

# Veterans Memorial Park Public Art Public Input Summary

July 2025



## Introduction

Veterans Memorial Park is set to become the city's largest park once completed and a dedicated place to recognize and honor the nation's veterans, the first such location in Carlsbad. As part of the development of this new park, a public art piece will be installed at the highest point of the park on the upper plateau, following the city's Art in Public Places Program. As a site-specific piece, the public art will serve as a truly special piece to honor those who have served our country. Carlsbad Municipal Code 2.18.110 requires that a minimum of 1% of the cost of certain construction projects be dedicated to public art.

## Community engagement approach

To ensure the public art at Veterans Memorial Park reflects the values, stories and lived experiences of those who have served, the city developed a three-phase community engagement approach focused on listening to veterans, active-duty military, their families and the broader Carlsbad community.

### Phase 1: Understanding community values

July – August 2023

The city conducted a series of focus groups, online surveys and meetings with local veterans organizations in summer 2023 to gather ideas about what the public art should represent. Veterans, active-duty service members and their families shared personal reflections on how the memorial could honor past, present and future military service. They emphasized creating a design that evokes pride, remembrance, healing and connection to Carlsbad's natural setting. Key themes included:

- Honoring military service
- Telling a meaningful story
- Encouraging reflection and respect
- Reflecting the unique character and values of the Carlsbad community
- Inviting engagement
- Fitting into the park's natural setting

### Artist selection process

To recruit a professional artist or artist team for this project, the city released a national Call for Artist Qualifications in late summer 2023. The call closed in the fall, with 35 eligible submissions received from across the country.

To guide the selection process, the Cultural Arts Division formed a Public Art Advisory Subcommittee in alignment with the city's Art in Public Places Program. The subcommittee first met in spring 2024 to review and evaluate all submissions, narrowing the field to four finalists. In early summer, the finalists were invited to give

presentations and participate in interviews focused on their qualifications, experience and alignment with the project’s goals. Following that process, the subcommittee selected Gordon Huether Studio to design the public art for Veterans Memorial Park.

**Phase 2: Feedback on preliminary design concepts**

**April – June 2025**

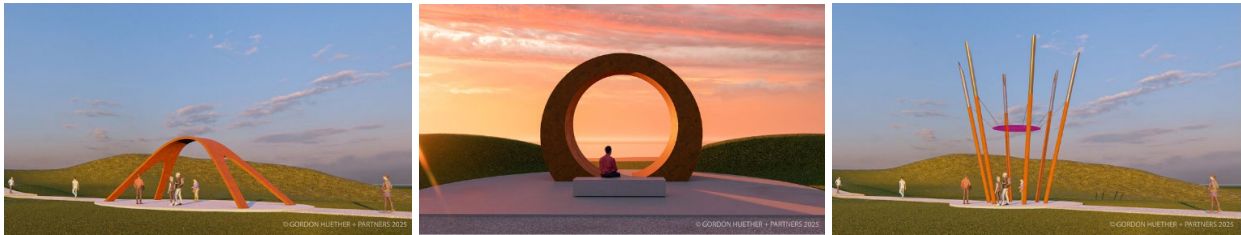
After Gordon Huether Studio was selected to design the artwork, the artist developed three preliminary concepts informed by input from Phase 1.

---

This report summarizes the input received during Phase 2 engagement.

---

In spring 2025, these concepts were shared with the public through an online survey and additional meetings with veterans groups to gather feedback that would help inform the final design. This report summarizes the input received during Phase 2 engagement.



**Phase 3: Presentation of final design**

**August – September 2025**

The artist will present a refined design that incorporates community input received to date. This final design will be made available for public review ahead of scheduled meetings of the Arts Commission and City Council. While the design will not undergo further revisions at this stage, community members will have the opportunity to view the proposal and provide comments for consideration as part of the approval process, which includes a recommendation by the Arts Commission and final approval by the City Council.

## Level of engagement

The International Association of Public Participation’s spectrum of public participation illustrates a variety of approaches to involving the public in decision making. The Veterans Memorial Park public art input process falls between “consult” and “involve.”

### International Association of Public Participation Spectrum of participation

	INFORM	CONSULT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	INVOLVE	COLLABORATE	EMPOWER
Goal	Provide balanced, information so public understands problem, options, opportunities and solutions	Obtain input on the analysis, options or decisions that have already been made	Work directly with the public throughout the process to ensure input is understood and considered	Partner with the public in each aspect of the decision, including the creation of options and identification of the preferred solution	Place final decision making in the hands of the public
Promise	We will keep you informed	We will listen to and acknowledge your concerns and ideas and let you know how your input influenced the decision	We will ensure your concerns and ideas are directly reflected in the options developed and how input influenced the final decision	We will look to you for advice in creating options and incorporate your input into the decisions to the maximum extent possible	We will implement what you decide

## How to consider the input

The input in this report is qualitative in nature and was obtained through a convenience sample. This means the city focused on gaining an in-depth understanding of community member perspectives, and the results cannot be generalized to the entire population of the city within a defined margin of error.

*The input in this report should be considered with a similar weight as comments made at a City Council meeting or those sent by email.*

That’s why the input in this report should be considered with a similar weight as other forms of feedback that have always been part of the city’s decision-making process, such as comments made at City Council meetings or emails sent to the city expressing an opinion.



### Qualitative

- Focuses on understanding the “why”
- Identifies a range of perspectives
- Allows for discovery of new ideas
- Analyzed by themes

### Quantitative

- Focused on facts/absolutes
- Data focused on measuring
- Analysis includes numerical comparisons
- Allows for statistical analysis



### Convenience sample

- Only those who knew about the opportunity to provide input were able to do so

### Random sample

- All members of the target population had an equal opportunity to participate

## How input was gathered

City staff gathered input on three proposed design concepts through an online survey and meetings with veterans in North County San Diego:

### Online survey

April 24 to June 4, 2025

589 participants

### VETART, Veterans Art Project

June 13, 2025, 6 p.m.

40 participants

### Marine Corps League, Camp J H Pendleton, Detachment 21

June 19, 2025, 6 p.m.

11 participants



### Carlsbad Chamber of Commerce Military Affairs Committee

June 20, 2025, 8 a.m.

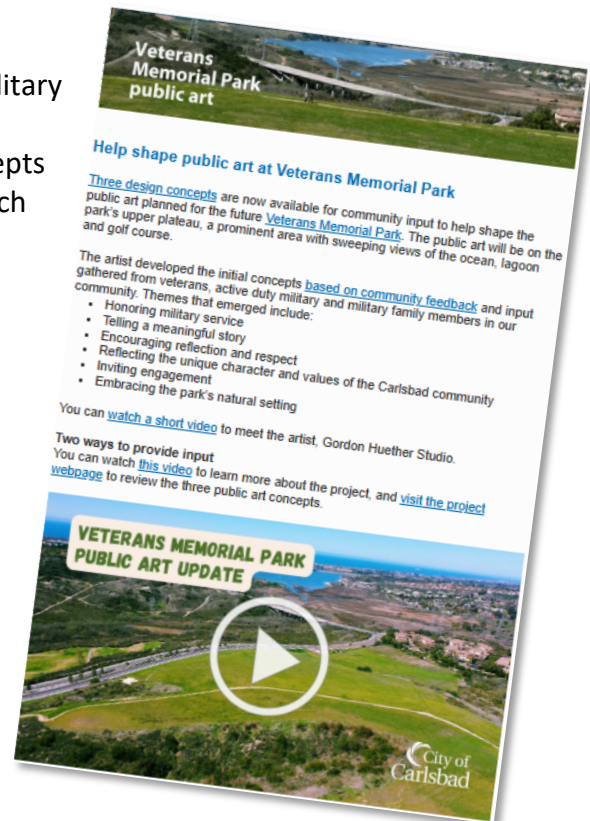
12 participants

## How the opportunities were promoted

Staff conducted direct outreach to veteran and military groups in North County San Diego to promote opportunities to provide input on the design concepts for Veterans Memorial Park public art. This outreach was conducted via email and phone calls.

The online survey was promoted through the following city communication channels:

- [News release](#)
- [Facebook](#)
- [Instagram](#)
- [X](#)
- [Nextdoor](#)
- [YouTube](#)
- [City Manager's Update](#) – sent April 24
- Emails to interested stakeholders – sent [April 25](#) and [May 28](#)
- [Project webpage](#)



# Veterans Memorial Park Public Art



**City of Carlsbad** May 5 · 🌐

We're planning a new piece of public art to honor veterans on a scenic overlook at the future Veterans Memorial Park. 🇺🇸

📄 Take a look at the 3 proposed designs—with descriptions and concept renderings—on our website: [https://loom.ly/b\\_DTTak](https://loom.ly/b_DTTak)

🗳️ Share your feedback through a quick survey, open now through May 23: <https://loom.ly/J6AiAXE>



## Give input

Help shape the future public art planned for Veterans Memorial Park.

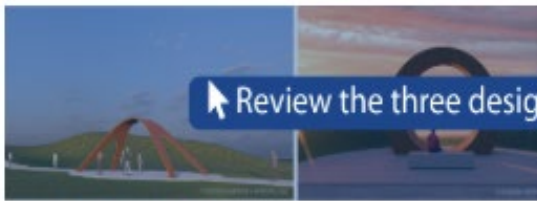
## Meet the artist

Watch a short video to learn about the artist selected to create the public art.



## Explore the concepts

Review the three design concepts, including descriptions and concept renderings.



## Take the survey

Share your thoughts on the three design concepts through the [online survey](#).

## Watch the Arts Commission meeting

At the May 1 Arts Commission meeting, the artist presented the three design concepts for the public art piece planned for Veterans Memorial Park. Commissioners review feedback to help inform the final design.

[Watch the meeting recording](#) to hear the artist explain each concept and answer questions from the commissioners.

## Veterans Memorial Park public art

### Veterans Memorial Park public art concepts ready for review

[Three design concepts](#) are now available for community input to help shape the public art planned for the future [Veterans Memorial Park](#). The public art will be located on the park's upper plateau, a prominent area with sweeping views of the ocean, lagoon and golf course.

The artist developed the initial concepts [based on community feedback](#) and input gathered from veterans, active duty military and military family members in our community. Themes that emerged include:

- Honoring military service
- Telling a meaningful story
- Encouraging reflection and respect
- Reflecting the unique character and values of the Carlsbad community
- Inviting engagement
- Fitting into the park's natural setting

**How to review the concepts**

[Watch the video below](#) to learn more about the project, and then [visit the project webpage](#) to:

- Review the three public art concepts.
- [Watch a short video](#) to meet the artist, Gordon Huether.
- Share your input in an [online survey](#) through May 23.

### VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK PUBLIC ART UPDATE

The artist will present the three concepts at the May 1 Arts Commission meeting. This is a chance to hear directly from the artist and share your thoughts to help them refine and create a final design.

[Arts Commission meeting](#)  
 Thursday, May 1, 5:30 p.m.  
 City Council Chamber  
 1200 Carlsbad Village Drive  
 The agenda and staff report will be posted by Monday, April 28.

## Overall themes

The following section summarizes overall themes that emerged across all open-ended feedback from the survey and veterans group meetings. While these points highlight the most common ideas and concerns, readers are encouraged to review verbatim responses to each survey question later in this report to get a better understanding of the feedback provided. Both the summary and the full set of comments will be considered when developing the refined design for the Veterans Memorial Park public art.

### **Desire for clear military symbolism**

Across all three designs, respondents consistently asked for clearer references to military service. Many emphasized that the artwork should feel immediately recognizable as a veteran's memorial without needing a lengthy explanation.

### **Interest in creating a space for reflection**

People responded positively to features that invited quiet contemplation, especially benches and framed views. The most appreciated designs offered a sense of emotional connection and peace.

### **Concerns about safety and durability**

Some comments noted that some designs could be misused or pose safety risks, especially for children. Materials and structural choices were also questioned for longevity and maintenance.

### **Appreciation for designs that fit into the natural setting**

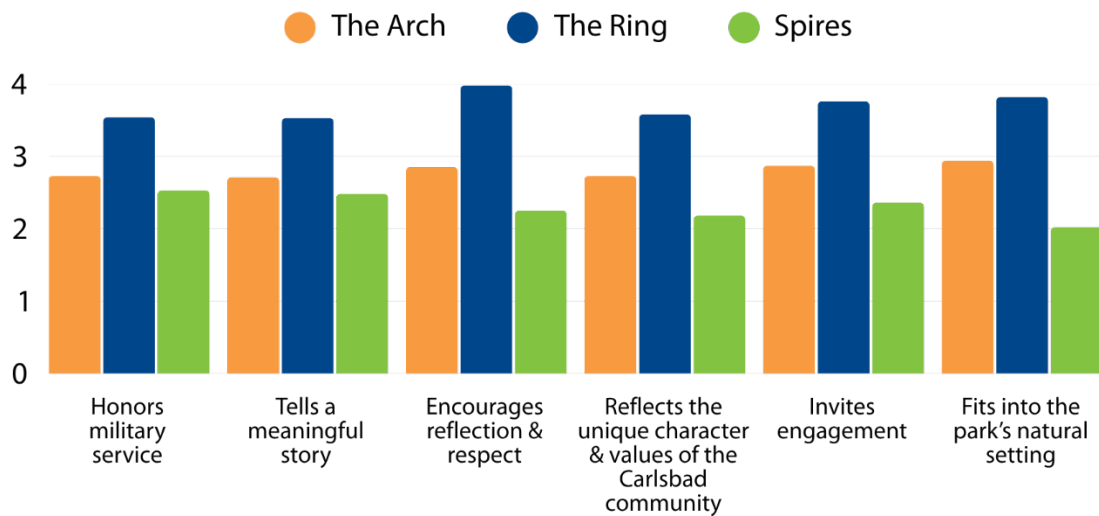
Designs that felt organic or mirrored the surrounding landscape were generally favored. Some felt more industrial or modern styles clashed with the park's natural atmosphere.

### **Suggestions to enhance storytelling**

Many respondents recommended adding contextual elements such as plaques, engraved names or symbols representing the different military service branches to help deepen the public's understanding of the artwork's meaning.

## Themes by design concept

When asked how well each design reflected themes identified during earlier phases of public input, on a scale of 1 (strongly disagree) to 5 (strongly agree). The Ring emerged as the top-rated design, receiving the highest ratings across key categories like reflection, connection to the setting and community values. Open-ended comments showed a similar pattern, with The Ring generating the most positive and neutral feedback, often described as peaceful and contemplative. Overall, The Ring was the most preferred concept, followed by The Arch, while Spires generated more mixed feedback.



Earlier input theme identified	The Arch	The Ring	Spires
Honors military service	2.73	3.54	2.53
Tells a meaningful story	2.71	3.53	2.48
Encourages reflection and respect	2.85	3.98	2.25
Reflects the unique character and values of the Carlsbad community	2.73	3.58	2.18
Invites engagement	2.87	3.76	2.36
Fits into the park's natural setting	2.94	3.82	2.02
<b>Overall weighted average</b>	<b>2.81</b>	<b>3.70</b>	<b>2.30</b>

The section below summarizes key themes that emerged in open-ended feedback for each design option.

### Concept A – The Arch



#### Positive themes

- Viewed as graceful and sculptural; some felt it suggested shelter or protection
- Design allowed for movement through the piece, creating a sense of openness
- A few noted it mirrored Carlsbad’s hills or natural forms

#### Concerns and suggestions

- Did not clearly convey a connection to veterans or military service
- Concern it could be misused as a climbing structure or appear like playground equipment
- Some found the design too modern and expressed concerns that it would not blend well with the surrounding natural environment
- Does not feel unique to Carlsbad
- Many found the design too abstract or ambiguous without supporting context
- Suggestions included adding plaques, military emblems or seating to support reflection

## Concept B – The Ring



### Positive themes

- Widely described as peaceful, reflective and contemplative
- The circular form evoked unity, eternity and a sense of community
- Many appreciated the built-in bench for resting and taking in the view

### Concerns and suggestions

- Some felt the artwork needed clearer military symbolism or storytelling
- A few noted that having only one primary vantage point (bench) limited group interaction
- Suggested enhancements included additional seating, interpretive signage and alignment with the sunset

## Concept C – Spires



### Positive themes

- Strongest perceived connection to military service through vertical forms and symbolic references
- Seen as the most monument-like of the three designs
- Some appreciated the contrast and visual prominence

### Concerns and suggestions

- Reactions to materials were mixed, with some expressing concern about durability or harshness of glass
- Several felt it was too stark, cold or didn't blend with the natural park setting
- Suggestions included incorporating softer elements, natural colors or more narrative detail

## Appendix

Online survey results and verbatim responses

Veterans-focused group presentation meeting notes

VETART – Veterans Art Project, June 13

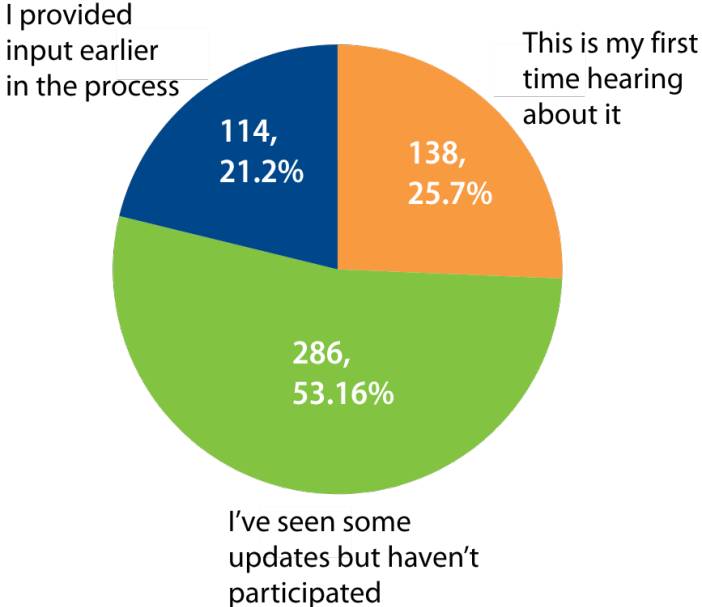
Marine Corps League, Camp J H Pendleton, Detachment 21, June 19

Carlsbad Chamber of Commerce Military Affairs Committee meeting, June 20

# Online survey results

## 1. How familiar are you with the Veterans Memorial Park public art project?

Answered: 538 Skipped: 51

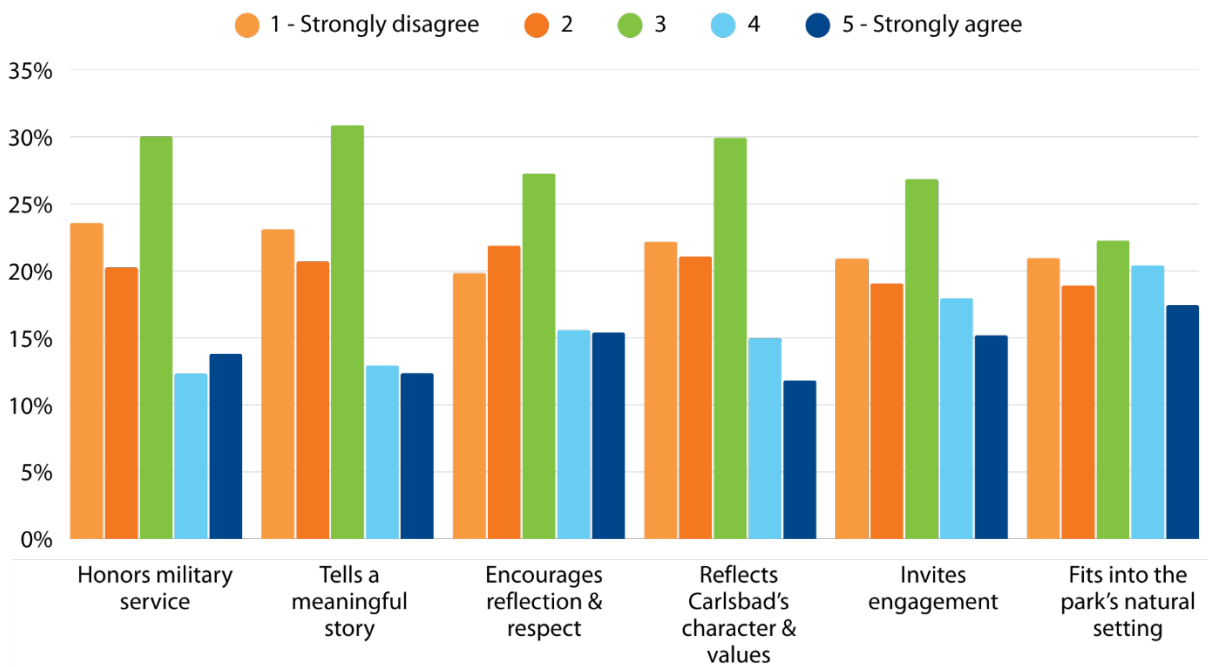


## Concept A – The Arch



### 2. To what extent do you agree that this concept reflects each of the following themes identified by the community?

Answered: 546      Skipped: 43



### 3. What do you like about this design, and what would you change?

Answered: 321

Skipped: 268

This would be the best one if they can find a way to tie in military service within the structure.

