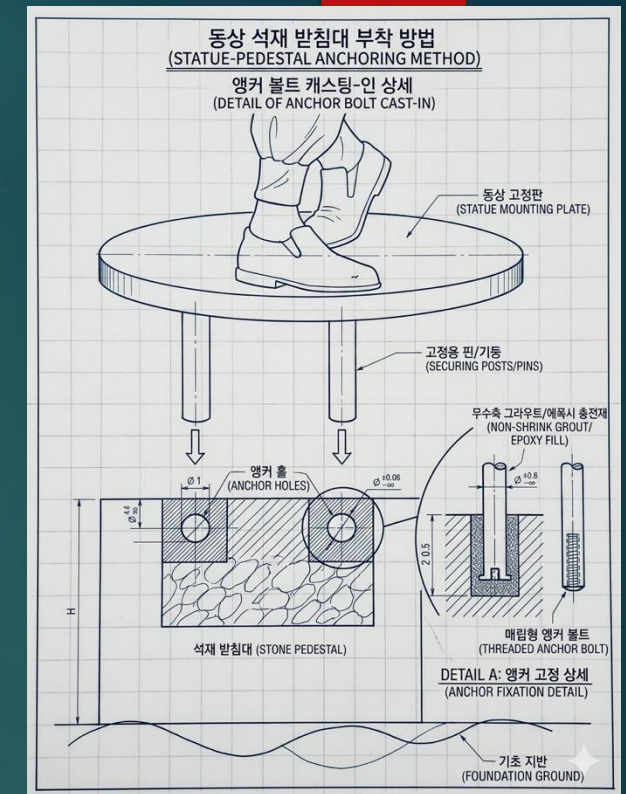
About the Sculpture:

- ▶ Section A: the sculpture
 - ▶ high-quality silicone bronze alloy specifically a BC Type 3 and silicone bronze
- ▶ Section B: the base
 - ▶ high-quality silicone bronze alloy specifically a BC Type 3 and silicone bronze
- ▶ Section C: the foundational plinth
 - ▶ Korean black granite
- ▶ The overall height of the statue, including the stone pedestal, will be 2.9 meters (approximately 9 feet 6 inches)
- ▶ Attached to the plinth shall be a plaque made of bronze



