

## Amanda Gehrke

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**From:** Hsu, Lillian <lhsu@cambridgema.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 19, 2020 6:03 AM  
**To:** Amanda Gehrke  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Dewitt Godfrey Sculpture

Amanda,

Climbing is often a consideration on many of our public artworks. We assume people will try to climb structures, although we make it clear that the artist is not building a climbing structure that would trigger all kinds of regulations as in playgrounds. DeWitt's sculptures are actually precarious if one is up on those cylinders, as he has probably said. That may be a thrill for some, but it has not been a problem for us in our permanent work nor in a temporary piece he did in Harvard Square, where there were many students and young people. In our permanent piece at Waverly Extension, we do see evidence of people trying to run up the inside surface of the lower cylinders, but it doesn't damage the work. We have also found evidence of people sleeping around/in it. Overall, we have not had any problems.

DeWitt is great to work with. Best of luck with the installation!

Lillian

Lillian Hsu, Director of Public Art and Exhibitions  
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Pronouns: she/her/hers

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**From:** Amanda Gehrke <AGehrke@alamedaca.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 18, 2020 3:44 PM  
**To:** Hsu, Lillian <lhsu@cambridgema.gov>  
**Subject:** Dewitt Godfrey Sculpture

Hi Lillian,

I hope this email finds you well. I am with the City of Alameda, California, and am working to prepare our Public Art Commission for review of a sculpture by Dewitt Godfrey (see rendering below), which will be placed in a public park. One of the questions/concerns that has been raised is folks climbing the piece, and I am curious about whether

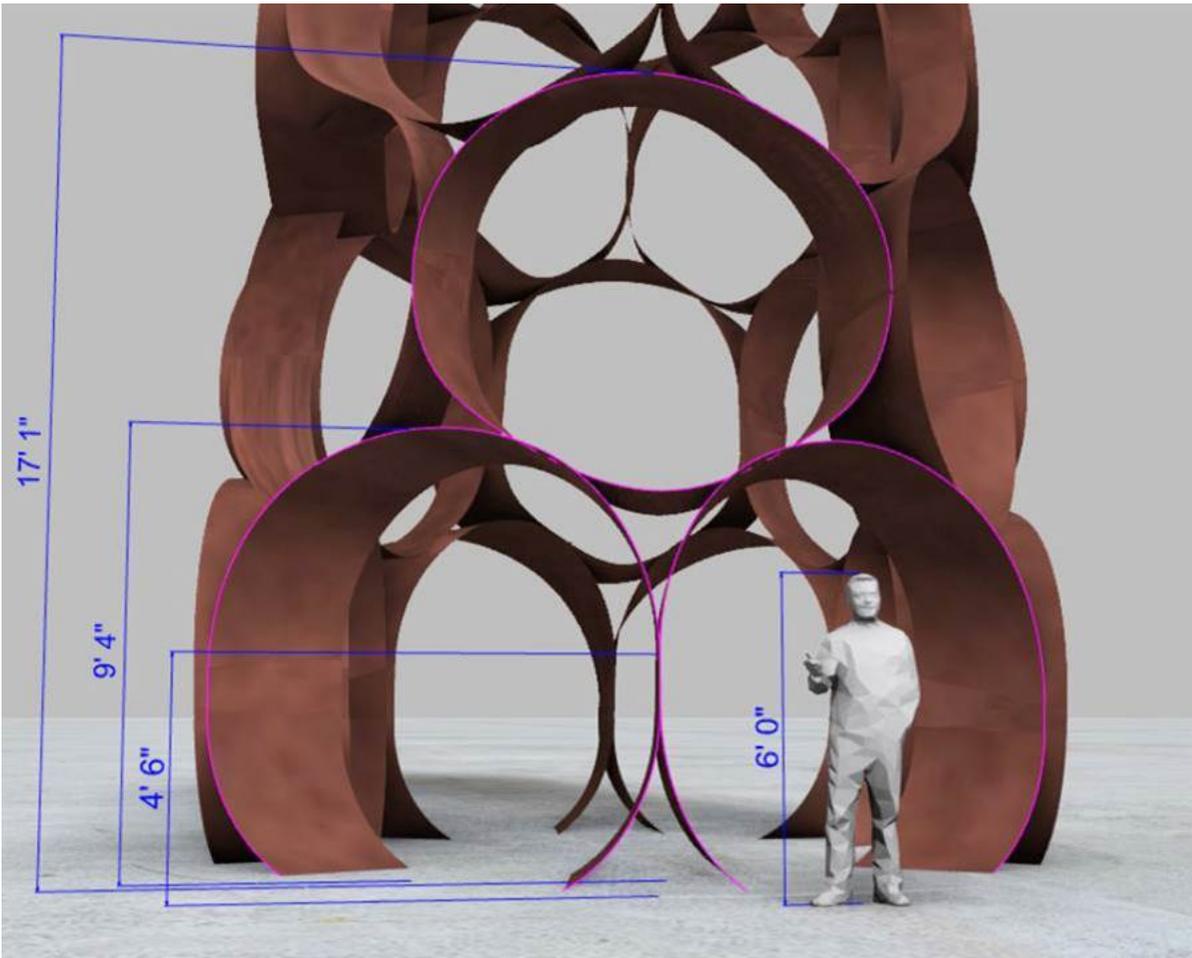
this has ever been an issue for your sculpture by Mr. Godfrey. He has assured us that the pieces are harder to climb than they look, but it's always hard to tell without seeing them in person.

For context, the first rendering below shows his initial design, and the second shows an updated design with larger base cells, which we believe will address the concern.

I would appreciate any insight you can offer on whether climbing has been an issue for Mr. Godfrey's piece in Cambridge.