I like every thing about the design. Maybe add a sitting bench where veterans or anyone can sit and reflect.

The shape matches the natural ecosystem. I would add two more legs so that there are a total of six legs, each one representing each of the branches of the military.

I like: the shelter aspect is effective, and many people can be around and engaged with this piece together, equally. I wouldn't change anything. Although, I'm sorry to say, I can imagine someone climbing this.

Integration into setting and possibility of engagement (yet also wonder about inappropriate engagement, ie climbing). Does not invite curiosity or connection to its purpose or celebration of veteran contributions.

Not much. The design reminds me of the image of a large animal crossing the horizon.  
place American flag within the structure

open, clean lines

Don't Like

reminds me of a plastic fidget piece that flexs and pops up. could encourage viewer to hang or climb on the art

I would incorporate all the emblems of all the services somehow. Whatever is picked, consider a bunch of teenagers doing something stupid on it. Keep it safe.

I think that people seeing this design without knowing its backstory would not think it was related to military service and would assume it was just a random sculpture.

Not natural looking.

I like the meaning behind the design, 2nd choice.

I like it, but it the structure image does not suggest anything about the military - would be dependent on narrative.

There is no Shelter that these "arms" of the services are protecting- needs a half circle orb with a bench within to represent "home or the homeland"

My choice would be a low-rise, low-key type of design. Of the 3 options, the Arch seems to be the least intrusive.

I don't like anything about it.

I like that it leaves the views open. As a military family, it doesn't speak military/veteran to me.

To me it's just an ugly waste of money

Overall, I like the sculpture and do think in general is a quality sculpture for a park. Just not sure it would be my top choice for Veterans Memorial park.

Kind of ok. But it does not mean anything. It's better than a canopy.

Don't like it.

To me this design says little about honoring Veterans.

Access to the top, this sculpture will be climbed on and abused.

Simple design, not very interesting, but at least seems to be less intrusive on the landscape and least likely to cause harm to wildlife.

I like it, however, I like Gordon's infinity loop design better. I think that piece conveys the idea of our remembrances of service continuing forever.

I very much like the idea of the arch and that as a community we can pass through it.

While the design is interesting--a sort of abstract downward facing dog figure--I believe it will be an attractive nuisance for skateboarders and ebikers.

I like it but it doesn't seem as contemplative as The Ring.

It's ok, but I'm not sure people will take 'protection' and 'military' from this. I think it more looks like Gumby stretching.

Doesn't connect to military

Really nothing

Terrible concept. As a Veteran, there is no connection to this piece of art. This arch like bridge is too contemporary.

Very unique shape. Great interactivity-walking under and around it. Scylptural in all directions. Open

Uninspiring and not aesthetically pleasing

Seems too generic

I dont like it as it looks like a cover at a bus stop

Simple and relaxing to look at.

Looks good and adds some minimal shelter

I do not see how any of the three concepts honors the military or tells a meaningful story or encourages respect.

You have no idea what Veterans feel

IT IS OKAY, BUT NOT MY FAVORITE.TOO MODERN.

I do not like this design. As to engagement, I'd imagine that kids would logically think that it was a gymkhana element and play on it.

I don't like it and I would eliminate it. As to "what it does and what it inspires" I think it is all in someones imagination, not in any reality. It doesn't "invite" me to do anything.

Add a place to sit

A memorial plaque

Like: One can easily pass through or stop in the design. I would add a bench or two on the sides for one to rest and think about the sacrifice our military members make.

+ Walk-through, shape echoes hills- Very generic

Seem like it should be bigger.

Unique enough to create curiosity

Kids will climb and fall off. Set some funds aside for the lawsuits.

It looks oppressive and like someone being forced to bend over. Maybe open up the top somehow or free up one of the legs/arms

It's not a fit....We need to inspire, recognize courage and sacrifice and service under tryimng conditions worldwide.

Too simple. Not attractive.

I would like to see some seating improvised into this design.

simple, elegant

I think people will climb and fall from it. Liability alone is not ok.

Reminds me of someone doing a backbend.

The entire city of Carlsbad has a dysfunctional obsession with interfering with nature . This entire project is another example of that illness.

The flow & sweeping nature. The feeling of the arching protection provided by our military service members for the community at large. Lovely. I would add a bench on the outside of one of the arches for those who do wish to sit & reflect or disabled patrons who might need a place to rest & reflect.

I would change everything. The designs are too abstract and I don't see any relationship honor to the military or vets. It may be great for yoga classes, or meditation, but nothing else.

I can't even begin to explain why this is horrible.

Add a bench nearby

I like that you can walk through and under it. Needs a bench nearby so people can sit and reflect and enjoy the view.

I would the arch to be taller and the openings greater and the legs thicker. sort of a combo of design one and the circle. Concept A looks fragile like our Democracy, concept B looks strong like our service men. I think the strength of our servicemen (legs) and the fragility of our democracy the thinning to the peak of the arch with the pathway as in concept A is a more inclusive design. Powerful, tall, but not overpowering as concept B.

It's encompassing -- feel like it could wrap around me and give me a hug. I'd make it even bigger than it is.

Sort of bland not too inspiring

no thank you

I don't really like this design. It looks like a giant spring clip from a watch or a machine.

I just don't see how this is reflective of military veterans. Will there be a plaque somewhere describing what this is and for whom?

I like that it's low-key, even though it doesn't speak to me at all nor symbolize much about veterans. Plus, I'd be concerned that kids would be running, skating, or cycling up and over it.

This design is unique and would be good for this site.

the most engaging option

Like the gracefulness. Dislike the color. Nothing keeps people from climbing it or trying to use skateboards or bikes on it.

The giant pencils is an instant reject, the other two look derivative of Maya Lin's Vietnam Memorial, which at least carries the names of the fallen. These do no such thing, they could represent anything, given the right ad copy (as they are here).

Simplicity here takes away from the intricacies of the stories of military service. Add some sort of plants growing around it, or some beauty to the barren shape.

I love the natural curves, and love the idea that it represents protection, which is what our Vets have provided.

I like the soft curves and the open design, it reflects the rolling hills around it.

My favorite art design but seems random, not very reflective nor military connection. Feels like it will invite engagement in the wrong ways - looks like a bmx/ebike obstacle

Nice design but I don't see any aspect of it saying "this makes me think of military service."

It's ugly and too tall. If it was a "V" shape looking upwards it would be more inline with a Veterans Memorial. The color is not reflective of the environment.

This is as if an english teacher told you to use every adjective to describe a door in your writing except it's just a plain old door. You're trying to make something out of nothing.

I like that the arch represents strength, resilience and shelter. It would be nice to have a line of sight to the ocean through the arch and a place to rest and reflect.

I like that it resembles a body that shelters and defends our land's freedom. I would add a subtle head silhouette.

I dislike it. It has no bearing or relation to veterans. It is just modern art that looks like a piece of playground equipment. Lacks verbiage relating to veterans.

i like that visitors can look upwards to sky or thru arched openings- many spaces and would be viewed in the round- i imagine folks walking all around it. I would swirl the path around the form in roundabout circular orientation that responds to the artwork and intuitively prompts one to experience the work and environment from multiple vantage points. Maybe no concrete at all- (Henry Moore) grounded to earth- embedded into the landscape. Maybe play with the current proportions and any potential negative spaces, reductive patterning impacting the role of light/shadows along skyfacing length.

I would not change anything. I find the design soothing.

Its inviting and welcoming. It is aesthetically pleasing and appreciate the symbolism of lives changed through service. I would recommend adding a bench either on the sides or in the middle for reflection. I would also encourage engraving the military branches on it.

I like that is is distinct and soft, making a statement while blending into the surrounding area. Add more benches for seating and introspection

This is a good design and I like the concept/story, especially the idea of stretching across a space to connect to veterans history. I also like the idea of strength and how the structure stretches across the area in a way like it is representative of service members holding something up (freedom, community, etc). However, I don't feel like it invites reflection and pause on the sacrifices and history of our service members as much. Potentially more features that would actively engage the public in pause and reflection: benches, some kind of artistic addition feature that brings a person in beyond just passing through.

Too abstract. This and all the other concepts are far removed from depicting anything to do with veterans. Why not something more traditional.

Open and inviting. Add seating into the design for the ability to stop and reflect. Ensure that the positioning of it takes in the ocean view similar to the ring "prototype"

It will become a favorite photo spot for residents and visitors and a chance for conversation and reflection.

Don't like it

All of these designs are not properly honoring Vietnam vets. This is just another "art" project. I would suggest a memorial that depicts the Hanoi Hilton prison camp, Mekong delta patrol boats, USAF F-105 jets in flight and the homecoming of the American prisoners after many years. Otherwise this is just another waste of money by a government body.

It reminds me of a spider so I wouldn't really want to go inside. It seems so stark and modern without pulling in the history of military service.

At the risk of sounding crass, it looks like a stretched out horizontal Gumby.

Intriguing, nice sweeping symmetrical style. Steel gives a cold atmosphere. Evokes playground equipment theme.

It seems like an invitation to climb.

It blends with the environment

It looks like someone falling down and giving up on life.

from a safety standpoint, skateboarders/bmx bike riders dream...

It simply doesn't feel like Carlsbad Not a fan

This has no historical context nor relationship to veterans. There is no connection to the values of service members nor the deep trauma that they have endured in their service.

The span needs needs to be more substantial. A larger physical presence.

Accommodates larger # of people. Has a 360 degree view. Is part of the pathway rather than a destination.

I don't see how this honors the military.

Do not like it

More pleasing to the eye than the other two. Hard to say that any of these do the things you ask in your survey - really more of what's most pleasing design.

I do not like this design. No warmth and looks like a paper clip that has been bent.

I like the open concept and the idea that it represents the 4military divisions. It allows light and space and is not intrusive to the environment.

The arch feels more encompassing than the other designs...it symbolizes a feeling of protection, almost like someone covering others from harm.

Looks like a person doing a backbend.

I like the size of the sculpture and shape. I am unsure of the color, but I assume it is the proper material for outdoor art work.

No significance to the structure and the military.

Does not look inviting.

not impressive, might as well put nothing

Although the design is simple, there is nothing suggesting military service within it. This design will also invite people, esp. kids to climb the arches, like in a playground.

This is just okay, meaning that to me it does not make any sort of statement or evoke any particular feelings in me. There would have to be some explanatory plaque nearby for anyone to "get" this piece, which looks more like a child's playground structure than a piece of art commemorating our military service members.

I like the color

Lukewarm on this concept

I love the reflection of strength it portrays. It doesn't provide as much opportunity for reflection.

Doesn't inspire.

It flows well, but I see no indication that this is a veteran's memorial. It has four, rather than six, 'arms.'

I don't care for any of it!

I like that it is rounded - no harsh edges.

Least preferred of the three designs

I think this design is prone to abuse by skateboarders.

Simplistic but doesn't portray as strong of a message as the other designs

while the design is simple and peaceful, there is nothing about it that says military

Looks dinky

This is my favorite

I do not like the arch.

Too big to offer comfort.

This design melds and connects to the terrain.

How does this represent Veterans, doesn't make any sense, a nice tall statue of something such as the Lone sailor.

Proportions lengthened

Nothing. Would not even try to change. Meaningless as to objective.

Did not like it, looks like a spider

I think people will try to climb it. I don't think it frames the setting well.

The design chosen should be immediately obvious to the viewer that it represents military service. An explanation should not be required, although may be helpful to fully appreciate the meaning.

Looks like an abstract of a giant crawling bug.

Has nothing on the arch in St Louis.

I like the look from above, but I think people (kids/yourh?) will try to climb on it...

It looks like Gumby but does little to respect and honor veterans.

Too tall

Not commanding enough in presence.

I actually think that this looks like something that kids would try to climb. It's not my favorite.  
.21-->33+

I like it, but the pictures make it look a bit like a handle to a box. I think I would be better if it did not make itself stand out as a different color, the same way the best version of the US military protects us while being stoic without being ostentatious about it. It might work better as a burnished or mirrored metal-colored or navy-gray piece.

It's a simple design, but but see bad mannered kids trying to run up it like a bridge

I don't like it at all. It reminds me of a spider, and I hate spiders.

Excellent looking structure.

I don't like anything about it.

I see the shelter aspect but not the forward motion. It does speak of reliance. Don't like the color. I like it best of the 3 options.

Should have military figures of some type. This concept could be in any park and no relationship to veterans.

I like the openness of it, I would add more than one, to make more of an impact.

I think the shape is not quite right for the space.

Looks like a giant spider

Love the openness and views. We do not like that it's a military based. Carlsbad is about the whole community, arts and creativity, togetherness, and the coastal beauty it entails.

I like that the overall shape is reminiscent of the hilly landscape. I think it would be fun to walk through. However, I don't feel that the design stands out or is particularly unique, especially compared to the other two concepts.

Simplicity

Like the shape and design of the sculpture.

Not sure about the orange color of the arch.

I like this design a lot.

I do not like it.

N:A

I like that you can walk through it. I worry about kids climbing it and falling on cement

A lot of veterans probably can't negotiate the hill. A basic criticism

Just looks like a structure to walk under

Fits into the natural view, not very interesting

It's different

I believe this is the wrong setting for this design.

I like the arch better than the other two.

Kids might try to climb it, fall off and get hurt.

Is there risk kids will be able to climb it?

For opportunities for reflection suggest adding benches

It looks like a jody

Worried kids will climb and fall from it.

I like the sense of protection, but not the associations with Gumby.

It's middle of the road

The design does not reflect military service or tell a story. I also don't think it invites engagement compared to the other two options.

This design to me represents well the idea that all are protected and also the sense of motion and opportunity to be transformed. But it does not seem to invite pausing to reflect as much as the Ring does.

Since it's so large, more visitors can engage with the sculpture at one time. I like the idea of people being able to walk through from one end to the other.

Nothing. It's cold and does not engage the honor due in remembrance.

I am quite negative on this design. I like very little and not sure I can suggest changes that would moving me into the positive.

I think this option should have 6 "legs" (one for each branch of the armed forces) and should be higher - in the concept representation, it looks "stunted" rather than projected power and strength.

Any public art at a veterans park should include seating for us aging or disabled veterans. Must be wheelchair friendly as well.

it's good you're seeking input but these designs are just stylistic and cold. you're going down the same route as "the bars" sculpture at near offshore surf shop decades ago.

Captures respect and solitude, but I favor the Ring

As a Marine veteran this does not reflect the veterans at all and especially the United States Marines which is the majority in our community.

I do not like the design at all for its intended purpose.

I am disappointed that this valuable piece of land is being changed at all. It's perfect just the way it is.

The walk-through design is nice. Adding a couple of benches on each side would allow people to stop, rest and reflect.

Interesting, but not moving.

It's simple and not offensive looking but it's very basic and uninteresting.

I doesn't encourage reflection to me, more just walking through

Simple and modern. Does not evoke veteran connection with out explicit explanation

Cool shape, looks like a bridge

It simply exhudes strength

As a veteran, I find it cold and see no relevance to my service experience . Find some image that actually has a military feeling.

Looks kind of boring.

This is all tax payer waste of money. I posted on your Facebook post and suggested to leave as is. This way you have no issue with homeless people and vandalism. Minimal maintenance. Everyone can enjoy nature and the land. At the end that's what the vets were fighting for. Save money, preserve the land.

Maybe if you made it green we could just call it Gumby. Are you trying to bring to mind Agent Orange from the Vietnam war?

It looks like McDonald's arches.

I don't like it at all. It doesn't fit in the setting.

Don't like it.

I feel like this design will not be respected. Unfortunately it looks more like a structure to play on.

The 'art' doesn't tie directly to anything and it looks monolithic, profile not fitting the surroundings.

"Arched form suggests shelter"

Just looks like a weird canopy

I'm pretty neutral about this design but it reminds me of the LAX restaurant from years ago. Doesn't say tranquility to me.

I like it but I like others better

How does this have anything to do with the military or our veterans

It's huge but I guess that's OK. Of the 3 designs, I like it the best.

I love the idea but fear people could misuse it and become a climbing gym.

Like - you can walk through it. Change - it looks flimsy so make it sturdier.

Reminds me of LAX - takes away from the focus

I like that it is shaped like one of the park's hills.

Don't understand how the design ties into the story or the symbolism. Looks like Gumby doing yoga.

Will there be a place to name and honor Carlsbad Veterans who have passed?

Needs more feeling of transition- perhaps with different textures or words on the pavement

Ugly

A tripod is the most balanced - through and three point there is always exactly one plane. The four are limited in expressing balance...think of rocking desks in school.

I like the simplicity (and the shade as a practical matter). The surrounding area is devoid of shade but it can be inferred as that the people in the military serve and protect (the shade is a protection). Changes? Maybe some direct connection on who we are memorializing?

I like it and no change

Just put up a plaque and save our tax dollars. Carlsbad has a terrible track record with public art installations. Or donate dollars not spent on art to a veterans charity.