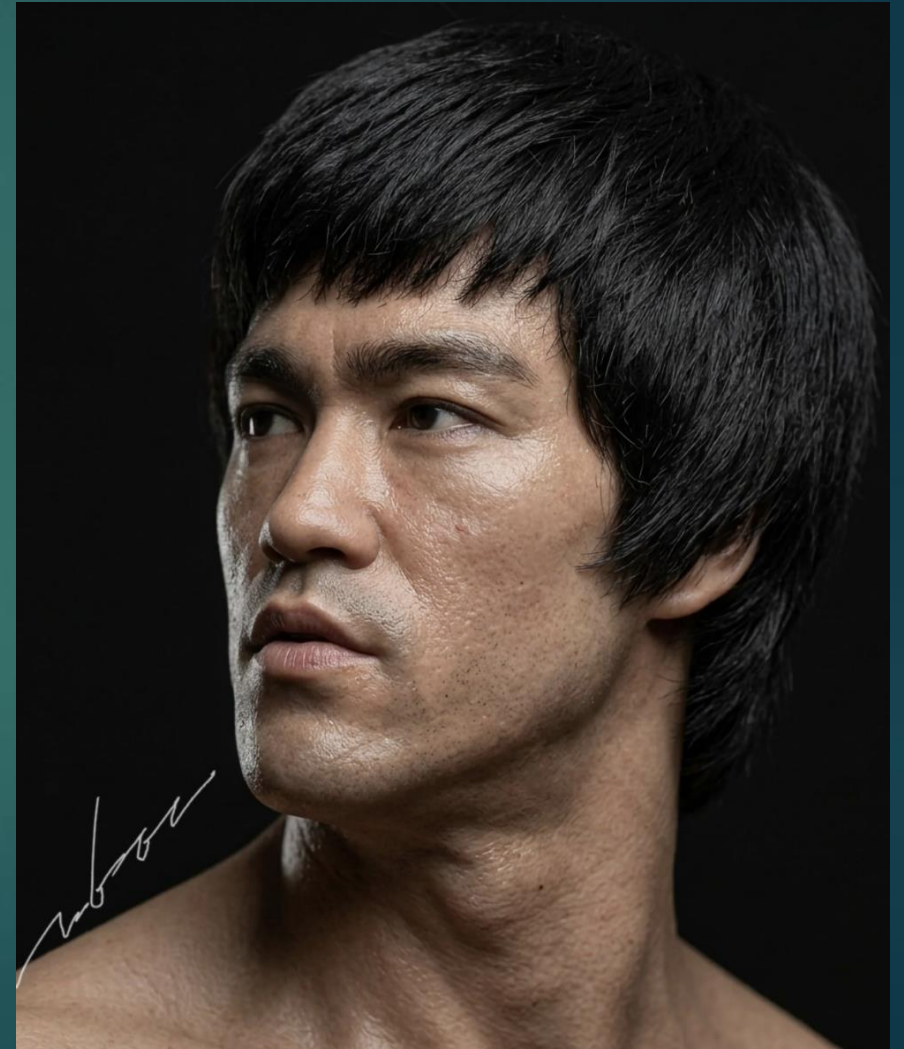
The base and footing plan

- ▶ Details to be checked with the structural engineers. Currently we are talking with SOHA to take on the engineering.
- ▶ Securely mounted by inserting pins into the pedestal
- ▶ Epoxy-based urethane adhesive.
- ▶ Footing plan requires concrete base at least 2.25 m²
- ▶ The weight is 882 pounds.
- ▶ The footprint <100 pounds per square foot on the park.
- ▶ The plinth will be polished granite not rough hewn as in this 3—rendering image. Original design had it as rough hewn but from SFAC we have refined this to be smooth for ease of maintenance.



About the Artist: Arnie Kim

- ▶ Arnie Kim, based in Soeul, Korea
 - ▶ He is the world's foremost realistic sculptor of Bruce Lee action figures and miniatures.
 - ▶ Selected by Jeff Chinn and Shannon Lee.
 - ▶ These images are photos of sculptures by the artist.



About the Foundry:

- ▶ Fabricator: Park Sang-gyu Space Art 박상규 공간미술 www.spaceart.kr
- ▶ A sculpture production expert who has produced over 10,000 metal sculptures.
- ▶ Specifically requested by the lead artist based on his skill and experience.



Inspiration of the sculpture

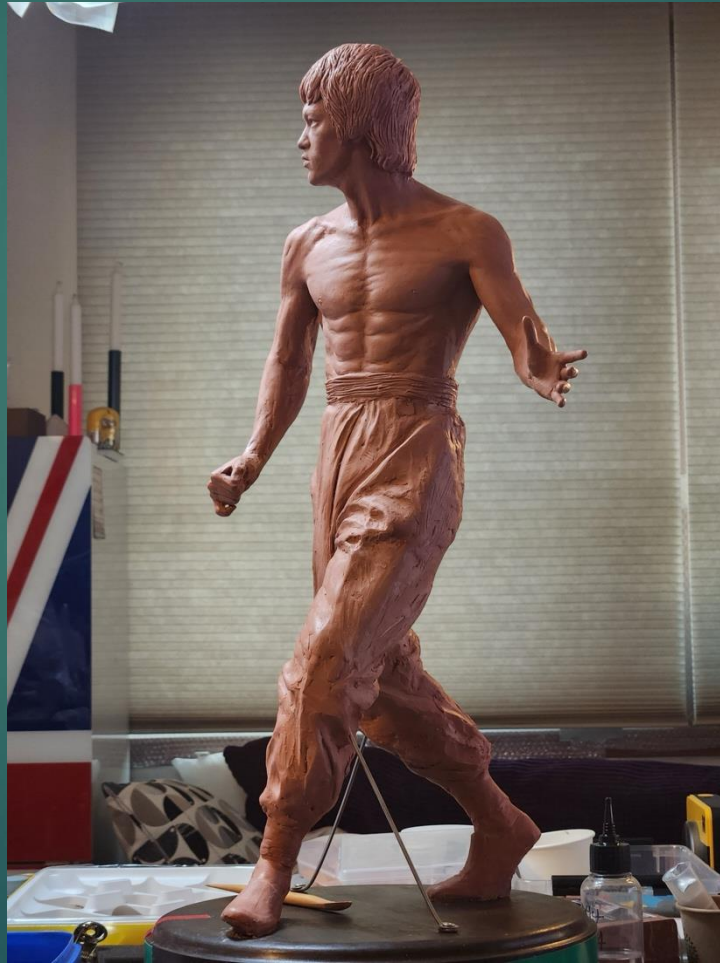
- ▶ From the film Enter the Dragon depicted below.
- ▶ The artist will remove the slash marks from the chest and face but the rest of the pose and costume will remain the same.
- ▶ Evocative of movement, with a strong upward and outward, transcendent gaze.
- ▶ Stillness, yet motion. Yin and yang. Attentive but relaxed.



