

Chandler Regional Park and Ride Southwest corner of Germann and Hamilton Public Art Sculpture Commission

The Project Title is ***“Movimiento del Viento”*** (*Movement of the Wind*)

The Central Sculpture Title is ***“Momentum”***

Artist Statement

The artist, Joan Waters, coordinated with the architectural and engineering teams to develop three art elements which are integrated throughout the site. By visiting the site early in the project, before ground was broken, the artist was able to make observations, drawings and photographs directly from the environment. The resulting sculptures are inspired by the history and energy of Chandler, and the beauty of the land. By integrating the design throughout the Park and Ride, the artwork helps create an attractive facility that has a unique sense of place with interesting artwork for its users to experience each day.

The 3 sculpture elements are:

1) Artist-designed cast concrete wall (location: Frames the west side of the main platform)

A curved concrete wall, becomes a large relief sculpture which is seen by people as they approach the main platform. It was inspired by grasses moving in the wind, and the texture of the earth. Cast in soft-brown architectural concrete, the designs bring the surrounding natural environment into the core of the site. Plant forms moving in the breeze appear to be carved in relief into the concrete, and pebbles were used to represent the earth's texture.

2) Central sculpture “Momentum” (location: In the central planter on the main platform)

The focal point of the main platform is ***“Momentum”***, a hi-tech, contemporary tumbleweed sculpture. Approximately 10-feet high, it is comprised of a concrete base, a steel support, and an abstract silver sculpture on top. The sculpture takes advantage of the site's natural location, so that morning commuters walk east into the sunrise, and return to the western sunset in the evening.

The concrete base reflects the designs of moving grass that are seen in the cast concrete wall. The support is a compass structure — 4 angled pieces of 3/4” steel plate which point to the four directions. Openings cut in the thick steel allow light to pass through and create shadows. As the seasons change and the sun rises in different places on the horizon, the patterns of light will shift from one side of the structure to the other. The abstract steel sculpture at the top, inspired by the iconic tumbleweeds found in the area, was created with round steel rod which the artist hand-bent into dynamic forms. The steel is sealed with specially chosen layers of powder coating to ensure durability.

3) Four “Shadow Curtain” sculptures (location: Borders the east platform, visible from both sides)

The artist's designs for these sculptures were first cut out of paper, then enlarged and cut out of steel, and mounted into frames set at a 135-degree angle. The silhouetted designs suggest elements of each day's journey—from home, into the world, and through nature. For visitors to the platform, the ***“Shadow Curtains”*** provide an interesting visual element, with many things to discover in their designs—patterns of trees, birds, fish, leaves, etc. The angle of the panels, and cut openings will capture the light and cast interesting shadows. The rich colors of the screens, deep burgundy and forest green, were chosen to coordinate with the colors of the adjacent trees and landscaping plants.

(continued)

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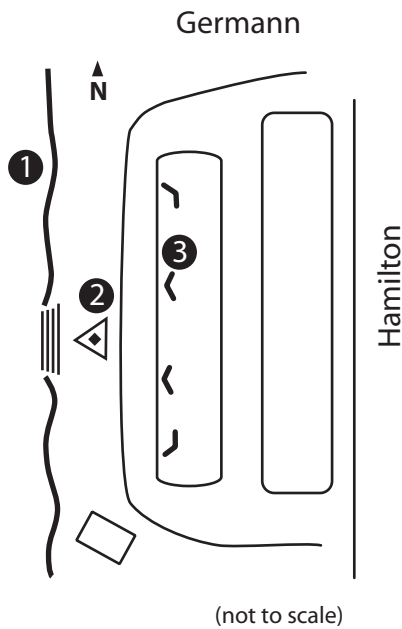
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About the tumbleweed—(*salsola kali*, Russian Thistle)—is not indigenous to area, but it has thrived. Its seeds were brought to America in 1873 with the flax seed from Russia. The millions of seeds of each plant are broadcast over the land when the mature plant breaks off and takes advantage of the wind's power to propel its unique structure along the ground. Like the tumbleweed, people come here from all over the world to live, put down roots and grow a family.

The central sculpture **"Momentum"** reflects the energies of the people of Chandler. Beginning with Dr. Chandler who embraced the City Beautiful movement, and created the first town in Arizona to adopt a municipal zoning ordinance, Chandler is unique in that it has always been guided by a vision. It has a history of being forward-looking, and technology, city planning, and economic development have always been important.

The opportunities provided by the **location and the land**, and the **energies of the people** create the movement forward. Building on this momentum we find opportunities for the future. The sense of movement in the sculpture can be interpreted by each person's imagination, reflecting transportation, technology, dynamism, a sense of discovery, the movement of the wind, the atom symbol, coiled DNA, the spiral, yin & yang, chi energy, light, and so on.



tumbleweeds, light and shadow



surrounding fields—inspiration for formcast patterns/textures