The arch reflects our hills, and blends in well, as well as reminding me of strength and victory. It's both anchoring & movement

My husband and I like this design best of the three (neither of us are veterans)

I just really do not like this design.

Not much, would not recommend

Add lighting that turns on at night around the arch, but not too bright.

Terrible design. Doesn't honor our veterans.

For veterans it provides a cover, lets the sunshine in, is a bulls eye to achieve goals, and is simple.

It allows for more people to enjoy it at the same time.

Can look through the arch from different angles.

Would prefer it to be the color of the sky and ocean.

It flows and curves like an ocean wave.

I like that this design is placed for direct interaction with the public. May be a veteran-inspired cutout at the top for people to look through and reflect on those we have lost?

Reminds me of an insect. Don't like it.

No room for seating? Can thus be added in? It feels like you come and see it but you don't stay -

I like the ability for many people to engage with this art piece at one time and I like the symbolism of many (4) coming together at the peak as one. The color looks really orange. I think a more natural color or metal would look best.

It's not as inviting as concept B. No place to sit and reflect or be thoughtful about military sacrifice and service.

This is a unique design that allows visitors to walk through the art piece, giving a sense of "processing". The shape compliments the hillsides in the park. It seems to need something more though, perhaps some meaningful words or symbols engraved, maybe that the sun shines through, or that have a light source on them, to better and more intentionally honor the military, and to invite and encourage engagement and reflection further. When I look at other works created by this artist, many have specific connections to the theme being honored, and all three of these designs seem to be missing that. It leaves the artwork open to other interpretations (which is good for art to do), but the intent is to specifically consider and honor the military at first glance, right? How do these art pieces direct patrons to consider the military at all?

---

Add Seating

---

Simple and elegant while appearing strong.

---

It is ugly.

---

My favorite one. I don't like how thin it is tho. Look at the shayyad monument in teheran

---

It is open space, but doesn't honor anyone...just meaningless to me. Sorry, it's just too impersonal.

---

I think the design is abstract and most people will not intuitively understand it's significance.

---

It flows with the coast and is ok, but nothing draws me in.

---

Very esthetic. Like that you can walk through it.

---

I like that it appears natural and slowing, kind of like the hillsides around it. It seems a little plain, and at first glance I would have no idea it had to do with veterans.

---

This reminds me of this horrible (Art) bars that we put in off Carlsbad Blvd and Off Shore!

---

This design does not evoke much emotion in terms of reflection.

---

Compare to the other 2, artistically, this is not unique, nor visually depicting a story nor image of the purpose

---

Dislike it

---

It's fine but encourages people to keep walking.

---

Looks like a gardening tool.. horrible sorry artist

---

It looks a little out of place, doesn't fit with the nature on a natural setting. Too small perhaps?

---

Good for photo ops, not sure about the color

---

I like that it evokes protection, which veterans have sacrificed their own lives to protect and serve. I also like that the 4 base points represent the 4 main branches of the military.

---

it looks ugly

---

Great in the open space. It reminds me of the new wildlife overpasses being created.

---

It would not necessarily be seen as a memorial but rather an art installation. It would need instructive markers explaining its presence.

---

Look inviting to climb...don't see the point.

---

this design would invite kids to climb the structure and could become a liability for the City

---

I see children, teens climbing on this to cross. It's ok, but no special meaning to military service. Very plain. Lacks esthetics, beauty. Does not inspire.

It makes me think of the superhero mom in the Incredibles making herself into a bridge. For some reason that is all I can see...

I don't like the design at all and don't think it fits the objectives mentioned above

I like it. I'd make sure it doesn't become a jungle gym for climbing

There is no connection with the Veteran's or symbols that evoke any sense of service to our country or community outside the name "Veterans park". How can there not be a national flag on site? We seem to have missed the mark in our desire to present art.

The intent of the artist is missing from the design. It also misses the capture of all the Service Branches.

Nothing- get some more bids.

looks more like a play structure

Like: the sense of it as part of the animal kingdom like us.

Change: longer anchors to the earth to transition between sky and earth

I like the color. But it looks like a play structure and it invites kids to climb it.

It needs a bench to sit and reflect.

You know people will be running up and over the arch.

Add military wording somewhere- whether it's listing values, branches of service etc.

Don't care for it.

Make it so it can be sat on, climbed, or played on (like the rock sculpture art at Stagecoach park)

this design doesn't resonate anything meaningful. It's bland.

Not much of interest.

Like in the Ring, if there was a bench to reflect and remember, I think all the art pieces should include a spot to stop, sit, and reflect. I like the shape.

The Ring symbolizes infinity, and we will forever be grateful to our service members for their sacrifice.

I'm just not a fan, just looks like something people will walk right through and not stop to enjoy

Safety is a concern... legs angled to avoid climbing atop structure?

Simplicity is appreciated.

Honestly, not a fan of this one.

Non of these designs meets the criteria. Looks like the this will be another failed art project like the "bars" that had to be removed at taxpayer expense.

I don't think any of the designs evoke thoughts of veterans service to country. They are abstract and could be about anything.

The design is very utilitarian

At first glance, the meaning of this piece is not intuitive and would need a plaque to explain; however, it is not anticipated many visitors will take the time to read it and therefore this would be a missed opportunity.

Generally, there's very little that I like. I embrace all of the the bullets listed above under "Community Input" but don't feel like this responds to any of it. Nothing here evokes honor for Military Service, which, given the name for the park, seems to be of utmost importance. It is an interesting piece if the attempt was simply "Public Art," but I anticipated something much more than that with the vision, again evoking emotion and reflective of honor for those who served and continue to serve.

---

I would put a couple of benches or similar. The design is very gracious but would be better if it has some function

---

Doesn't do anything from a military veteran point of view

---

Don't like

---

I like the living feel of the design, with a sense of an animate object. I think this artwork is effective as part of the path. My preference would be for the art piece to be off the pathway.

---

Dynamic open & beautiful

---

Just ok.

---

It looks like a hundred other arches I've seen. Not original or contemplative.

---

Beautiful, elegant, & makes me think of a person offering shelter & protection (as do service members).

---

It's unobstructive; fits better in the environment

---

It's okay. It could be looked at - because of the two legs at either end as a stick figure playfully leaning over to form a bridge. Lacks the elegance of Arch in St. Louis, Missouri.

---

Make sure its about the Veterans not about a Modern Art Display.

---

It seems so ordinary.

---

Simple and dignified. Its dynamic and strong.

---

It looks like an adult bending over backwards which is kind of what our veterans did. But I don't see how this reflects Carlsbad

---

It feels like arms of protection, so I really like this design. It might be nice to have something at the center ceiling of the piece that you can admire laying on the ground, or six dots or lines in the center that represent the branches of service.

---

I foresee kids climbing it to sit on top

---

The design seems to fit the story and it is interesting to look.

---

Simple, inviting, easy to see around

---

Nothing

---

It's fine, but it's not calling to me.

---

I'd have a few "low-key" benches to invite reflection and enjoyment of the view. I like this design best because it's least intrusive to the natural environment.

---

It's the least ugly and intrusive

---

I don't like this design. I don't think it fits the environment nor does it satisfy any of the themes.

---

Nothing!

---

This is the best design in my opinion, it flows well with the natural landscape and will be most durable to crowds

I think it will become a problem with people climbing it to take photos on top, eventually forcing a fence or some sort of barrier to be put around or on it.

---

color - pick a color that blends in more with the environment

---

N/A

---

it resembles a headless stick figure doing a back bend

---

It does not inspire much in me. It also looks as though it might make a lovely challenge for skaters. I do not prefer that it is in line with traffic. That does not encourage a pause for reflection.

---

Offers protection from elements, as service men and women offer protection to the people. Could use some native shrubs/groundcover and native trees to blend in with natural aesthetic of Carlsbad area. Incorporate bench or wall seating.

---

Looks dangerous for kids.

---

Don't care for it

---

unlikely for kids to climb and get hurt.

---

This is my favorite

---

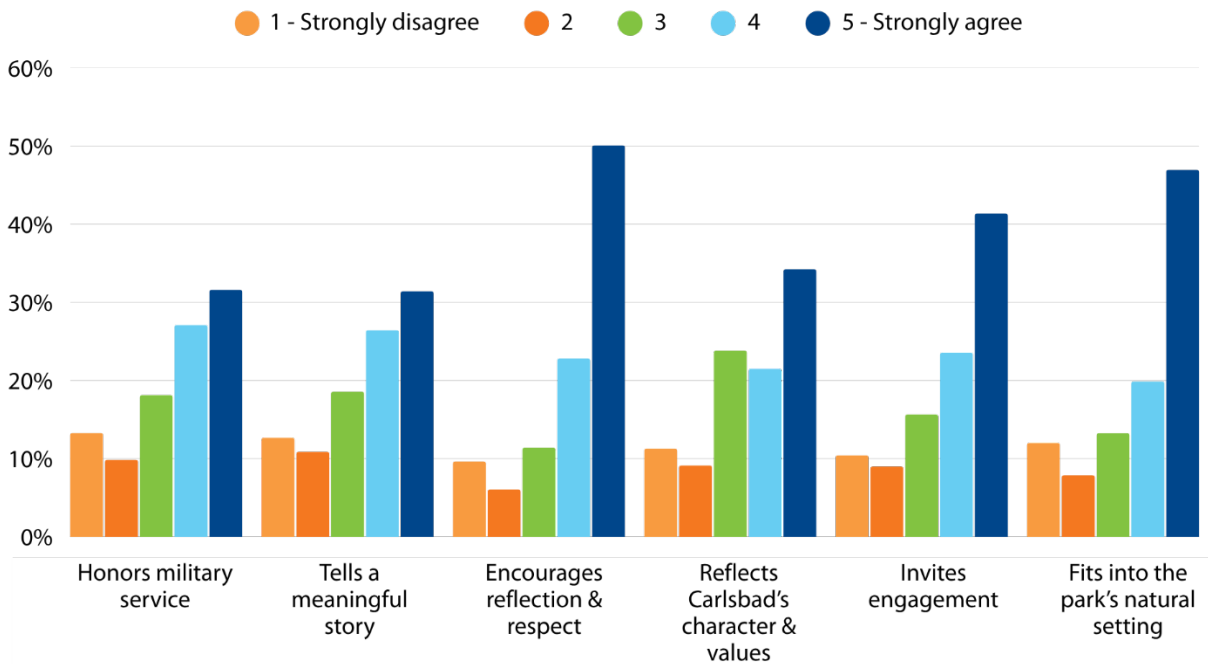
This design is too similar to the one across from the San Diego airport. Carlsbad design should be unique.

## Concept B – The Ring



4. To what extent do you agree that this concept reflects each of the following themes identified by the community?

Answered: 561      Skipped: 28



## 5. What do you like about this design, and what would you change?

Answered: 346

Skipped: 243

I like the bench. And this is my favorite design.

I like that the people on the bench get this optimal experience. Everyone else around is not. It's like there's one view, and you might have to wait for the bench to get your turn. Also, if people are in mind of a combat situation, I think the berms as drawn could make them feel like someone is hiding on the other side, rather than feel protected. So, what I would change: remove the bench and the berms.

Reflection of community/unique view is great. Very serene in rendering, inviting a pause. Ring shape implies a promise or eternity.

More symmetry. comforting and relaxing. Exudes a relaxing appearance.

pretty design; nice bench for sitting to reflex. Possible to add more benches

Add a low black granite wall to replace the green knolls behind the ring. The wall would be higher near the front/walkway and lower to the back/behind the ring. The Wall would be similar in concept to the Vietnam Memorial in DC. I would also show the ring complete at the bottom representing circle of life, all of the branches of the military, and healing.

seems long term, quiet spot. Photo op. sort of a tube/wave nod to local Carlsbad.

I think a bunch of skateboarders will use it as a ramp.

The framing and bench for contemplation is welcoming and comforting.

I think that people seeing this design without knowing its backstory would not think it was related to military service and would assume it was just a random sculpture.

It is great for the few people that the bench fits to watch the sunset. However the ring itself seems too abstract and too large.

This one is my favorite, it's peaceful and invites reflection.

Nothing to suggest connection to military.

The bench invites participation, pausing to reflect. The ring captures the view (what they fought to protect) the homeland. It invites one to be a part of it.

It is too big for the setting and does not fit into the park's natural setting at all. It sticks out like a sore thumb. Please do not select "the Ring."

It's the only one if the three designs I like. The thing I would change is the color.

I think it's the best.

This one is really strong and stood out to both me and my veteran. I recently worked to get three Carlsbad schools the purple star distinction and truly feel like this one embodied all it stands for.

peaceful

Start the entire search over. None of these designs are inspiring art.

Like area where you can sit and reflect. Like the meaning of the circle.

Make it a bit less bulky.

Love the overall design and feel it is contemplative and evokes a reflective quality of quiet strength. I think it fits with the natural setting better than the other two designs. Not sure if orange is the final color so am interested to know if that would change. Overall, a good choice for the park.

---

simplicity, strong, eternally , nothing needs to be changed

---

I like the circular shape, an unending shape

---

The ring - it represents our city. We come full circle all generations together.

---

Very calming and good for reflection.

---

Seems like a peaceful place to reflect on Service and loss

---

Least likely to be vandalized and does invite reflection.

---

Sturdy though bulky, at least a place to sit and contemplate. Also less likely to cause harm to birds and local wildlife.

---

I like this concept. While it does invite contemplation, I think given the number of individuals using the park, there might not be adequate seating or space for several individuals to contemplate.

---

It is a strong symbol of the circular nature of things, and has a nice solidity to it that speaks of strength.

---

I like this one the most and think it is beautiful.

---

This one I love. The circle represents protection, completion, and draws the ocean forward into the park. As far as representing the military community, it represents a 'full circle moment' where it shows what people sacrificed for, and in some ways show that we bring them home, from maybe across the ocean, and bring them with us in our thoughts and remembrances. Simple, but oh so effective.

---

add something about carlsbad or military to show how it connects

---

I think the ring is a positive and inclusive symbol and invites introspection. Its a bit boring but the best of the three.

---

I like this piece of art work. Weathering steel demonstrates toughness that the US military service members must have to serve with honor, courage and commitment. The structure will weather time and the elements. Perfect for Active Duty, Veterans and their family members to reflect on accomplishments while serving, remembering those with whom you served with and honor those who made the ultimate sacrifice. With the ability to have a view of the Pacific Ocean this allows individuals to bring inner peace. Bravo Zulu! I do recommend that at the base you have All 6 branches of the service logos imprinted.

---

Peaceful

---

Simple and encourages sitting and viewing.

---

Fits the natural surroundings, simple and elegant design. Much better than the other two options.

---

Like how peaceful

---

I dont like it. What in the world does this design have to do with real world military ?

---

invites speculation.

Offers no shelter and not unique at all

I do not see how any of the three concepts honors the military or tells a meaningful story or encourages respect.

SO BEAUTIFUL! IF THE SUNSET SHINES THROUGH THE CIRCLE! OUR CIRCLE OF HOPE WILL NOT BE BROKEN!!!!!! NO CHANGES.

Again, I see no relation to any military/veteran's theme. As a contemplative and meditative sculpture, it's the best of the concepts. It could be in any open space to evoke reflection and a Buddhist-like sense of peace. It'd be great at Swami's!

It looks very Zen-like and fits the park and the theme of honor and reflection and respect. I pick this as my number one pick.

Also reminds me of waves

I would change the base so it is not attractive to skateboarders.

It's perfect the way it is, peaceful and comforting.

Allows for reflection but doesn't allow for entering the feature.

+ Frames views, invites engagement

Seems like such a peaceful place and a perfect window to the landscape beyond.

Waste of money on something most people won't see. Cancel the project, spend tax dollars we paid for something more useful like raising police officers's salaries, eliminate drug dealers and homeless people off the streets where we live.

I love this design, it will create spectacular views.

Nice. Difficult to mow the grass on the mounds? Perhaps install a different plant.

To me it symbolizes the circle of life, continuity, and security

Same as above

Love this design the most. It seems more serene and contemplative. I like that seating is available. It has a wonderful view also.

It would be nice if the circle coincided at some point in time with the sun setting. Otherwise it's too simple.

Beautiful, strong, pensive

simple, blends with nature; concerned that skate boards will try to play on it; design invites graffiti

Awesome. Circle should be above ground entirely resting on the earth. (Not partially buried)Very interesting.

Feels peaceful and having a bench there is inviting for visitors to sit and reflect.

The entire city of Carlsbad has a dysfunctional obsession with interfering with nature . This entire project is another example of that illness.

The offset nature of the art continues flow of the pathway but offers a seated spot for personal, quiet reflection. It seems more designed for personal reflection than encompassing all to reflect fellowship. However, that does fit the nature of a memorial park.

I would change everything. Its modern architecture, nothing natural about it.

According to a vet I showed this to, it looks like a dumb O ring, not at all relatable.

Gorgeous, contemplative, peaceful, just beautiful.

It has a bench to sit. I think kids will try to walk up the inner slope and play on it. Could be a safety hazard

It's a toss up with #1. is rather simplistic.

Like the contemplative/meditative aspect; additionally, the concept of unity in the never ending circular ring

Gives calming feeling, unifying

The best

I like the simple design and the framing of the horizon. It needs something to convey that it is related to veterans.

Same as A.

I like this the best. It does feel honoring, respectful, and contemplative. It feels like it would fit in and be admired.

It's fine

Peaceful and inclusive and futuristic. Change the color.

The giant pencils is an instant reject, the other two look derivative of Maya Lin's Vietnam Memorial, which at least carries the names of the fallen. These do no such thing, they could represent anything, given the right ad copy (as they are here).

The circle should be in the direction of the sun, so one could watch the sun rise and fall through it, not just the horizon. There could potentially be two circles instead of just one and they suspend taut ropes (in a ladder form) where vines and other plants can be strung through to give the area some much-needed beauty

I love the circular formation, it's comforting, like realizing the cycle of life.

Looks too "big and overbearing" for the surroundings. Really do not like it.

Feel it is the most reflective design and aligns with carlsbad community as an photo destination for their social media

I like the beautiful design and setting and agree it exemplifies contemplative reflection but I don't see anything that encourages thoughts specifically about our military.

Again it doesn't align with the environment. There needs to be water, greenery, maybe a structure that reflects sunlight.

This while still simple provides the provoking thought aspect while having the community engage and think about why you're there.

I like that the ring represents unity, and I like the bench to rest and reflect.

Very picturesque but lacks military symbology. This would be well suited for another location, as it is very beautiful for an ocean view vista.

I dislike it. It has no bearing or relation to veterans. It is just modern art that looks like a piece of playground equipment.

I like that it has 4 sides of steel. however this upside down ring form is not unique- and feels small and the orientation is singular. Certain positions for viewers will be favored and may exclude equity of use due to there being a preferential position to experience the work front facing. Does not effectively offer natural gathering space . p.s. off to the side of path orientation communicates walk by or step to the (one) side. This sculpture may unintentionally create a space that offers a narrow path of user experiences, promoting passive behavioral expectations - regardless of age or response.

---

This design is also soothing.