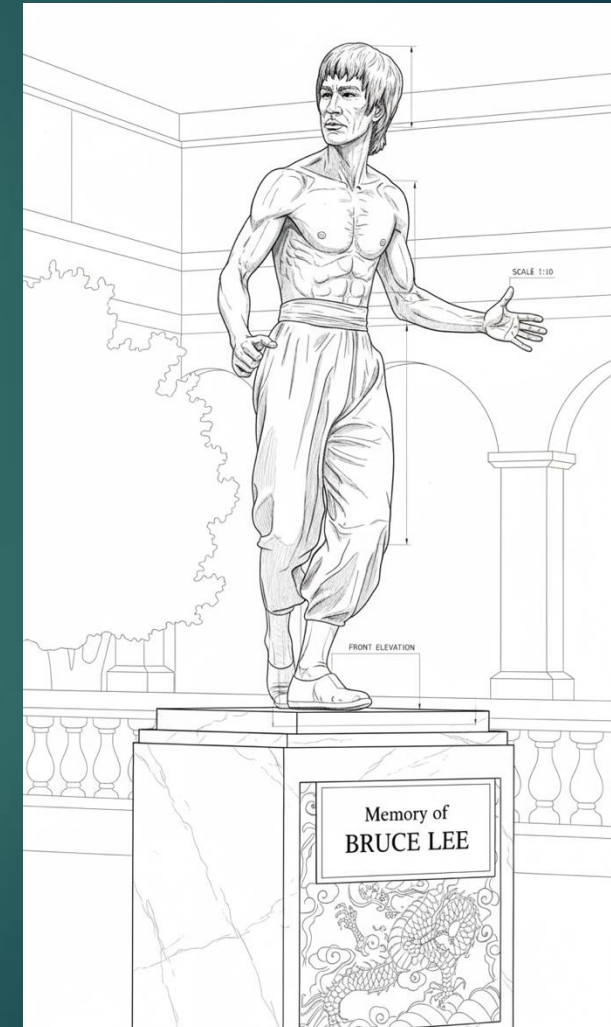
Phases of production

- ▶ The fabrication will take place in three phases.
 - ▶ The artist will make a small-scale sculpture maquette.
 - ▶ Then the artist will enter make a 3-D scan of the object and print this scan.
 - ▶ Upon approval this will be printed at the full, final scale.
 - ▶ Once this is approved then the sculpture will be cast in bronze, packaged, crated and shipped along with the granite plinth.

