

Sculpture Park Urged at Lakefront

At least three groups are thinking about developing the marina landfill site north of the Memorial Center into a sculpture garden and outdoor cultural center.

The Milwaukee Art Center, which is housed in the Memorial Center, has discussed the possibility of developing the area with Milwaukee County Park Commission officials.

The long range policy committee of Mayor Maier's Lakefront Recreational Development Technical Task Force also has endorsed the concept of developing the land for social, cultural and recreational events.

And the development committee of the War Memorial Board of Trustees has discussed the same possibility for many years.

Whether any of those groups' dreams become reality depends to a large extent on what happens with the Lake Freeway. Originally, the freeway in that area was to have six lanes. Now several alternatives are under consideration, including one plan that would partially route the freeway through tunnels along the Lakefront.

The Art Center's new addition, scheduled to open next month, contains space for a sculpture court. Tracy Atkinson, Art Center director, said the center did not now own a collection of large sculptures that would fit into an outdoor setting, such as the marina land.

One possibility would be to acquire the massive sculptures owned by Mrs. Harry Lynde Bradley, which are displayed in the gardens of her River Hills home. Mrs. Bradley already has donated her collection of modern art to the art center. However, she has remarked on a number of occasions that she would like the outdoor sculptures to remain in the parklike setting of her home.

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