---

I do like this one, dramatic and understated at the same time. I just like the arch better because it seamlessly fits into the surroundings. I would change the burms around the ring so as not to block any views. the bench is a great touch.

---

I love the design but think there should be a lot of seating so more than 2 or 3 people can reflect. It would be nice if multiple benches were put in a semi-circle on one side. I worry people will get upset if people don't move along fast enough for everyone to enjoy the space.

---

I like this design the most. The circular structure evokes a sense of the continuous service throughout the generations and the sense of community that veterans and service members are always and forever connected to. It also reflects a sense of time as nonlinear and continuous and fits beautifully into a natural setting where nature often prefers shapes and patterns reflecting softness and flow. I do like the "sharp" edges on the flat surface of the design; I wonder if slightly more rounding would be more visually appealing and I'm also curious how the material will stand up to our salty ocean air over time. Otherwise this design is wonderful as it is. From the many parks across several states that I've visited this also stands out as a unique design and I really like the dual connection to service members and nature, which provides a sense of tranquility and calm much more than other designs. This feels like a place where someone would sit and reflect, remember, and be able to feel connected to a solid space. This is important for the public and also for our veterans.

---

I live in the City of Carlsbad and have two boys at the USNA. I love this design.

---

Without some explanation no one would know what this represents. The wheel? The circle of life? Goodyear Tires?

---

Place of reflection - the mounds remind me of burial grounds - open up the ring to an oval and include more seating for reflection

---

I like the simple shape and design and the whole concept of this one.

---

It will become a favorite photo spot for residents and visitors and a chance for conversation and reflection.

---

Really like this one

---

See my comments in part 3 above

---

Love the design, as long as it's not a skateboarder magnet. Love how it frames the sunset in the rendering.

---

I like that the ring symbolizes Unity service and Remembrance. I like how you can view the ocean through the ring however it seems like the raised grassy area on either side is a little too high and causes some of the view to be obstructed.

The form of the ring. Expression of the circle of life.

This is my favorite of all the designs, the shape plays well with natural light. Any other design would be a travesty.

I don't care about the symbolism. This design looks better in my opinion

Circles have many positive feelings: infinity, serenity, wholeness, a lens to see more clearly. Would be more natural in stone; steel is cold and unnatural.

It's a place to sit and think. It represents unity as all round bands do.

It's a full circle completion. It represents Community, flexibility, inclusivity, love, commitment, and generational unity.

My vote is for this design.

beautiful place for sitting and reflection.no obtrusive and clean wavelike lines.

This is beautiful...feels like Carlsbad...a community of unity...circle of community, unity, welcoming to all...holds the energy of the setting sun in the Pacific ocean town of Carlsbad. Peace...a continuous circle unity.

Make sure it faces west for sunset picture taking. Otherwise, the design is great

This is a nice object, but there is very little connection to military service. I relate spherical or continuous forms to symbols that refer to the everlasting. To think that a connection to the military is everlasting is a sad reflection of the challenges that our military has faced in serving their country. Perhaps it is a good reflection of the continuous problems that they deal with after their service.

Concern about this object being used as a skater grind palace...

Limits # of people who can interact. You know it will be climbed upon, which detracts from contemplative quality.

While this is an interesting piece that seems to encourage a space that would be good for reflecting, I don't see how this honors the military.

Continuous ring reflects never ending service

the design is too much concrete and not enough open space. It reminds me of the bars that was located on the beach park in Carlsbad. It is too large of a block design and does not fit into nature.

It is beautiful, but feels too "individual", whereas the arch can include many together, the ring is more limited

Beautiful & serene.

I didn't connect with the piece.

The overall design of Concept B is clearly superior.

I like the Ring and see myself taking a picture with it if it does line up like the image!

Has some impact but no relationship to the militaries.

Looks inviting and symbolizes unity.

As a veteran, I find the ring's circular design the most compelling symbol of service, unity, and remembrance.

Nothing in the design suggests or honors military service. It looks like a wedding arch at a wedding venue. It will invite wedding parties to have their ceremony there, instead of reflecting on the sacrifices of military service.

I like the unbroken circle, which conveys unity and connection. It is powerful in its simplicity. If it is orientated to the west or southwest it could be a very moving experience to take in the sunset framed by this design. I like this one far, far more than the others and I would not change it at all. I would also like to add that my family has veterans from the Navy, Marine Corps and Air Force; I could not choose more than one answer for question #10.

I am a Navy Veteran who lost 27 of my shipments 60mi. off the coast of Carlsbad on March 21, 1991. I was in VP50 Squadron, from Moffett Field, at the time and we were performing patrol exercises with US Navy submarines in the area when two of our planes collided mid air. It's a day I will never forget. I live near the Park and look forward to a location I can go to reflect and continue to honor my shipments on a regular basis. Thank you Carlsbad for building this park. It means a lot to me!! Galen Hoffman 8587742402

Love this design and color it is people oriented and open and includes all.

By far the best of the options

This design really pulls at my mind and heart, it demonstrates strength and endurance. I really like the opportunity provided to sit and reflect.

Best for reflection. Probably the best selection for Carlsbad.

It represents the strength of the veterans, there is nothing stronger than a ring, it's a constant through change!

The bench where one can sit in silence.

The sitting bench will be overwhelmed; not enough space for visitors to interact w/ the design all at the same time

I think this design is prone to abuse by skateboarders.

Simplistic but doesn't portray a strong message at first glance

again, simple design, which is fine - but there is nothing that says thank you to our veterans

Interesting design; good place to reflect

The circle shows unity and togetherness. I like the design.

The ring gives a feel of peace and closure

Be sure to keep seating. Interpretive plaque would help visitors understand the symbolism.

This design immediately jumped out to me as peaceful and a spot I'd sit to contemplate our great country and those who served and died defending our freedom. It's beautiful. Thank you.

It's of nothing, our Family member died serving our Country and how does a circle represent him, it's not a wall of names and why not a statue with it.

Way Bigger

Contemplative. Doesn't obstruct the walkway or the view. Brings you in. Need to tie Carlsbad more into the overall message of the piece.

Reflects wholeness, meditative area

Needs to be bigger for more seating area

Frames the environment nicely. Larger please. Curved seating area or mirror reflection of statue in the bench shape.

I don't care for it.

Clear winner comparatively. If placed correctly, will be a powerful piece that draws people in. Love it!!

Represents an honorable and safe place to be, inspiring those who serve to feel honored and safe. Shows strength and protection, both for one person and for all people.

I like the eternal symbolism of the ring/circle, and the idea of renewal and momentum.

Just add trees... they are the most beautiful monument to service, community, and meaningfulness.

The ring is universally symbolic, but vague in expressing values of Carlsbad or in remembering those who served in the military unless it's a portal back to WWII

Meaningful without overwhelming the natural landscape.

It will become iconic and end up being a place that many people want to be part of and photograph . Very commanding in presence.

I love the bench facing out, looking through the opening.

I like the additional elements of the hills on either side. I do not like the way the ring intentionally frames whatever it looks towards. It implies that there are particular right and wrong ways to look at it and through it. That is off-putting. I also do not like the bench for this same reason. I think it would catch the light at sunset nicely however.

It's simple and represents unity like a engagement ring

It's beautiful and speaks of strength and unity.

Structure and meaning. Placement to reflect and look into the sea.

This reflects the message unity. It also gives an area of reflection.

I don't see how it relates to the military.

No military relivence

I really like the effect of the keyhole especially in the seated photo. I would not change it, it has everything it needs and I would like to sit there and reflect.

I love everything about this. The design is peaceful and allows a space for quiet reflection. It is perfect!

I like that it frames the sunset

The simplicity of a circle. The different branches of the military working in unison for a common mission. Of the 3 choices, this is the one I prefer. It's peaceful. It's never ending.

Circle of life

I like the way it highlights the ocean view

Openness and beauty of Carlsbad

I think this design is breathtaking and is my favorite concept by far. The circular shape represents unity, inclusiveness, and peacefulness, which were of particular importance to Carlsbad residents. It is the simplest design but also the most meaningful in my opinion. It invites meditation and reflection, which I think is essential for a piece of public art in a park honoring veterans and their military service. I would visit the park repeatedly just to see this lovely sculpture and spend time in reflection, unlike the other two concepts.

---

This is a calming design.

---

The circle design is interesting. Feel that the smaller size limits viewing opportunities for multiple visitors.

---

Way better, but would have no idea it had to do with the military unless we were told.

---

The shape signifies community to me

---

Solid but needs words of remembrance to set the right tone.

---

I like that it frames the view

---

Has a vista point, meaning makes more sense. Has a place to sit and contemplate. Maybe add a mosaic/design type areas inside curve area to deter graffiti like the neat murals done with caltrans under passes. Maybe representing emblem/logo of each branch of service.

---

Too bulky, breaks up the view too drastically

---

Seems too feminine

---

Providing the lagoon is centered in the ring, this design provides the best situation for reflection and gives a person a place to sit and think about their past in the service or those they know who have been in the service.

---

I could see kids on bikes or skateboards using this as a launching point, so think it might be a bad idea even though of the three, I liked it best.

---

Like there is a bench and encourages reflection on the framed view

---

Suggest more benches

---

as a military family, I love the look of it and everything it represents.

---

Good place to sit.

---

Classic, contemplative, Instagram worthy

---

This is the best design. It makes for a beautiful picture. The circle suggests coming full circle, or coming home. It welcomes our veterans back.

---

The circular shape speaks to strength, resilience, and service. It also invites engagement, reflection and respect. If there were a way to represent the branches of the military, perhaps with rings joined together?

---

The symbolism of the themes of continuing service, unity, and remembrance are central to all branches of our military and also to the ethos of Carlsbad. This design embodies all of that and joins it with engagement in our unique and beautiful setting, with views of the sunset and water.

---

The quiet reflective and peaceful space. And the ability to sit while reflecting for those who served and for those who supported those who served, while facing Carlsbad's beautiful ocean view. It says it all!

I don't understand how this represents service. Aside from that, if this design were chosen, I would make it bigger, and maybe add more than one. I can envision lots of visitors wanting to take photos inside the circle, and while I would encourage it, I can see it getting crowded pretty quickly.

---

Ugly. Cold.

---

Facing the Ocean is spectacular at sunset. Would have liked to see a picture of sunrise looking the opposite direction.

---

Initially this was my favorite but in listening to the presentation to the Arts' Council, the designer indicated that when sitting on the bench for contemplation, a person would see a subdivision and power lines and that he should have brought images from his on-site visit to show that.

---

My least favorite of the three designs. Uninspiring.

---

it's good you're seeking input but these designs are just stylistic and cold. you're going down the same route as "the bars" sculpture at near offshore surf shop decades ago.

---

This is my favorite concept, and I feel connected to the Ring! The Ring fits the setting very well!

---

Nothing. It is my favorite

---

I do not like the design at all for its intended purpose.

---

I am disappointed that this valuable piece of land is being changed at all. It's perfect just the way it is.

---

I like the contemplative aspect of this design. Adding more benches would invite more people to stop, rest and reflect.

---

It's the circle of life.

---

I love the design and that it will frame the horizon. This piece is aesthetically pleasing and my favorite.

---

The one is my favorite (along with my 2 girls). I can see reflection here. It doesn't seem to be specific to veterans though. Kids say they would change it so you could climb on it. Perhaps Carlsbad veterans names could be engraved into inside of ring?

---

Allows for picturesque view and snapshot. Bench encourages reflection. Does not explicitly capture veteran sentiments without explanation

---

Looks like a ring

---

seems a bit bulky

---

As a veteran, I find it cold and irrelevant to my service experience. Find a concept that has some military feeling.

---

This is all tax payer waste of money. I posted on your Facebook post and suggested to leave as is. This way you have no issue with homeless people and vandalism. Minimal maintenance. Everyone can enjoy nature and the land. At the end that's what the vets were fighting for. Save money, preserve the land.

Of the three bad designs, this is the least worst. In no way does this reflect the sacrifices of military veterans. Are there no veterans on staff to review this “art”? I’m embarrassed for Carlsbad.

---

Return to the drawing board.

---

This one is better than the first. Can you make something that isn’t steel? Like made of wood or stone? Something more natural and less of an eye sore.

---

What is intended for the memorial's legend?

---

Again a structure that will not be respected and invites play on and around.

---

it looks as though it should be in a large inner city, not carlsbad.

---

It encourages people to take time for the view this frames, consistent with thoughts toward natural environment.

---

I love this one! Sitting and appreciating the view is both a Carlsbad value and a reflective measure. The bench encourages reflection. It embraces what we love and honors the sacrifices of our veterans and their families.

---

Clean, simple but depth of thought

---

Seems to evoke serenity

---

Best of the three. I wouldn’t change anything.

---

I like the way it frames the horizon,

---

I like the fluidity of a circle or ring and the concept behind it

---

A circle or ring really an insult we have navy to the south USMC to the north and a hole in Carlsbad

---

Nice design, but bird droppings could accumulate at the top.

---

I love this. Beautiful and meaningful.

---

Like - sturdiness and symmetry. Looks like a ship’s porthole or a portal into another era.  
Change - none.

---

Perfect! And looks honorable

---

It is simple and beautiful. The ring also fits the space well, and I like that there is a place to sit and reflect by it.

---

Facing the ocean—peaceful!!

---

Beautiful design. Ring is a great symbol for the military and visually appealing. I hope it can be aligned so the sun will set through it on occasion.

---

Is there a place to name and honor Carlsbad Veterans who have passed?

---

The bench to sit and look thru a framed landscape is nice but I think the raised earth on either side is overdone and takes away from the natural setting

---

Way nicer than the other two

---

This circle connect to the Carlsbad logo. This hill is where many kids go for prom photos and to watch the sunset. The circle seems appropriate for the view.

It reminds me of a ring, or a promise. It is a memorial, and our service men and women upheld their promise to serve our country. Some of course served and sacrificed their own lives. Changes? Maybe not so thick but it depends on the material. But I like this.

---

I like it and no change

---

I understand the unity part. It's not part of the landscape

---

Unity, the Circle of Life

---

More than one bench?

---

This design could be unique if the circle also aligns with the sunset. I suppose the circular shape represents unity, otherwise, I don't see the connection to service and remembrance.

---

Of the three this one is ok

---

Go back to the drawing board. This is just a ring. A kindergarten student could design this.

---

I like the openness, the ability to look forward and reflect in the past. I would add the emblem for each branch of service,

---

Not good because limits enjoyment to only a few. A bit heavy.

---

I really like the reflectiveness of this piece and how it would frame the ocean. My only concern is that people would spray or etch graffiti the surface. I think people will sit inside of it and climb on it, which leaves it open to being defaced.

---

I like the ring because it feels peaceful and encourages reflection

---

Like the ring.

---

I like the curves as merge mounds on either side ( not sure what get are made of? Maybe a berm?

---

The sculpture is inviting reflection while also looking out at the ocean. It respects the character of the location's natural setting.

---

Of the three, i like this best, a continuous circle.

---

This is a lovely space to sit, reflect, and contemplate. The depth of the view through the circle is amazing. It invites engagement to "look through" and contemplate. Same as the piece above though, in that it just needs a bit more to emphasize that it is honoring the military, something to direct the patron's thoughts to that theme, as that is the intention with this work of art. And, unfortunately, I see this being used as a perfect skateboard ramp.

---

This is my favorite

---

It highlights the view and does not look as ugly as the other options.

---

Mostly that it is circular and represents never-ending continuity, solidarity. The viewpoint invites focus, meditation, reflection and is very peaceful. Allows all to continue on the path as they wish without blocking individual viewing or movement. I like the bench for contemplation and resting (I'm unable to stand more than a minute without using a walker). I like the width of the path

---

Change? I'd like to see a few more benches along the path that would match the the center memorial. Perhaps three smaller benches on the left past the mounds and three more on the right just past the mounds to represent the six military branches. It's a beautiful concept and the best of the three options to me.

I love this design. I think most people understand the significance of a circle. It seems more natural than the other two designs.

---

This is by far my favorite design! It drew my attention immediately. I would encourage them to add additional seating in that area with a view of the art piece. I would suggest this in regards to whichever design is chosen!

---

I think it is the most engaging of the concepts. I could see taking a selfie in front of it. I like that you can look through the center at the view. I think a circle has more symbolism than the other concepts.

---

I don't like this concept. Put in benches so people can sit and enjoy the views.

---

This ring design evokes reflection and perspectives about public service, the circle of life and nature

---

It is inviting to be inside the circle, which promotes more emotions and actions in capturing the sentiment through camera. The aesthetics for the material could be more interesting such as mosaic tiles representing the thousands soldiers/veterans, instead of the boring, one-note terracotta color.

---

Circle of life. We are all connected. View the world through it. Beautiful.

---

Very peaceful and a good place for reflection.

---

This one could be a nice reflection spot. Centering focus of a nice view of Carlsbad.

---

Simple.. calm.. unity endless circle..

---

Beautiful meaning in a beautiful setting. Very well placed with nature.

---

Make the sides more narrow

---

Beautiful, peaceful and simple. Great for pics. Park needs something iconic like the lion sculpture at the zoo.

---

I like that it provides a unique focal point and offers a space for reflection and honoring our veterans. It feels peaceful and serene but also stands strong.

---

It's beautiful and matches art with intended meaning  
the entire design element

---

I do find the ring my favorite. The circle is peaceful and as they say in weddings, "has no beginning and no end" which feels appropriate for the love of service members and those who gave all.

---

As a veteran I love the idea of a place to sit, reflect and gaze ... live that the ring frames the space.

---

As a Veteran spouse, this one feels the most meaningful. It's a full circle, circling the commitment and life of veterans from start to finish.

---

It is intentional and creates opportunity for people to pause and reflect.

---

Reminds me of looking through a window as service members would whether it be a ship, a plane, barracks, or a military transport. Also the circle of life it seems to fit into the surroundings.

---

The circle implies guidance, the opening provides guidance and transmits light, the overall shape models clouds and ocean w

Ves.

Clunky looking with one little bench. At least have a semi circle bench so that a small group can gather. Best of the three but I am not convinced.

The circle would represent a never-ending commitment of our military service personnel to defend our freedom and protector of our democracy.

It must line up with shadow from sun at 11am on November 11! Don't forget! Anything less is provincial. With 11:11:11 - I make all above rankings. Rankings are not as is. By tilting it, the person's shadow can line up with 11:11:11. Please add reference to veterans & military, while keeping it for all to reflect. There are reasons Veterans Day is Nov 11. Honor this National day of recognition.

This one evokes the most reflective and calming feeling.

It invites reflection. I like the feeling of completeness and the incorporation of the bench

This looks and feels like the best concept of the 3. If anything I would find a way to better link the design to military service, but I see huge potential for doing so

I like it - beautiful and the bench is nice.

There is no connection with the Veteran's or symbols that evoke any sense of service to our country or community outside the name "Veterans park". How can there not be a national flag on site? We seem to have missed the mark in our desire to present art

This design is closer to meeting the artist's intent. As a coastal community, the design would mirror Carlsbad's seaside culture.