Current small-scale sculptures for review and iteration



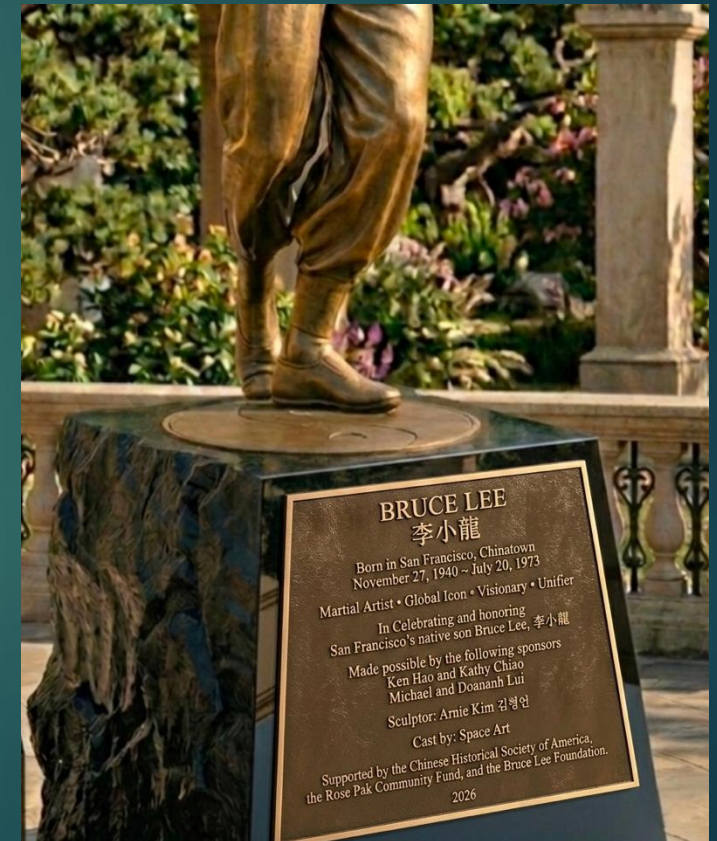
Mockups 3-D Renderings



*The artist created these renderings using digital rendering tools. These are NOT actual photos or final designs.

Commemorative plaque

- ▶ Bilingual (English and Traditional Chinese) plaque text to be cast in bronze and attached to the base, or the text will be carved directly into the base to be determined during final manufacturing phase. If SFAC has preference please provide input.
- ▶ Final text includes a short inscription to the life of Lee, as well as mention of the funders and their logos.
- ▶ The community has requested a permanent QR code link to a project page about Bruce Lee and this project.
- ▶ The plinth will be polished granite not rough hewn as in this initial 3D rendering image.



* 3D mockup, not final design

Community approved bilingual text

Bruce Lee • Lee Jun-fan
November 27, 1940 – July 20, 1973
Martial Artist • Global Icon • Visionary • Unifier
To Honor and Celebrate San Francisco's Native-Born Son
Made Possible By Ken Hao & Kathy Chiao • Michael & Doananh Lui
Sculptor Arnie Kim 김형언 ·
With Support from the Chinese Historical Society of America,
Rose Pak Community Fund, and the Bruce Lee Foundation
2026