Nothing- get more bids. I'm a 20 year veteran. What do any of these have to do with honoring the military, or anything?

have more benches for those wanting reflection

Circle design embodies inclusiveness. More of a spiritual, contemplative feel than the other two designs.

Like: reminds me of the sun

Change: make a wider base?

It is just a generic 'O'. There are probably multiple cities with something like this.

It serves as a frame to contemplate the view, the sunset, the ocean— could be calming and reflective.

I like that it has a bench to sit and reflect. I like that it frames the ocean view.

Add military wording either on a wall or plaque nearby.

I like that it encourages reflection and emphasizes the wonderful view. I like that there is a bench, and that the ground is elevated a bit behind it.

It is at a park so it should encourage interaction

It's interesting. I like this one the best among the three sculptures. With the horizon of the ocean from afar, this would be more captivating.

Compelling. Relaxing. Fits environment.

Like the space where one can sit and look through it to the scenery.

Not a fan. They look like pencils.

Very beautiful, a perfect spot to enjoy the view and the serenity that the place offers. I really like this one.

---

This is my favorite. The Ring/circle is very engaging

---

Non of these designs meets the criteria. Looks like the this will be another failed art project like the "bars" that had to be removed at taxpayer expense.

---

Beautiful design. I wouldn't change anything.

---

I like this design the most if I had to select one. But it doesn't appear to represent anything about veterans or their service.

---

Too simplistic

---

Like the circle of unity. Would want sufficient space at the bottom for several people to walk thru the "ring" comfortably

---

Of the 3 designs, I appreciate this art piece the most. It is intuitively invites visitors to reflect upon the view framed by the piece and organic shape blends into the landscape while also being safe for children, pets, etc.

---

If there is something I like about this option, it is the bench that invites one to sit and reflect, but, again, without reading the description, there is nothing in this design that evokes honor for military service, which I believe is one of the primary goals shared by the community and as part of the vision for this park specifically.

---

It shows strength.

---

Have the circle face the ocean to view sunset through the middle.

---

Circular symbols are found in many military traditions, the art piece of the walkway, and the bench and framing the horizon are all elements I like about this design. I also like the small hills next to the artwork. I wouldn't change anything.

---

Very interesting, no changes.

---

It's pretty, but it does not evoke a veterans theme.

---

I want to sit inside this and reflect. Definitely the best of the 3 designs. Lovely.

---

Looks like a place where kids will hang out, smoke and drink beer

---

It's simple. It frames a natural part of Carlsbad landscape and invites reflection via the bench.

---

Make sure its about the Veterans not about a Modern Art Display.

---

This is my favorite design! I really like how engaging it is. It creates a focal point to look out over the ocean. The circle is symbolic.

---

Like the reflective part, circle represents our yeat round sun. I've always loved walking Veterans LOOP so it's indicative of this trail & loop.

---

Like the ring's simplicity and strength. Would be nice to position the viewing bench with a beautiful view through the ring to the distant ocean.

---

It's nice and simple, though not as unique as the others.

---

It would be nice to use the disc here that is at the top of the arc to replicate the green flash and other colors throughout the day.

---

The beauty looking out to the horizon, the strength and bond it represents of our military's commitment to us. It invites you to take a moment to stop and reflect. Just beautiful!

It is an odd looking design.

I would not use an O. An O seems to be indicative of Oceanside.

Very pretty, aesthetically interesting.

I like the bench, so one can sit and reflect while looking through the circle.

I like it's "reflective" encouragement and that it's not overly intrusive to the natural environment. It does feel a bit random for what it's supposed to symbolize.

This one brought tears to my eyes. It is stunning and I imagine a lone soldier sitting and watching the sunset. Just stunning!

It would become the joke of town, sex jokes.... and a perfect place to do some skateboard tricks! So after a few accidents and million dollar lawsuits it will be happily removed.

I like this design. It reminds me of the arches in Arches National Park. If it is oriented the right way, it will be a great frame for a perfect sunset.

Feels peaceful

This is my second favorite design, I am concerned about the attraction to skateboarders and kids and the durability over time

I

its shape

add military symbols representing all armed forces

This design resonated with me much more than the others. I love: the bench, the two berms that "hold" the ring like two hands, the scale, and the setting off the side of the path.

How can you discourage skateboarders from riding upon surfaces of this design? Would like to see native trees and native foliage planted aesthetically around monument.

Should point in a good/material direction.

Love that it frames the view

I like being able to look through it at the vista

could be used for weddings

nothing

Feels too solitary

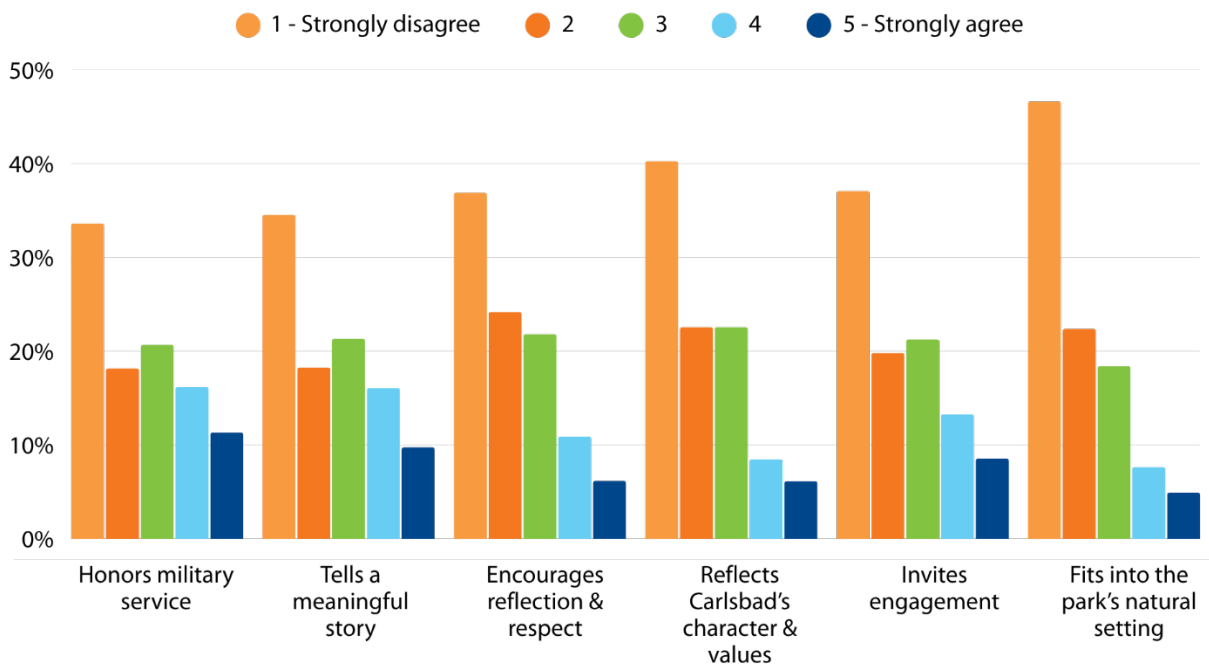
I like the uniqueness of this design and can envision it being a point of reflection.

## Concept C – Spires



### 6. To what extent do you agree that this concept reflects each of the following themes identified by the community?

Answered: 556      Skipped: 33



## 7. What do you like about this design, and what would you change?

Answered: 322

Skipped: 267

I like the imagery of the unity of the six military branches. In a not-good way for a military memorial, it reminds me of an explosion. Dichroic glass is cool. How durable is it when people throw stuff at it? Who will be responsible for removing stuff that people launch to land on the disc? I guess I'm saying that rather than encouraging reflection, it's a bit too literal, so you might feel like you get it right away and then start thinking about ways to engage with it that are more recreational (and possibly destructive) than reflective.

Representation of the service branches is a thoughtful element. Reminds me too much of suspended "nest" style swings or vertical post oriented play structure encountered in Germany/Switzerland playgrounds/spielplatz. The disc is an interesting element relating to nature and the locale. The vertical scale feels interrupting to visual flow of the area, but would certainly be striking and generate a pause.

I like the flow of the structure and how it fits into the natural surroundings. Unfortunately, it reminds me of an ant.

least favorite; reminds me of a bunch of pencils. Would be interested in seeing how the dichroic glass reflects color

Don't Like

concern about the glass becoming a target. someone gets hurt, the glass needs to be replaced. If neither of these are issues, I like the 6 military branch representation

Does it have to be contemporary art?

I like how this has a clear tie to the military as there are 6 spires and 6 branches, but other than this I do not think it represents the military well.

Too tall, not natural looking

I do not care for this one.

Nothing suggests military

notice the photo of the man "walking away"-there is no reason to pause. Children may enjoy swinging in a circle around each pole...It draws your eye out into space rather than inward in a contemplative manner.

"The Spires" is too tall and obtrusive. It does not fit into the Park's natural setting at all. Please do not select "The Spires."

I don't like anything about it.

I like the engaging part of colors, just wish there was a way to demonstrate that for selecting purposes. Did not like that it looks like pencils.

It is bold and aggressive in nature. Just not sure it is inviting.

It looks like an attack to me

Not attractive

Don't like the spires.

Dumb,Dumb,Dumb

An updated version of the old "Monkey Bars" at the Pine street park.

Most interesting but the most intrusive to the environment, local birds using the "platter" as a roosting spot. Kids swinging around the spires seems dangerous. Glass platter and sea breezes? Don't know how that will work out.

As a piece of art, I love this design. As a memorial, I don't feel it evokes any feelings of honoring our service members.

Another interesting design--I love dichroic glass--but vandals will likely find breaking the glass disk irresistible, and keeping the horizontal disk clean will be a challenge.

This one is very creative, but is visually more harsh and less contemplative.

I get the six military branches, but it looks like pick up sticks to me. Doesn't make me remember any military sacrifices.

Doesn't make sense

I like the concept of using the dichroic glass to project color onto the ground however I find the lack of design or interest in the circle to be boring.

Nothing.

I like that the full circle symbolizes unity. Something that is missing in our society.

Not inviting

Doesn't fit the area at all. Please do not choose this option.

I like that the full circle symbolizes unity. Something that is missing in our society.

Looks sharp and hard

I hate it. Looks like chop sticks....don't see any relevance to the military

It is a little scary.

Adds no shelter and artistically weak.

I do not see how any of the three concepts honors the military or tells a meaningful story or encourages respect.

Of the 3 choices this is my preference. To me it has more of a message than the other 2

NOT A FAVORITE. DIFFICULT TO IMAGINE THE CONCEPT. A TON OF SIGNAGE WOULD BE NECESSARY.

Nothing to change. Just discard the concept.

This looks like an appetizer plate in the middle of the park. I see no honor or respect being offered here.

My least favorite

I feel that it is not solid enough.

Represents all current military branches. However, what happens if military branches change where one or more are added or deleted. Like the disk that changes color.

+ Dynamic, changing, theme of unity

It's unique.

Waste of money on something most people won't see. Cancel the project, spend tax dollars we paid for something more useful like raising police officers's salaries, eliminate drug dealers and homeless people off the streets where we live.

This design has the feeling of action in that it opens to possibilities, unlike the other two designs that just sit there. I also like the dichronic glass feature.

Of the 3 choices this is my preference. To me it has more of a message than the other 2

Spires don't have flow.

Whaaa? Looks like pick-up-stix.

It looks like arrows and weapons to me. Maybe if it were loops it would look less fierce.

This design feels like it would invite the wrong kind of engagement - people trying to in some way disrupt/damage the suspended disc.

Same as above

This design does not reflect a calming or peaceful experience to me.

I like the dichronic glass that changes color with the sunlight and view point. That is creative. seems out of character with an outdoor park;

Looks unfinished

I like the concept of having something that honors the different branches of the service but doesn't feel inviting for visitors.

The entire city of Carlsbad has a dysfunctional obsession with interfering with nature . This entire project is another example of that illness.

I like this design the least. It's more intrusive than flowing. Would be better honoring teachers as it looks like a cup of pencils. It inhibits flow as the spires are anchored in the sidewalk. It does not fit at all with the park's natural setting. It's jarring. Which as art is fine but does not fit with the concept of peaceful reflection.

The only reflection the designs convey is "what the hell is it, or what is it supposed to mean?"

Way too militant and scary to vets who were in service. Looks like a bayonet.

Feels negative and aggressive

This is just ugly.

The glass suspended disk that changes color depending on sunlight & viewpoint. That's mesmerizing !! Other than the unity among the 6 branches of the military, this beautiful round glass can also symbolize the earth, the sun and the moon.

Don't like this - think it could break in many ways. Need a more public-resistant piece - this is too delicate.

Would be concerned with the suspended obelisk presenting a tempting target on to which throw items and, over time, will require periodic cleaning

Scattered feeling

no way

I like this design the least. It looks like a giant game of pick up sticks. I would not support this design

Seems dangerous

It reminds me of something from Carlsbad's past - the public art by Tamarack that stirred up public engagement with "Ban the Bars". That piece was later removed

It's ugly and tells no discernable story.

Nothing. All this piece does is advertise the artist's history in glassmaking.

---

I like the dichroic glass idea, however the 6 ugly spires aren't inviting and when looking at it nobody would be able to tell what it was supposed to represent. No message is being spread, no story being told. Adding differing shapes and colors associated with the branches would help, or potentially trees with the glass disk suspended in the middle

---

I like the glass changing feature, but I don't like the spirals/spike look, it's kind of chaotic

---

Like the glass that provides lighting below but overall it looks too "stark" and does not blend well with the hills around it.

---

like that it is a very unique design, but not sure if it is identified with the military, looks like paint brushes to me and almost invites people to try to sit in that middle disc

---

The Spires remind me of the Bars "Art installation by Harbor Fish down in the Village.

---

Least favorite. The only thing I appreciate about it is that makes the number of the SIX branches of the military more evident.

---

I like the fact that it represents the 6 branches of the military and the reflective glass but it's too tall and too stark. I don't like the color of the spires that's not a calming color, should be blues and/or greens.

---

Just why?

---

I like the six branches being represented. It would be nice to have a place to rest and reflect. I wonder about the durability of the glass.

---

I like what the spires represent but it looks like paint brushes with a paint palet. This would be well suited for another location.

---

I dislike it. It has no bearing or relation to veterans. It is just modern art that looks like a piece of playground equipment.

---

I like the glass. Would prefer it if there were three coated discs which could rotate in the wind, overlapping to project varied color harmonies - Felipe Pantone style.

---

This piece makes me feel uncomfortable to a point where I wouldn't want to interact with the piece due to its jaggedness.

---

It reminds me more of a kids' playground then a memorial for our veterans.

---

I think it is more engaging to talk about and the color piece will be fun throughout the day as the sun rises and sets.

---

Unfortunately this is my least favorite design. I like the colors and the color changing glass as features--very unique. But spires to represent the six branches feels overdone. I have seen these types of structures in too many places and while these represent each branch, it doesn't provide a sense of connection, contemplation, reflection of the \*people\* who make up those branches. It's not a space I would go to to reflect and meditate on that.

---

This is awful. Nothing says veterans like spikes coming out of the ground. This reminds me of the Bars Sculpture we had at the beach.

---

Can be colorful

---

I like nothing. It's aggressive, unlike the peace we wish veterans, living, dead, or on the street.

---

Ugly

Like the symbolism, don't like the design.

---

I like the fact that you can see through it but it's so pointy it reminds me of a cactus and it's a little off-putting because of that.

---

I genuinely find this horrendous, worse than horizontal Gumby. Please anything but this.

---

I dislike this design. It is cold unnatural severe and shocking. Military symbolism is there in the steel spears. The military branch symbolism is only understood if there is a plaque explaining the significance: good art does not need explanation. Bleak.

---

The spires, like spears, imply combat which is only 1 element of our military.

---

It feels out of place. Does not blend in

---

looks like a bunch of pencils or chopsticks stuck in the ground

---

That it represents the branches of US military...i prefer the circle...this would be my second choice..

---

I don't care for this design, ugly and pointy like a knitting needle bag.

---

I appreciate the connection between the six military branches and that guests can walk through or interact with the poles. I do not understand why they are poles, vs. mounds, or benches, or lights, or or or. The dichroic glass feels like a failed attempt at connecting the branches and feels like an afterthought. The materials used in this design have no clear relation to military service and to veterans.

---

seems too ethereal...

---

shows parts working together for joint purposeWe

---

Looks like pencils stuck in the ground. Disc will need to be cleaned periodically.

---

This is terrible. I'm a Marine Corps veteran, and I don't feel like this honors the military in any way whatsoever,. This design is the worst of the 3 ideas. Maybe a design that incorporates all of the flags or logos of each branch??

---

Everything...looks potentially dangerous

---

Not sure how this design represents unity among the services. Looks like poles stuck into the ground.

---

is not attractive and does nothing to tell a meaningful story. Does not fit into nature setting.

---

I'm sure the dichroic glass would be stunning, but the design looks like pencils in a cup and feels too separate and somehow harsh

---

Unique design & glass element. I like the tie in to the 6 military branches. At first glance, it looks like paintbrushes or pencils. Could you add a second glass towards the top?

---

I think the piece is too small for the concept. Representation of the the six branches of the military should be much larger.

---

This would make sense if the structure had one upward pillar for each existing service, but it does not. Why? It would seem to show the upward trajectory of each service in achieving it missions. Why then does in no have one for each existing service?

---

Nothing.

---

Not impressed with this one either

---

Nothing in this design suggests or honors military service. This design will invite people to climb the poles to hang banners from them or make other "statements". The design should be modified to show one or more service members reflecting on their service to our community.

---

I do not like this design one iota. It is sharp and feels intrusive, and it does not blend with the natural park setting. It looks like a bunch of pencils thrown into the ground like darts, and the fragile nature of glass does not reflect the strength and resilience of those in military service. I really hate it.

---

I don't like it I would change everything to the circle of inclusion

---

Not my favorite

---

This is a beautiful design but it feels more violent and destructive. It brings visions of war, incoming projectiles/bombs.

---

Ugly. Looks like a tinker-toy monument.

---

It has the requisite six spires for the six branches.. are the individual branches identified on the spires? I don't understand what the glass is supposed to represent.. perhaps if it was six-sided, as well, it would show the interdependence of teh services..

---

Nothing

---

Don't care for the design.

---

Most preferred of the 3 designs. I like the color changing glass and the potential that has to create new and different shapes, colors, patterns with each visit.

---

Portrays a strong message of recognition of each faction of the military and reflects coming together in unity with the center glass piece. The uniqueness and beauty of the Carlsbad community is well represented with the design.

---

this design is the most dynamic and at least references the # of branches of the service. i do like that the glass will reflect different colors during the day. Why is the center disc purple/pink? what does the disc represent? what does this have to do w/ the military veterans? also the sculpture resembles #2 pencils...not a big plus

---

Not very attractive

---

The 6 pieces of the Military and I like the glass piece.

---

It looks hostile

---

The colored pane will create an interesting spot on the ground. Spires will "crown" the summit. Those might distract from, rather than reinforce, the theme.

---

The spires don't relax me or put me in a mood to contemplate. Those might be better in a downtown setting. They almost look like swords to me - or bayonets.

---

Its a beautiful concept that will be timeless and draw people to it. No changes but perhaps more concrete benches across the walkway from the it so more can sit a ponder the sacrifices of our military

---

It's better then the first 2 but it still doesn't represent those veterans and those who lost there lives, it feks like Carlsbad is going cheap with it's design and not putting much effort into proper representation of the Armed Forces.

---

Disconnected

Nothing. It should not be in consideration. Looks like spears in the air and reminds of conflict. Clearly doesn't represent Carlsbad.

With some many electrical transmission towers already creating sharp edges on the skyline, we don't need more sharp objects.

I don't care for it.

don't like it at all

Doesn't show connection. Each branch of the military is a part of the entire armed services. This entry negates the unity of the mission, that the military is united in the quest to serve our country is absent! Plus it's just plain ugly.

Not a fan for this project...

It feels rather disjointed and not "uniting" the way the other shapes do.

Provides some shade. Silly, nonsensical. Spread the posts out and add a large canopy with seating to invite engagement

Does not fit into the natural setting.

Don't like it. Too futuristic.

I like the disc that changes color and that each spire represents a branch of the military. I don't particularly care for the concept of it right in the middle of the walking path. Also, the spires aren't the most aesthetically pleasing.

This is my least favorite of the three. As we have seen over the past few years, the number of military branches is changeable in this chaotic world. We may yet see additional cyber or drone-only branches in the future, leaving sculptures like this vestigial. I also think it's unnecessarily aggressive. I do like the color changing glass element, however, and its integration with the park may be the best of the three designs.

Too spiky looking

I hate it. It's threatening and warlike.

Interesting, attractive structure. Glass is a creative.

Nothing. Don't like it at all.

I like the idea of the 6 branches of the military being represented but the design spikes are ugly. Is there a way to incorporate the emblem in each branch like etching on arches?

Nothing liked Go to DC and get ideas more related to vets 760 438 2788

I would like this from a distance, but it is rather stark. I would like to see a warmer more inviting sculpture.

This is over the top, the design and the height do NOT fit the space and feeling of the park.

Ugly

Looks like it would be vulnerable to vandalism

Same

I think this is certainly a unique design concept. I love the idea of the glass reflecting different colors during the day. I think that could be very interesting to see in person; however, I don't feel that it is particularly peaceful or reflective. While I understand the concept of each spire representing a different branch of the military, to my eye the spires actually look more like spears. Because they resemble weapons and the glass is suspended in the middle as if it might shatter at any moment, I don't find the sculpture peaceful - I actually find it a little bit unsettling. I don't know that I would necessarily make the connection to weaponry if the art wasn't specifically for a veterans memorial; however, I can't help but think it's more an aggressive display of might/strength rather than a peaceful and inclusive design.

---

Do not really like the steel spires; they look like spears.

---

Ugly

---

I specifically like the colored glass component that will change colors depending on the time of day and light.

---

Too pointy

---

Same issue as noted above. I am a 90 y/o Vietnam veteran who may have problems climbing the hill.

---

Looks like pencils or spears (war like) stuck in the ground.. not peaceful at all. Least favorite don't like design at all. Plus glass disc will be a maintenance nightmare!

---

Doesn't fit into natural setting

---

Looks too angry and threatening

---

So so

---

I like this design, but it is active rather than calming. I do not believe that it is the best one to allow those who visit to thoughtfully think about their life in the military or reflect on past experiences.

---

Seems like the safest of the three (look at my earlier comments). Could we incorporate an American flag in this somehow, maybe a pole in the center?

---

Too abstract representation of the conceptThey don't say military to me and they don't seem to be unitedI don't think 30 foot tall sticks is going to be an attractive feature

---

Colorful!

---

Looks like a trampoline suspended among paint brushes.

---

This looks like pencils at first glance and a resembles defensive obstacle like the cheval de frise, something found on battlegrounds. It is not very welcoming.

---

This design honors the military branches and service. It would create engagement and reflection. I think it seems less fitting for the placement on the hill.

---

I appreciate the way it honors the individual and joint branches of the military. It would definitely invite engagement with the periodic variations of the glass. I am not sure it fits well into the park's natural setting however. Rolling hills contrast with the spiky design, but maybe that just makes it a more obvious destination within the park. Practically, this seems more easily subject to vandalism than the others.

This is my least favorite design. My first thought when looking at the pictures was that it looked like an animal cage, or a bunch of paintbrushes stuck in the ground.

---

Nothing

---

I like the unity theme, but it is too busy for my tastes. I am not sure the glass disc fits the theme

---

I really like the idea of spires and that they're 30' high. I'm not sure about the different "color" at the top third - an arts' commissioner said it reminded her of birthday candles. I do not like that the glass colors are bright and bold and feel that detracts from the upward focus. I would prefer subtle colors.

---

Any public art at a veterans park should include seating for us aging or disabled veterans. Must be wheelchair friendly as well. Seating around the spires should allow for viewing from different directions.

---

it's good you're seeking input but these designs are just stylistic and cold. you're going down the same route as "the bars" sculpture at near offshore surf shop decades ago.

---

Almost too busy!

---

Needs to be more direct on the message of sacrifice

---

I do not like the design at all for its intended purpose.

---

I am disappointed that this valuable piece of land is being changed at all. It's perfect just the way it is.

---

The six spires representing the six military branches and the dichroic glass. It seems a bit tall for the landscape, especially if it will be at the top of a hill. Nearby trees would help it blend into the landscape.

---

The representation of all military branches. The feeling of reaching for the heavens where so many veterans may be after giving their lives for their country.

---

Looks weird, like what is that?

---

I don't like the sparse feel to this sculpture or the spiky design. It look too fragile for the wide open space & I much prefer the first two designs.

---

I think the design of this one is the most odd (looks like paint brushes). However it didn't know about the color changing part, that's really cool.

---

Interesting disc but overall piece doesn't evoke unity with the straight/pokey poles.

---

Too spiky

---

It is a nice sculpture that would do well in another location and theme

---

As a veteran, I find it cold and irrelevant to my service experience. Fund a concept that has some military feeling.

---

This is all tax payer waste of money. I posted on your Facebook post and suggested to leave as is. This way you have no issue with homeless people and vandalism. Minimal maintenance. Everyone can enjoy nature and the land. At the end that's what the vets were fighting for. Save money, preserve the land.

---

This is the absolute worst of the three. It brings to mind soldiers and civilians being killed. It's horrible.

---

Return to the drawing board. All these designs do not represent Veterans.

Ok, this one is the worst. Sorry! If I had to pick from these three I feel like the ring is more natural and a sign of unity.

Don't like it.

Upkeep seems difficult and a flat raised surface seems like a bad idea. Again another structure that looks like a play feature.

apologies to the artist. not aesthetically pleasing design

This is my least favorite. It's disruptive to the setting. I do like the idea of the representation of the military branches, but I do not like the presentation in this piece of art.

Looks like a giant bird spike detractor

Good symbolism, a little harsh looking for the location it will be displayed in

It's a conversation piece for sure but the spikey appearance is not calming. The message the artist is trying to convey is good but not easy to decipher.

Getting closer with this but still far off. Veterans who served for us we honor with broom handles and a plate

This is an awful design. Please don't give us another "Split Pavilion" that we will need to spend \$\$ to remove. I think it would give some veterans PTSD.

Love the symbolism. Do not love the color, and overall esthetic

Like - 6 services are represented. Change - make the spires look like pencils or paintbrushes.

Make it more Instagram friendly

Do not like this design at all - takes away from the natural setting and reflection

It reminds me of pencils sticking out of the ground.

Not peaceful!!

Concept is good. Just not visually appealing - maybe change the colors? Use of suspended glass might invite vandalism.

Will there be a place to name and honor Carlsbad Veterans who have passed?

This one feels "light" whereas this is a "heavy" subject.

Ugly

Yuck. It stresses me out just looking at it. Count Dracula and heads on post or Apocalypse Now. Please no.

Not a fan. Reminds me of the Split Pavilion (the Bars) that used to be on Carlsbad Blvd.

Ugh! Looks like jail.

I like it and no change

I understand the 6 branches but these spires don't say that to me. Least favorite of all 3.

Too spiky and greatly contrasts with the setting. Not a good fit.

Don't like design, would not recommend

Add benches and remove the middle part of the hill to allow for visitors to sit and look.

Terrible. I don't want to see see this in the park.

Points up but seems divided and uncovered. If you add some connection over the top, it would reflect teamwork and having each others back.

Do not like. The ocean flows and curves. Might work better at a kids' playground.

Don't like the spikes.

I like the glass aspect of it! More glass elements and colors should be incorporated.

Interesting and always changing due to the glass. Could use seating somewhere further away so it can be seen completely

It looks too complicated and out of place. Something more natural would look better.

I like that Concept B has a bench to sit and reflect upon the natural setting and can be a contemplative place for veteran's and their families.

This piece doesn't seem to encourage reflection and engagement as much as the potential of the other two.

This most ties to service and protection, but looks a little like a crown which detracts from the intent.

Why are their spikes coming out of the ground? It looks like we are representing an explosion not honoring the military.

Concept representing all six branches of the military is good. I don't like the spikes at all other than the safety color changing glass. It feels wrong because it is not peaceful, spears do not feel inclusive. Obstructs natural movement and doesn't fit the natural park setting. Why no benches?

I like the convergence of the six military branches. It best reflects the military significance of this park of the three designs.

It's symbolism to all branches of the military and the color changing glass. But it seems too harsh for the environment and isn't calming, but more aggressive.

I like the color changing and reference to the six military branches

I suppose you could walk amongst the spires. I don't think it looks very natural or fits in with landscape. I don't like the addition of a piece of glass strung up with wires.

There's not much natural about these spires

It is obvious that the representation displays the 5 military branches, but the spires look like 5 chopsticks. Big deal! I suggest to add more artistic components to personalize each spire for each military branch.

Dislike

I like how it represents unity among the six branches.

It's too stark... like sticks sticking up

Horrible.. like the bars that we paid to install then had to pay to remove!!

Its a unique design with a beautiful concept with the reflection of sunlight.

Nothing

It's scary looking and a little intense

I don't care for this design at all.

It is very interesting and could be a great addition to any park. Not sure if it provides a feeling of reflection as much as the ring.

I like this one the least. It looks like a bunch of colored pencils sticking in the ground. Looks a bit dangerous, actually.

---

It's just spikes... no peace.

---

It looks out of place. Too stark and resembles spikes. Not pleasing nor suggestive of a memorial. It too would need explanatory plaque.

---

I like that the spires look like spears for the military. They 're arranged to protect what's inside. They point to the sky, a positive attitude and dedication to improvement. They resemble the stem or trunk of plants.

---

The steel spires look to be a little thin. A thicker ones would provide more depth and esthetic.

---

Words are 'Armed Forces' as distinguished from "Uniformed Services."

What if the number of Armed Forces changes again? Unity of branches is not as high a goal as community recognizing & feeling the loss of war.

---

I think the glass would be hard to keep clean from bird droppings and would be a distraction from its purpose.

---

Not crazy about this -- looks like paint brushes sticking out of a water glass. I can see kids swinging on the poles and goofing around -- not exactly respectful

---

I don't like the design at all. It looks like 6 sticks... I see a link to the military but think the ring conveys strength and unity much more than this. I don't think it fits the objectives mentioned above

---

I like this one but does the glass get dirty or do birds poop on it or build a nest on it?

---

There is no connection with the Veteran's or symbols that evoke any sense of service to our country or community outside the name "Veterans park". How can there not be a national flag on site? We seem to have missed the mark in our desire to present art

---

This design is closest to recognizing the collective impact and support of all Armed Forces Branches. Would be nice if each spire had the flag of each Branch.

---

The absolute worst! Reminds me of The Bars disaster.

---

not a good fit

---

I do not like this design.

---

Very unique. I'm wondering if the disc would collect rain water.

---

I like the changing colors of the glass and that there are spires for each branch of the military branches. However, the concept looks too childish and disrupts the flow of the landscape.

---

I like the sun light changing the design

---

I like the concept of unity of the 6 branches, but its difficult to see how the colored glass creates engagement since the image doesn't show us what that will look like. I think the straight uprights don't blend with the natural environment. My first reaction was negative, it doesn't make me want to stay and look more.

---

This design looks cheap and unstable. I like that the glass will change as the sun does, but that's it.

---

The glass is cool, but it doesn't encourage interaction.

---

simplistic but also strange looking. I think of banned drinking straws.

---

Is there going to be a description of the piece and what it represents? i.e. represents 6 military branches? Like the idea of the glass changing color, but hesitant with the description of it breaks.

This one's weird, when I first saw it I thought it looks like a bunch of pencils sticking out of the ground.

Not a fan of this one.

Non of these designs meets the criteria. Looks like the this will be another failed art project like the "bars" that had to be removed at taxpayer expense.

I think a more traditional veterans artwork should be produced.

The design has a very harsh element, not inviting

Design is overly severe and while it sounds good, it doesn't reflect simple respect

This is an interesting art piece, but I do not believe it fits into the park's natural setting as it is clearly manmade and openings potentially difficult to navigate for ability-challenged individuals.

This would be a fun, whimsical piece, as part of a sculpture garden in another location. In this setting, however, it goes so far, at least to me personally, to feel disrespectful to our military veterans and those who still actively serve.

Don't like it at all!

Obvious focus to honor branches of the service. Be interesting to see the constant changing of glass color. Reflecting change with veterans of all ages.

I don't like this one at all.

I like this design and believe it evokes feelings associated with military service. The design has a similar feel to the Air Force Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. I don't think this one fits into the landscape as well as the others.

Too bleak & harsh looking Looks like war spears not a Memorial

Do not select this one.

It has an energy to it, but isn't contemplative.

Dislike. Reminds me of the bars they had at Carlsbad beach. Ugh.

Doesn't fit in the surroundings

Do not like. Hope it is not chosen.

Make sure its about the Veterans not about a Modern Art Display.

That it depicts the different military branches. Would be interested to see a combination of concept B and C. Ring shape with the different military branches inscribed or the ring made up of six bands.

I find it interesting but wonder if dirt will pile up on the flat disk

Like the idea of changing colors but it feels too harsh to be a reflective piece and it is jarring on the landscape and looks like its something functional, rather than art.

It's my least favorite design and gives little notions of comfort or ease/reflection.

I do not like the design at all.

This design is ugly, has no functionality, is not inviting, tells no story, looks like junk.

Nothing

---

Love the dichroic glass idea, but the spikes feel aggressive in an otherwise soft landscape.

---

The main thing I don't care for about this design is that it stands waaaay too tall and doesn't fit comfortably in the beauty of the natural environment.

---

It looks like spears and is a violent image.

---

oh boy, let's cook some kebabs or smores!

---

Spires perfect to barbecue cooking, can even use the glass as a sun collector for solar cooking. Or maybe zap the people walking underneath. I would stay clear of the torture/cooking horror. How in the world does it honor veterans????

---

This design is "OK" but not great. I prefer the steel circle. The number of service branches may change over time so this design may become out of date.

---

That it's trying to tie all 6 branches of the military

---

This one seems odd and out of place in the natural landscape. The glass will likely become dirty over time and also seems to pose a risk

---

Inspiring

---

I think people will vandalize the disc, throwing stuff on top of it or birds will make it dirty, taking away from what it's intended

---

Nope everything

---

As with the arch, I do not prefer that the piece is in the flow of traffic. and as a series of spikes, it doesn't feel at all warm or reflective. Nope, the ring has it hands down.

---

Glass is an interesting concept but placement makes a great perch for birds and errant people whom feel the need to climb poles and sit on the glass "swing".

---

La.e

---

Don't care for it

---

too sharp looking.

---

color of the glass

---

Don't find it as appealing as the arch.

## 8. What else would you like the artist or city staff to consider as the final design is developed?

Answered: 239

Skipped: 350

I like the modern abstract nature, I think adding busts or people adds it's own exclusionary issues. I like (A) the arch or (B) ring maybe with inscription. I think if a ring people would take selfies in front of it.

---

Small area with plants near the design.

---

The possibility of people engaging with public art to post trick videos on social media, and effective ways to discourage that.. The maintenance costs.

---

How will it look at night. Will it be lit? What will be the orientation of the structure?

---

Needs to reflect "Memorial" which respects past and present Veterans

---

[https://tse2.mm.bing.net/th?id=OIP.\\_5cBezvjOUHQqQQvCfGCDQHaC1&pid=Api&P=0&w=857&h=329](https://tse2.mm.bing.net/th?id=OIP._5cBezvjOUHQqQQvCfGCDQHaC1&pid=Api&P=0&w=857&h=329)

---

I'm not quite sure how any of these concepts honor military service.

---

I think the artist/staff should reconsider how their designs represent the military.

---

I don't feel that any abstract art work above is reflective of the community themes. Would suggest the artwork to be more natural environment for people to engage (benches and trees). A walkway with benches and plants/trees seems to fit into the natural landscape.

---

I understand the allure of the abstract, but maybe have something that (best) suggests value of military service without labeling, or failing that, something the clearly talks to our obligation to our veterans.

---

A line of cement benches along the pathway that symbolize the stages of their life. I know this may invite skateboarders, but the edges could be wavy, like the ocean's waves. A person should be invited to pause at or near the art- elderly people, mommas with babies, people in wheelchairs can "rest" there, in keeping with the theme of "their service has been a coat of protection to our nation and its people.

---

The Park is in a beautiful natural setting. The design of the monument should reflect and enhance the natural setting. I don't think any one of the 3 design choices does that very well, but Number 1, "the Arch" is probably the least obtrusive of the 3 designs.

---

Please consider how some years ago, a previous "art" installation by the beach was very unpopular and eventually was removed. Please proceed carefully.

---

As a military family, prior navy ombudsman and person who is championing our military families in CUSD I'm so thankful this is coming to life. Military awareness is something I've really worked to bring more of to Carlsbad. Thank you for doing this. It's beautiful. I would consider looking at Mt Solidad and the way it honors veterans specifically. I hope we have some of that in this park.

---

Stop wasting your money! It's just meaningless

---

Curious about the orange colors selected for all the sculptures. Might not be my top choice but interested to understand the background on the color choice selected.

To bring community together.

Make it a park that young and old can enjoy.

I would possibly utilize the spires concept in monument plaza. The upper area needs something totally different from what is proposed. I have family who served at Camp Pendleton and my dad was a WWII POW (Japan).

I would like them to ensure that whatever the design, it is accessible to anyone with a disability. Thank you for all the hard work that it's going into this planning.

N/A

I really hope we get the ring, and we can have a plaque that reminds people of TNT the meaning behind the sculpture and maybe a phrase that links the sculpture to our veterans, both living and departed, to the sacrifices they have made for the community.

I think there should be something more specific in the design, maybe in the glass to add interest, concept and a spatial quality to the designs

I would like to recommend a brass plaque with the logos of the 6 different branches near the contemporary art structure. Always nice to have a classic touch recognizing the Armed Forces.