向三藩市土生土長的兒子致敬
萬眾矚目 • 武藝精湛 • 遠見卓識 • 歸之若水

李小龍 (李振藩)
1940.11.27 - 1973. 7. 20

捐贈者：郝也康, 蕉蓓馨伉儷
雷務豪, 阮端安伉儷

雕塑家：金亨彦 김형언

贊助機構：美國華人歷史學會、白蘭社區基金
李小龍基金會

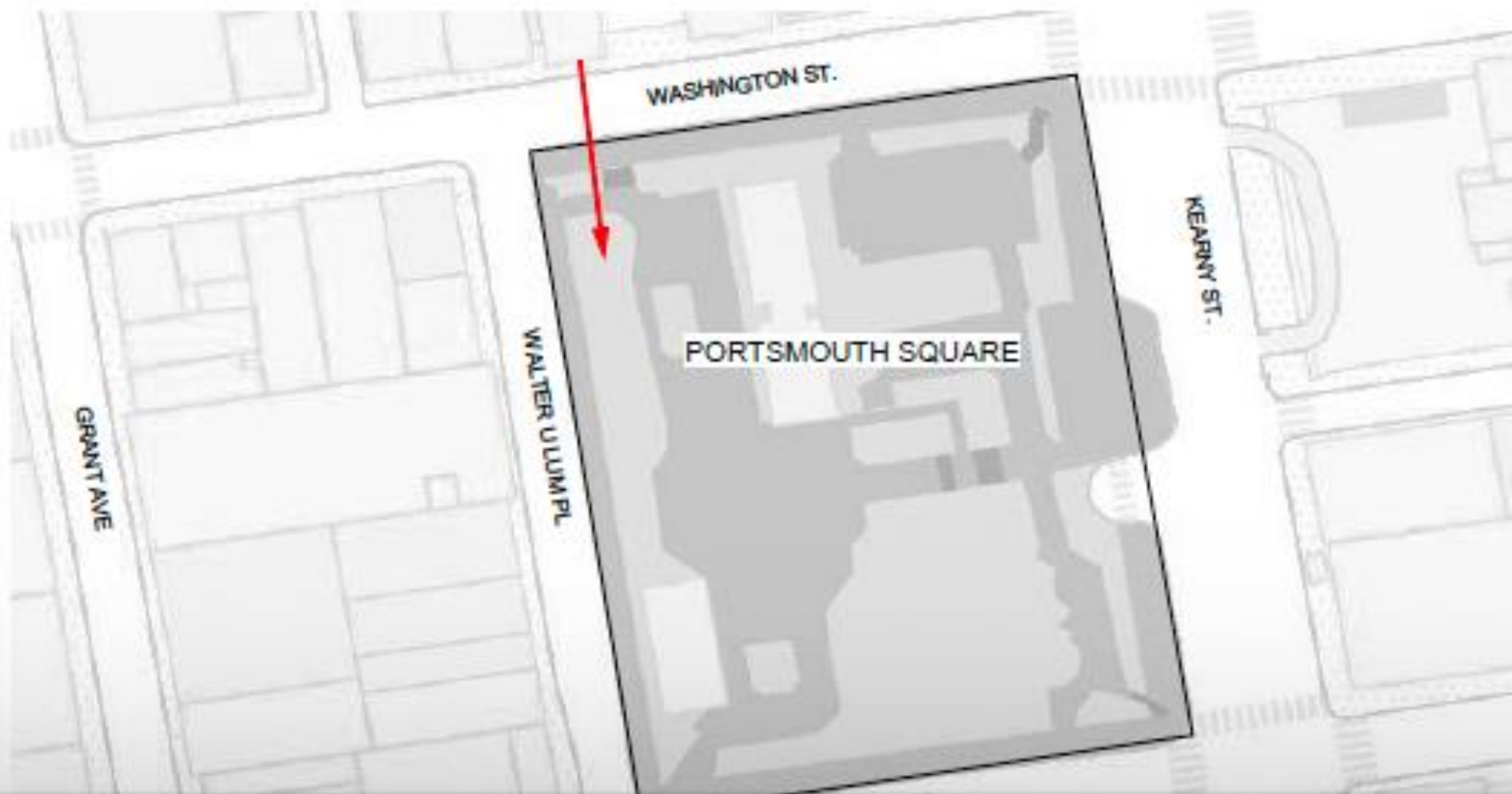
2026年立

- ▶ This is final copy as of 9/15/2026.
- ▶ It has been reviewed by multiple representatives of local community groups and local leaders from nonprofits including CHSA, Rose Pak Community Fund, Stand with Asians, CCDC, and CMAC.
- ▶ Only major donors are listed by name.
- ▶ If additional major donors are developed before the end of the project they will be added to the donor line as well.
- ▶ Stand with Asians will likely be added based on their targeted fundraising goals.

Site Plan

- ▶ Placement in Portsmouth Square is targeted to be on the corner of Clay Street and Walter U Lum street.
- ▶ Sculpture to act as a focal entrance to give clear sight line for people walking down Grant Avenue.
- ▶ We believe in future people will say “meet me at the Bruce Lee corner of PSQ”.
- ▶ We are working closely with RPD on siting to ensure appropriate circulation around the sculpture.
- ▶ Currently Bruce Lee is sited facing street to invite people from the street in. But we will address this more in detail with all parties and are open to adapting the orientation to fit the needs and goals of SFAC and RPD.