Color and finish of the material

Needs shade for summer sound of water needs to engage more of the other senses

Dont design something that requires an explanation as to what it represents.

less spires.

Increase size of The Arch

I would like to see the public art meet "what we heard from the community" and actually honor our veterans.

PATRIOTIC PRIDEMIA

I admit that I am bereft of artistic talent. That said, I have no idea why the artists thought that these creations would connect to or honor veterans.

I would like some greenery around the park symbols.

Perhaps a flagpole.

How can we honor Carlsbad residents who have died serving our country? ? a veteran wall on the property?

Signage explaining symbolism, graffiti prevention

Waste of money on something most people won't see. Cancel the project, spend tax dollars we paid for something more useful like raising police officers's salaries, eliminate drug dealers and homeless people off the streets where we live.

Brass or bronze plaques mounted on individual pedestals honoring each of the military services.

Any of these need an informational plaque to explain. Include motivational quote.

integrated seating areas

Where are the images of the services members? How does design show global nature of service? Courage? Sacrifice? Freedoms protected? Victory?

Display and maintain in good condition of the military flag branches. Engrave veterans' names on the spires.

Arch and Spires look potentially dangerous; too easily climbable.

add benches around the art to encourage reflection

The entire city of Carlsbad has a dysfunctional obsession with interfering with nature . This entire project is another example of that illness.

Thank you for your dedication to this project. Thank you for including the residents' interests by conducting these surveys. It will surely be another fine park addition for our community.

How about something that demonstrates the sacrifices made by our Vets?

How about a nice few benches and plaque and stop wasting money. And include the Merchant Marine because they are important too.

Very important no matter which design is selected that a bench is provided for sitting, for reflection either within the structure or off to the side.

Public art doesn't have to be so stiff and formal. How about some curves, some movement? It will be on a hill with a great view

Simple, strong design that feels best per veterans

Less conceptual more visually pleasing. Think about what makes the environment look nice over all. The first and third examples are not calming in any way.

There needs to be some type of plaque at the site that explains some of the description that is included above. Without that I don't think people will understand how the sculpture relates to veterans and what the intent is.

To make sure there's plaques with descriptions of what this is and the purpose.

Thanks for asking

Why they confused an architectural design firm as an artist.

The simplicity is ugly, and the steel is a bad choice as art goes. Some sort of nature-oriented approach (like a nice gazebo with flowers and vines growing around and through it) or actual artistic approach would be best.

Brilliant having the incredible Gordon Huether provide these incredible sculptures. He's really integrated the military sacrifices while complimenting the natural world..

fitting in with nature better rather than standing out so much

To make the reason this park honors our military, either the emblem of each branch can be added to the structure OR a statement such as "In honor of our military veterans" and be inscribed on the structure.

Find another artist! If an artist could develop something that also takes into account the breeze or wind and makes calming sounds.

I'm more of a traditional sculpture kind of guy but I get what you're trying to do. The ring could be cool if it was granite or stone instead of metal.

I am a 31 year Marine Corps active duty veteran and appreciate any recognition to our brave service veterans. As you know, many veterans thrive in Carlsbad. I also would like to see more bike trails, so I am naturally excited about this project.

Something relating to veterans. Some sort of patriotic or military theme. These are just modern art pieces that don't relate to veterans.

---

nuance of the form cast shadow paths

visual impact as experienced from other pause points in the park/landscape/relative scale of sculptures in relation to one another

variety of entry points to human experiences Sculptural Finish: Reflects light vs absorbs light:

Consider expressively brushed steel (ie Rickey) over rust (steel would create a greater visual contrast, impact and presence) vs. ability to identify rust finish within larger park environment)

silent hark to mark-making, reflection, brilliance over a dark uniform finish weathered by elements illustrating the ongoing impact of elements/decay

---

Something inviting and representative of past, present and future of veteran's who have served and are still with us.

---

Thank you for the lovely concepts and desire to honor our vets and Carlsbad.

---

Consider the importance of reflection, not just passing through or walking past an "interesting" structure. The Ring to me feels like the strongest candidate because the way it's structured (even without a bench) invites more pause and contemplation, and with the bench, a space is provided for a meditative and engaging experience, especially with that window to our ocean view. It's important to have something somewhat unique that brings people to the park even specifically to have that space of reflection. A design that works naturally with the park and nature spaces is important, without overly blending into the existing environment. Staying strongly rooted to the goal of honoring and reflecting the sacrifices and service of veterans and troops is important, especially something that signifies the history (generations) of those who gave/give all. It's also important that the design is a space where not just civilians can reflect but service members can go to and feel at peace, honored, and respected.

---

A statue of a soldier/sailor/flyer/marine. Look at Soldier Field in Chicago. It has a WWI soldier in front of a U.S. flag. Simple but makes the point. It also features a fountain wall featuring Navy, Army, Marine, Air Force and Coast Guard emblems. Again, simple but at least not some weird abstract that has park visitors guessing.

---

The laid back, peaceful, yet thriving, vibe of Carlsbad and the surrounding coastal towns. I am a 74 year old San Diego State Art student, majoring in Studio art with an emphasis on Sculpture.

---

I'm voting for the ring and I like its color but I think there might be room for some ornamentation on the outside or the inside of the Ring itself

---

Definitely a placard explaining the significance behind the chosen design.

---

Accessibility. The current paths to the hilltop are too rough.

Vegetation. It would be attractive to have native and colorful plants.

Seating. One needs a rest after the climb, and for reflection. I prefer long stone steps or natural boulders (carefully chosen) over benches.

---

More seating.

---

I would go with the piece that does not invite graffiti, climbing and vandalism of the art. I love sitting and enjoying views in a quiet space, so please include that

---

Maybe shelter covers to picnic under

---

As a female veteran, I personally feel the need to acknowledge honoring female Veterans in a monument of its own. Creating monuments to honor female veterans is essential to ensuring their stories, sacrifices, and contributions are visibly and permanently recognized in our national memory. For too long, women's roles in the military have been underrepresented in public spaces and historical narratives. Monuments serve as powerful symbols of respect and gratitude, educating future generations and inspiring pride in all who see them. By building these memorials, we affirm the value of every woman's service and ensure that their legacy stands alongside their male counterparts—equally honored, equally remembered, and never forgotten. Honoring female veterans in a memorial is vital not only to acknowledge their service and sacrifice but also to preserve a fuller, more accurate narrative of our nation's history. Respectfully, Rocio Villanueva

---

I believe that the artist was selected for their experience in creating public art installations. But the artist was not selected for the quality of their concept, their art in general, their historical context, or relationship to the broader art world. This artist has never shown in a museum nor is in the collection of any museum. The value of the work is the value of the materials and the artist in creating it only. People will visit this park to visit a park, not to visit the artistic memorial. I would recommend identifying an artist that is validated in the global art context by museums, curators, art collectors, and art professionals. Then, people will visit the artwork to see their thoughtful creation and appreciate the artwork, the site, and the meaning behind it.

---

Stability of material i think needs to be considered.

---

we like it now

---

When I think of something that honors the military, I think of the art pieces near the Safety Center that honor the police and firefighter. It is very clear who those pieces represent, and they honor the courage and commitment of our brave police and firefighters. I don't feel any of these pieces do that for our military. I'm a proud Marine Corps veteran myself, and wife of a USMC veteran and daughter of a retired Marine.

---

Something that doesn't obstruct the view

---

Consider how design fits into nature without blocking open space for people to move through and around the structure.

---

Consider the flow of visitors to the park...the arch seems to have an openness and people can flow through with ease

---

Hopefully there will be nearby seating to view the art work.

---

Installation of a Peace Pole

---

This last one makes some sense bu needs changing to reflect all services including the Space Force

---

Our ocean and natural landscape is the beauty we need to protect. Less is more.

---

None of these concepts really represents anything military.

---

Maybe the symbols of each branch of the military services.

---

I was on the subcommittee which selected Gordon Huether as the city's artist for this park. While these designs are unique, they do not suggest or honor military service. The designs could be improved by depicting one or several service members, or our flag. At least one of the designs will invite people to "climb" the arches or the poles, which is contrary to the design's purpose. I suggest modifying the designs to depict one or more service members, reflecting upon peace, life or other eternal values.

---

The orientation of the design would be important, especially The Ring. Please consider that people who live along the California coast like watching sunsets.

---

How well does this fit in with nature is it intrusive or does it blend in? Is it too tall or is it just right for the setting as is the circle.

---

Walking trails and picnic table areas scattered throughout

---

Thank you for your incredible designs and your hear for honoring veterans!!!

---

I believe a single flagpole with a U.S. holiday flag, and 24-hour lights, would be appropriate for the upper plateau. It could be seen from many areas of Carlsbad.

---

Areas to sit in peace and quiet.

---

An outer circle surrounding the tribute with low maintenance indigenous/hardy plants with small placards identifying the plant and possible symbolic meaning ie the strength of the plant to withstand stand the challenge of elements etc

---

consider the purpose of our military and the veterans; perhaps incorporate a receptacle for donations for veterans housing and mental health

---

I love this park the way it is....don't feel it's necessary to develop in any way. Actually disappointed that you'll interfere with nature. Real preference would be to leave this entire space alone but if you have to build something I prefer the arch.

---

To somehow incorporate the fact that both men and women serve. The protective factor of the military with the goal of peace for all people.

---

To have seating available at the design

---

The Ring

---

Night lighting.

---

Nothing the ring is beautiful concept.

---

A Statue, of symbolism of the Armed Services and strength and Glory, add the Lone Sailor looking over the Ocean several Cities has the Lone Sailor it would look nice in Carlsbad, develop something we all could understand but not an Arch or a circle and not Spikes these designs are not good and we are a Veterans household.

---

Visible from distance

---

Metal will become very hot. Children might burn their hands. With seating consider a shade cover or large tree for shade to not burn yourself or your but.

---

Consider the experience of the Vietnam Wall in DC, which eventually added the Soldiers' statue, since the design seemed to be missing something. Vets were then satisfied..

---

Go with the ring!

---

Number 2 is by far the best representation for the purpose of this public art.

---

## Remember the Bars

---

I worry about public art sculptures being treated like the Cardiff Kook. That's always at the back of my mind. Have a design that perceived as out of step with the public invites this sort of unwanted vandalism. I worry that the spiky design, for example, will invite this kind of public mockery. Unless you'd like to wake up every morning to wonder if there are giant marshmallows or hot dogs on the ends of those points.

---

Communicate a sense of timeless peace, valor and gratitude from the community. These designs are too modern, no plants/trees, no benches  
They don't inspire me

---

Choose the ring!!!

---

Go with the ring.

---

I hope they do build up those berms around the artwork. I am not sure if that is just for the illustration, but it would be nice to have that varied landscape around the sculptures.

---

Nothing

---

Carlsbad artists and themes

---

I personally think the second design is gorgeous and needs no alteration. It is stunning in its simplicity.

---

Feel that the art installation should allow for multiple visitors to comfortably enjoy the space.

---

I do not feel any of them reflect that they are honoring the military.

---

How people will interact with it

---

Places/benches to sit that seniors can get out Of easily , arm rests, not too low...

---

Benches

Restroom

Parking

Accessible

Shade

---

All of these installations are simplistic and nowhere near close to defining Carlsbad. Frankly middle schoolers could do better and maybe that's who you should have asked, because that is their future.

---

I love the circle option. The arch is second best. Please do not go with the "sticks."

---

A design that incorporates the lagoon, ocean and setting sun would be very good.

---

A sculpture large enough to accommodate a large amount of visitor interaction at one time. Use colors that are complementary to the natural surroundings. Provide a sign or plaque that clearly states the purpose/intent of the design (like the descriptions provided in this survey).

---

Wood or 'warmer' building materials.

---

Consider how the lighting changes throughout the day affect the color of the art along with the changing colors of the foliage and grasses throughout the year.

---

Over the years, I have visited several important military sites with public art (including two visits to Normandy, one very recent) and have seen meaningful public art installations. I remember the uproar in our community re "Split Pavilion" and urge staff to carefully consider input then make adjustments and present the three options again, perhaps not in the same format as this but in such a way that fosters inclusion in the process.

Color -- I don't like the orange colors because those do not match with any of our military services. Probably because I'm retired/disabled Navy, I would prefer a bright rich blue for the spires. Air Force veterans would like that as well. Please: No orange or brown!

seek input from local artists/local college art departments in the area

Love the Ring, wouldn't change a thing.

Something that reflects the tenants of being a. Veteran sacrifice, honor, patriotism

I want the final design to clearly honor military service and tradition, directly acknowledge that dedication, and meaningfully show our appreciation for their actions. None of the three proposed designs achieve those things. They also do not accomplish the other themes identified.

Don't develop this park any further. I enjoy the rustic trails just the way it is.

Area of reflection for remembering and calmness.

It's such a wide open space, it feels we need something weighty like the ring.

Something more specific to veterans - their names or a touch aspect. Maybe Carlsbad residents could purchase memorial bricks etc. Highlight examples of Carlsbad veterans etc

My first thought was around safety of visitors - could it be climbed/sat on

Please don't go forward with any of these. They mean nothing to my military family.

The ring is the most beautiful.

This is all tax payer waste of money. I posted on your Facebook post and suggested to leave as is. This way you have no issue with homeless people and vandalism. Minimal maintenance. Everyone can enjoy nature and the land. At the end that's what the vets were fighting for. Save money, preserve the land.

More veteran themed and more integration with the natural surroundings and history

Please start over. These designs are so depressingly NOT supportive of veterans or their families. Just because you claim veterans will be memorialized by these "art" pieces doesn't make it so.

Something more natural please. Wood, stone, plants etc.

A contemporary replica of our flag.

Unfortunately I think we missed the mark on all 3 designs.

Choose colors associated with the coast which helps support reflection of the sacrifices made by our veterans

Will there be a plaque honoring our veterans?

The sacrifices of their families. Many of our military are young men with young families. They make incredible sacrifices too.

Color and description of its symbolism

don't put anything

I really like what I've seen.

Get a new artist there concepts do not reflect veterans are they a veteran if not why not get a artist who is i bet there are some local

Longevity and ability to clean surface etc

Invest more into Pine Park and the Barrio vs this space that is so far away from where tourists frequent

Blending into natural setting. Not overly modern.

Places to sit!!! Vietnam widow here!!

Thank you for your work on these concepts!

A plaque describing the symbolism

I really do not get how these honor veterans.

Whether skateboarders would use the RING as a half pipe. And whether teens would consider climbing the spires of the third option making for a dangerous structure.

The look of a weapon does not create calm and reflection.

Besides considering what residents have to say, consider what other memorial statues use around the country. Maybe consider something other than wood which will not break down over time.

No change

Tysen Moore the local community In relationship, Carlsbad has with the military in the surrounding area

Several benches for reflection.

Go back to the drawing board and design something that represents veterans and Carlsbad.

More landscaping

More glass elements and colors should be incorporated.

Benches on the way up the path

Go more natural and simple with curves and rounds, avoid linear or angular geometry.

for whichever concept is approved, please include a bench or seating for those who would like to pause for remembrance/ introspection and appreciation for those who served in the military.

Make sure it doesn't invite birds to leave droppings.

If the intent is for reflection then any winning design needs to incorporate places to reflect...i.e. seating.

Clearly recognize each branch of our military force.

Please be mindful of the people who will drive by everyday and view the park from the roads and neighborhoods/golf course.

I come from a long line of many male relatives who have served, including my grandfather (Army, WWI), father(pilot WWII, Korean War), (son (Navy, War in Afghanistan), and my grandson (currently in South Korea, Army). I also have relatives that served in the Marines (Vietnam) that didn't come home. That is what best describes me when I see memorials.

I would consider the durability and safety of the materials being used. How can the city deter vandalism and how much maintenance the designs will require.

As someone who came to live here due to the USMC I believe Carlsbad has always represented the flow, the tides, a connection to the land and sea. These are thoughtful designs but I really loved design B.

Easy Handicap access.

I was a proponent of making a more functional park with activities to do versus a place to wander around and contemplate. So, I would not put as much space and focus around passive areas like art exhibits (my two cents).

A plaque about the sacrifices of veterans

Please consider whether visitors, the general population, would FEEL this monument picture worthy and memorable for their camera, not just what it looks like in person. And when they show their friends and families these images, they can pass on the story that their audience can see the correlation between the story and the images. What makes something memorable are the emotions evoked while seeing or hearing about something.

Prefer Less abstract. Would prefer to honor military in a more direct way. Include historical information for public education.

Don't like anything about this one

The pink on shade on top doesn't fit with nature. It looks like paint brushes, but perhaps just on the rendering?

?

Great for photo ops—will bring in tourists and locals. Something kids can safely climb on.

Emergency hydrants.

Would prefer something that fits well with the natural landscape.

I would like the artist to consider how we remind future generations of the sacrifices made by those who came before us. How can service be communicated by the art not just used as an inspirational force in the design?

A series of informational stations that tell the story of military history in the area.

If the structure was meant to encourage reflection, should we have more seating benches around the it so people can sit and reflect?

11:11:11 recognized. Honor the unique gifts of Carlsbad, the coast, ocean, hill.

Natural, sustainable products. Cohesiveness with nature. Connection with Agua Hedionda, as the lagoon is a viewpoint, and everything runs into the watershed. Interpretive Educational signs on native flora and fauna.

I like the idea of the changing light and glass but this framework doesn't work for me.

I love the feel and look of the ring design. It conveys strength, unity and invites contemplation and reflection. I think a stronger tie to the military and the different branches would make this perfect. This is going on one of my favorite stops to stop and reflect/ contemplate life. It needs to fit the location and the view. The ring has the most organic feel and would frame the view perfectly

---

There is no connection with the Veteran's or symbols that evoke any sense of service to our country or community outside the name "Veterans park". How can there not be a national flag on site? We seem to have missed the mark in our desire to present art

---

An art piece in support of Carlsbad's Veterans Memorial Park has to be an homage to Veterans. Symbolism must align with the contributions, sacrifices and impact of all Veterans.

---

Start from scratch.

---

I think warm colors would be great - not sure if that is decided already.

---

I like how the ring concept is framed by berms rather than having the structure "floating". None of these seem specific to the military — very abstract and I think it misses the point of honoring military.

---

Consider a way to lead visitors to the structure and provide more sitting for reflection. Is there any way to make an interactive experience on any of the designs?

---

Put some benches nearby

---

I don't see flora and fauna in the design concepts. I'm hoping it's just not typically included in the concept. I would hate it if the artist is not planning to include landscaping around the piece of art.

---

Enhancing the art piece with appropriate native landscaping. Not everyone cares for stark modern sculpture.

---

I understand that a memorial park can be reflective, but it should also be interactive. The root word for interactive is ACT. We need art that allows and invites residents to touch, sit climb, and otherwise engage. It can be functional as well as reflective.

---

Will there be set hours that the park will be open?

Will there be enough parking for the activities at the park?

If this is used for celebrations (Veterans Day, July 4th) will there be adequate transportation offered by the city to offset the impact on the residents who live on Whitman Way?

---

Perhaps benches and shaded areas for reflection

---

An art installment that really encourages people to stop and contemplate. The space would be an optimum use of the opportunity in my opinion.

---

If the ring is made out of metal and naturally rusts/corrodes that might be a good look down the road.

---

A design that actually makes reference to those who served

---

Would like to see the designs with more depth and character for our veterans.

---

It may be nice for more seating or a landing that wraps around the circle art piece to be provided so more visitors can engage simultaneously in reflection.

I am so sorry to share such unsupportive comments, but I really think none of these serve the purpose that the community -- and the park concept -- envisioned. I have shared meals in the home of a family who lost their young son in active duty, have a family member of my own who brought the war back with him and due to his PTSD, eventually took his own life, and have many other family members who have served and are currently serving who, I am certain, would not find any of these concepts reflective of having the goal of to honor military service. I understand that this is a park, inclusive of recreation for a variety of families and visitors, but if we choose to call it "Veteran's Memorial Park," at a minimum, it needs to be respectful of that concept. For those who are reviewing these concepts, perhaps spend some time at Fort Rosecrans or the newer Miramar Memorial Cemetery, if for nothing else but to capture the emotion of those places. It seems the artist must, in part, figure out how to capture the spirit and provide that level of honor and respect if we are to truly call this "Veterans Memorial Park." (While the boxes below do not allow "multiple checks of all that apply," I am a family member of both veterans and of those currently serving in the military, including the Army, Marine Corps, Air Force, Navy, and Coast Guard.) None of these three options would come close to the pride and deep respect I have for these individuals -- nor would I encourage them to visit as I do not feel any sense of having honored them by these design options. I hope there is a chance to do better. Clearly, the artist is talented, but this design, in my opinion, needs to be more than just an interesting public art piece. It truly needs to evoke the spirit of pride and honor to our veterans in what we are calling "Veterans Memorial Park." Otherwise, perhaps some benches with no public art piece would be a better alternative, than something, that honestly, seems disrespectful to me.

---

Not sure

---

I appreciate all of the efforts that are made to include residents, community groups, and city staff in the process.

---

A way to protect it from vandalism that is esthetically pleasing

---

Select concept B.

---

The beauty and symmetry of the landscape encircled by the ring as seen by the bench.  
Position ring for the best view all year long. Hope it has view of ocean.

---

Something that reflects without a doubt its about Veteran's Service.

---

Remember The Bars fiasco

---

The past of the area and, the feeling and atmosphere (unity of its people) of Carlsbad village and beach. I know a wave is corny but can that idea be encompassed in an abstract way?

---

Consider optimum location to take advantage of views.

---

Veterans being named on a wall like Vietnam wall

---

Add more benches.

---

I hike the park frequently and have always enjoyed the views, the natural environment as well as the peacefulness. Consideration for the different branches, peaceful reflection (the area with the view is extremely conducive to this), and to have the color(s) blend with the environment (whatever materials being used) would be ideal to me.

Plant trees. Do not waste money on such meaningless crap. A grove would be a better option, definitely more inspiring and more appropriate for a park.

---

Have a place to sit down and take in the scenery and the natural beauty of the park. The circle provide such a place.

---

Back to the drawing board. Nothing is appealing nor do any of the concepts satisfy any of the scored criteria.

---

Surely you can come up with something more traditional and meaningful. This kind of "modern" art doesn't fit in Carlsbad. Although they do fit in with the current "Cold War era" design and colors of the recent condo construction in the city. So depressing looking...

---

consider symbols of the Armed Forces. honor the military with military symbols.

---

If the goals include an invitation to engagement, encouragement to reflect, and to engender honor and respect, then shouldn't the piece allow space, serenity and facility toward those ends?

---

native plants

---

The color shoud better reflect the ocean or park's colors.

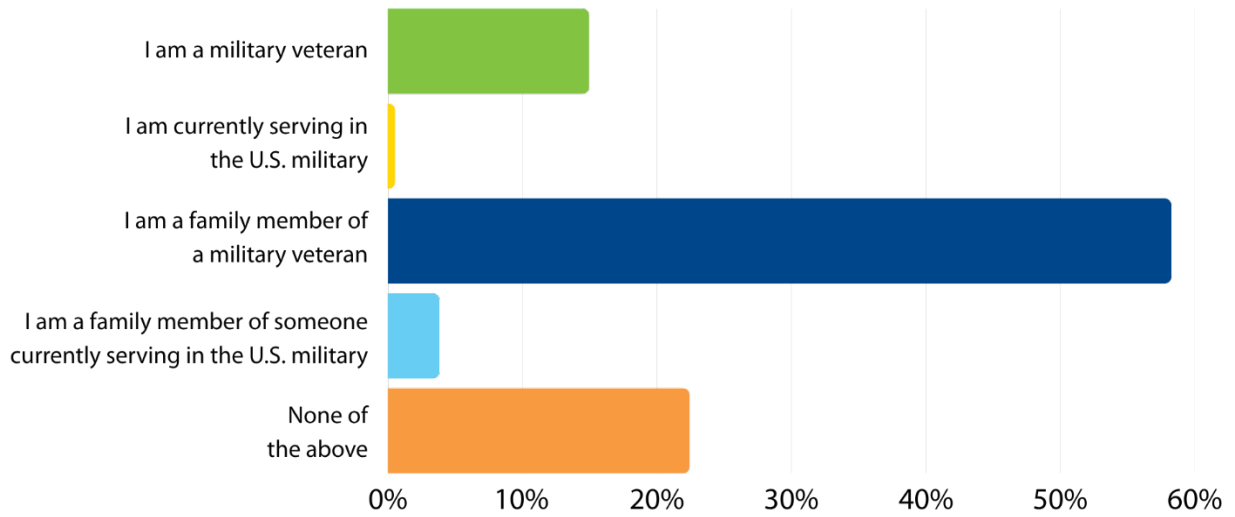
---

None of these reflect the natural setting, nor the character and values of Carlsbad or the military.

### 9. Which of the following best describes you?

Answered: 575

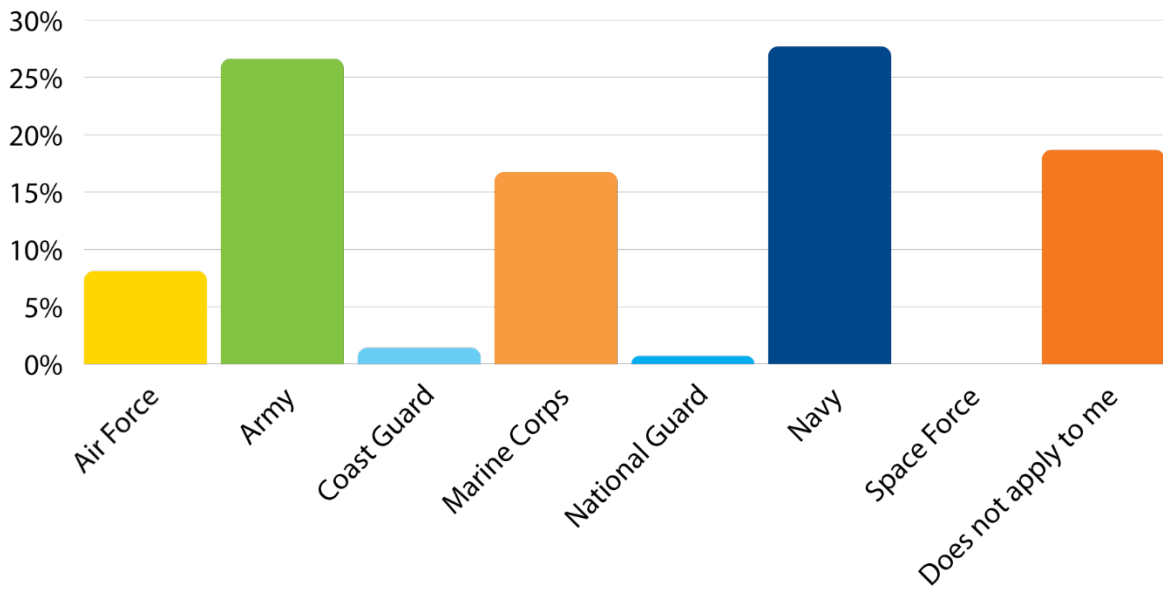
Skipped: 14



### 10. Which branch of the military do/did you or a family member serve in?

Answered: 567

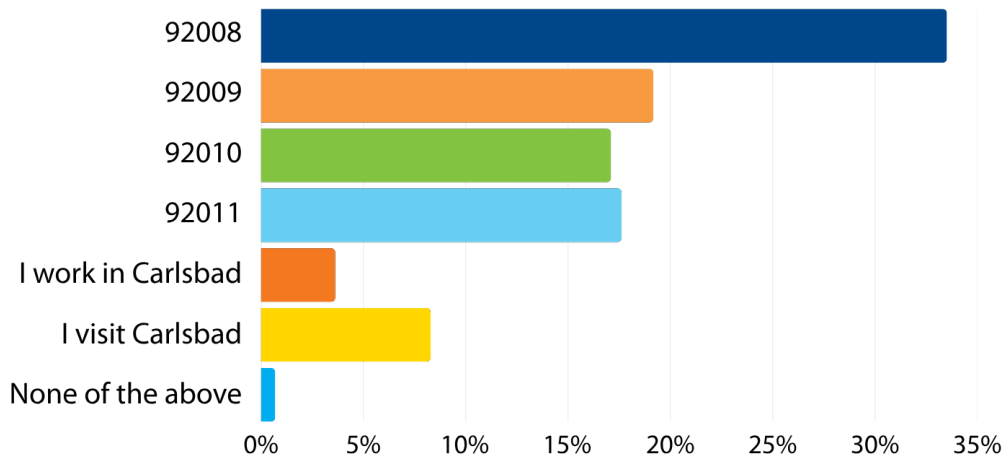
Skipped: 22



### 11. Please tell us where you live.

Answered: 579

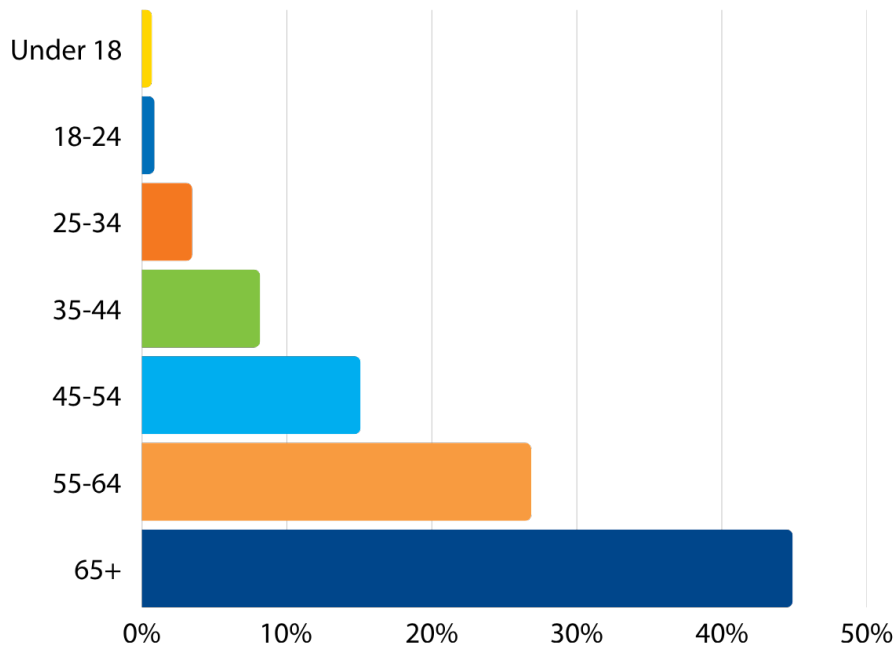
Skipped: 10



## 12. What is your age range?

Answered: 577

Skipped: 12



## VETART – Veterans Art Project meeting

**Date:** June 13, 2025

**Time:** 6 to 8 p.m.

**Location:** 2422 Cades Way, Vista, CA

**Participants:** ~40

### Discussion highlights by concept

#### The Arch

- Some participants appreciated the Arch’s multicultural and heritage symbolism, describing it as a welcoming form that works well with the landscape.
- One suggestion was to modify the design to include six anchor points, with each point representing a military branch.
- Safety concerns were raised about children climbing the Arch.
- Some felt the design lacked human connection and suggested incorporating faces or figures representing service members, such as a sailor or soldier.
- There were recommendations to include a plaque or signage to help explain the design’s meaning and help viewers connect the piece to military service.
- One participant referenced memorials in Washington, D.C., that include images of each branch for clearer identification.

#### The Ring

- Several participants preferred the Ring over the other options.
- One person compared the Ring to the experience of seeing ships, aircraft or loved ones returning from deployment on the horizon—describing it as reflective of that emotional moment.
- Another participant said the Ring invited them to reflect on people they had lost, creating a contemplative space.
- There were concerns about potential vandalism, especially from kids.
- One participant noted that younger visitors may struggle to understand the meaning without interpretive signage.

#### Spires

- No specific feedback was provided on this concept during this session.

#### Overall observations and recommendations

- Participants questioned how any of the three designs reflected the military or the themes identified for the project.
- Suggestions included:
  - Adding human-sized representations of each branch.
  - Incorporating statues or other concrete symbols to help people connect emotionally with the piece.

- Providing interpretive signage or plaques to explain the meaning and help foster respect for the memorial.
- Concerns about vandalism and durability were raised, including how long it would take to replace any damaged glass elements.
- One participant noted that adding recognizable symbols or concrete representations could help reduce vandalism by fostering greater public respect.



## Marine Corps League, Camp J H Pendleton, Detachment 21 meeting

**Date:** June 19, 2025

**Time:** 6 to 8 p.m.

**Location:** Veterans Association of North County, 1617 Mission Ave, Oceanside, CA 92058

**Participants:** 11

### Discussion highlights by concept

#### The Arch

- Several participants asked if there would be any visual elements or inscriptions on the interior or exterior of the arch to represent military branches or different generations of service.
- Suggestions included adding the founding date of the country at the top and listing key battles radiating outward, with military seals on the exterior.
- Some felt the current shape was too oval and didn't read clearly as an "arch."
- Concern that a rubberized ground surface could make the area seem like a play space for kids.
- Positive feedback on the overall size of the design.

#### The Ring

- Mixed reactions. Some appreciated its peaceful, contemplative quality, noting the "portal effect" and how it frames views of the lagoon.
- Others felt it lacked a clear connection to military service or history.
- One participant commented that skateboarders might be drawn to it.
- A few felt the meaning might only be fully understood from the artist's perspective.
- One person mentioned it could be more appropriate at a place like West Point or Annapolis.

#### Spires

- Several participants found this design too busy or chaotic, with one saying it looked like "a bomb went off."
- Some noted its resemblance to the Air Force Memorial in Washington, D.C.
- Overall, participants did not feel the Spires conveyed a sense of military reflection or respect.

#### Overall observations and recommendations

- Some felt that too much abstract thought was being put into the designs, making them feel disconnected from the intended audience—veterans and their families.
- A common theme was that none of the designs fully captured the essence of military service or sacrifice.
- Participants recommended the artist visit national military memorials, including the Marine Corps Museum near Washington, D.C., for inspiration and perspective.

- Several people expressed interest in blending design elements from different concepts or adding features over time, especially if budget constraints are a factor.
- Some suggested including a bald eagle or other national symbols within the artwork.
- There was interest in incorporating a timeline or history wall, leaving space for future conflicts and service recognition.
- Materials were a concern. Participants recommended using something durable that discourages climbing and can withstand outdoor elements.
- One participant suggested exploring alternative materials to steel due to cost.
- Overall, participants wanted the final design to reflect all generations of service, from World War II through more recent conflicts, and to feel personal and meaningful to those who served.

## Carlsbad Chamber of Commerce Military Affairs Committee meeting

**Date:** June 20, 2025

**Time:** 8 to 9 a.m.

**Location:** Carlsbad Chamber of Commerce, 5934 Priestly Drive, Carlsbad, CA 92008

**Participants:** 12

### Discussion highlights by concept

#### The Arch

- Questions about the width at the top and whether the design represents all five military branches.
- Some participants asked how long the renderings would remain available for public viewing.
- A few referenced the city's previous "The Bars" public art piece, noting how polarizing that had been.
- Concerns about safety and liability if kids or mountain bikers try to climb or scale the structure.
  - One parent with four children said, "They will try."
- A veteran shared that walking through the Arch didn't feel meaningful or exciting from a military perspective.
  - Asked how storytelling would be conveyed.
  - Suggested including a plaque explaining the design's meaning and connection to service.
- Several participants said they didn't see the military represented in the design.
- One person commented that it looked like "a person doing a backbend or yoga pose."
- Suggestions included:
  - Adding flags or branch seals on the interior.
  - Providing a clear statement linking the design to the military.
  - Making the structure taller and steeper to discourage climbing.
  - Enlarging the cutouts to reduce the "claustrophobic" feel.
  - Adding two more legs to represent six branches and reduce the human-like shape.

#### The Ring

- Overall, participants liked the Ring better than the other designs.
- Suggested building a full-size temporary model or using inexpensive materials to create a mock-up for public viewing and feedback.
  - Described as a small investment compared to the overall project budget.
- Some felt the Ring was a beautiful piece, but still lacked a clear military connection.
- One Marine Corps veteran (32 years of service) noted that none of the concepts so far felt reflective of the military.
- Suggestions included:

- Adding a plaque explaining the design’s intent and symbolism.
- Raising the bottom edge by at least two inches to discourage skateboarders.
- Incorporating a common military symbol, such as the American flag.
- Considering design elements that interact with Carlsbad’s sunsets for visual impact and photography opportunities.
- Being mindful of sight lines, especially views toward Agua Hedionda Lagoon and nearby power lines.
- Referencing a class ring from one of the service academies as an inspiration point.

### **Spires**

- Concerns about climb-ability and safety, especially with the glass element.
- Some said this concept looked even more climbable than the others.
- Participants debated whether the Spires should incorporate different colors, insignia or etched representations of each military branch.
- Mixed opinions on etching the glass—some felt it would detract from the artist’s vision, while others thought it would help communicate meaning.
- Suggestions included:
  - Adding branch emblems or designating each spire for a different branch.
  - Providing a plaque to explain the design and artist’s intent.
  - Considering the visual impact from surrounding roadways, including Faraday Avenue and The Crossings golf course.
  - Noting that the glass could attract vandalism, like throwing objects onto it.
  - Asking about the structural strength and load-bearing capacity of the glass, given concerns about people climbing it.
- Several participants said the Spires conveyed more meaning than the other two designs but still needed clearer educational elements.

### **Overall observations and recommendations**

- Request to include POW/MIA flags in future renderings of the Memorial Plaza.
- When asked which design they gravitated toward, some leaned toward the Spires for its potential to represent the branches.
- One participant suggested scrapping all three concepts and starting over.
- A comment noted that the Carlsbad gateway sign is currently the city’s most iconic landmark, and this memorial could become similarly recognizable.
- Appreciation expressed for the thought and care going into the project.
- One participant asked whether the park would include any reference to Native American history or heritage.