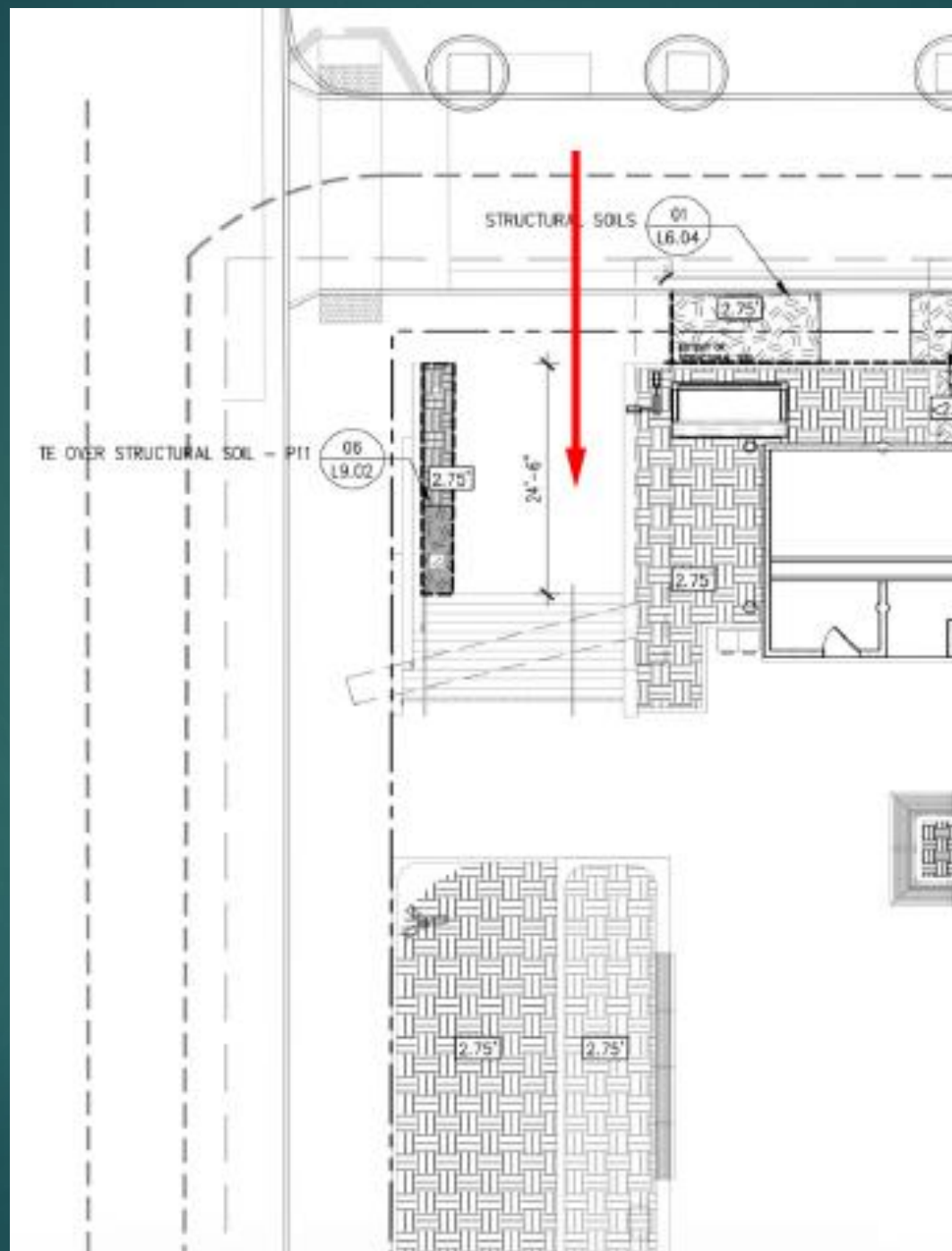
LOCATION MAP



Site plan

- ▶ Location determined by Rec and Parks.
- ▶ Walter U Lum Street at top of image.
- ▶ Clay Street along left side of image.
- ▶ Grant ave is a short distance (1/2 a block) up from Walter U Lum and the park is visible from Grant Ave.





Budget Summary

- ▶ Artist commission, fabrication and transportation = \$149,000
 - ▶ Engineering = est. \$25,000
 - ▶ Installation = est. \$30,000 (managed by SFAC)
 - ▶ Operational indirect: \$45,000
 - ▶ Total with indirect: approx. \$250,000
-
- ▶ Maintenance endowment TBD – in dialogue with SFAC

Tentative Production Schedule 2026-2028

January 2026	Contract signed	Phase 1 completed.
February 2026	Stone pedestal design finalized.	
June 2026	Basic sculptural form completed. Overall concept design finalized.	Phase 2 completed.
August 2026	Detailed sculpting completed	underway
September - October 2026	Scanning data processing Concurrently work with engineering team to identify the needs and parameters for safe installation. Finalize foundation footing plan and base design.	planned
November - December 2026	Casting, shipping, storage	planned
Mid-2028 with park completion	Installation of the sculpture along with finishing of park.	planned

Thank you!



- ▶ Questions and comments:
 - ▶ Justin Hoover
 - ▶ Creative Director, Chinese Historical Society of America
 - ▶ 415-425-1647
 - ▶ justin.hoover@chsa.org