Thanks,  
Amanda





## References for Past Work



*Quake 2015*  
Weathering Steel  
35'L x 10'D x 16'H

Contact: Lillian Hsu, Director, Public Art Program  
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Cambridge, MA 02139  
(617) 349-4380  
[lhsu@CambridgeMA.GOV](mailto:lhsu@CambridgeMA.GOV)

## Amanda Gehrke

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**From:** Katelyn Zeits <kzeits@traversecitymi.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 29, 2020 6:45 PM  
**To:** Amanda Gehrke  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: Dewitt Godfrey Sculpture

Hi Amanda,

Dewitt was great to work with! We haven't had issues with people climbing the piece, but of course we're not there monitoring 24/7. The base is quite large so it would be difficult for someone to even climb and we've placed signage in the park indicating no climbing etc.

I do not think you will be disappointed!

Regards,



Katelyn Zeits, CMC, CMMC  
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Think Green! Please don't print this e-mail or its attachments unless absolutely necessary.

On Thu, Jun 18, 2020 at 3:45 PM Amanda Gehrke <[AGehrke@alamedaca.gov](mailto:AGehrke@alamedaca.gov)> wrote:

Hi Katelyn,

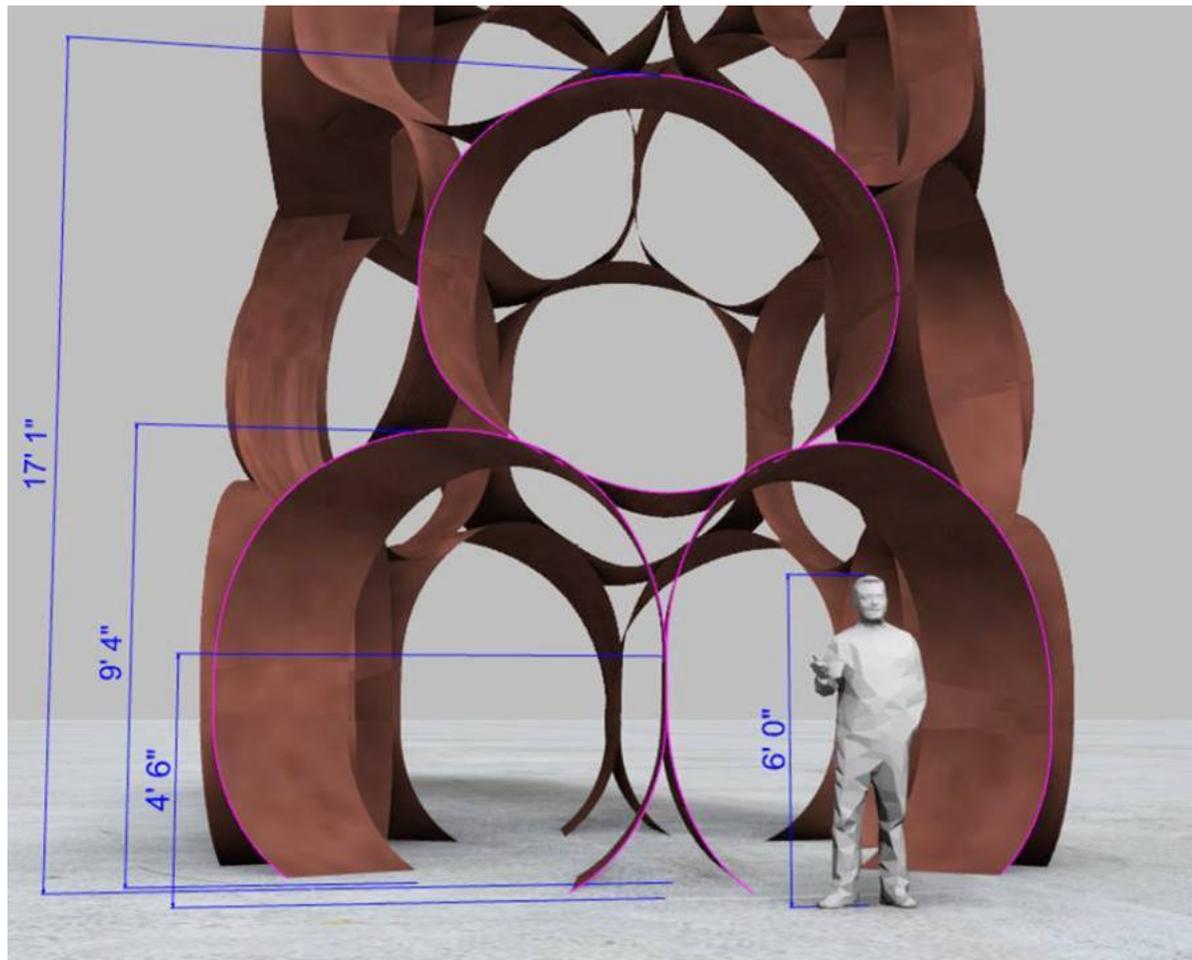
I hope this email finds you well. I am with the City of Alameda, California, and am working to prepare our Public Art Commission for review of a sculpture by Dewitt Godfrey (see rendering below), which will be placed in a public park. One of the questions/concerns that has been raised is folks climbing the piece, and I am curious about whether this has ever been an issue for your sculpture by Mr. Godfrey. He has assured us that the pieces are harder to climb than they look, but it's always hard to tell without seeing them in person.

For context, the first rendering below shows his initial design, and the second shows an updated design with larger base cells, which we believe will address the concern.

I would appreciate any insight you can offer on whether climbing has been an issue for Mr. Godfrey's piece in Traverse City.

Thanks,  
Amanda







*Enspire 2017*  
Weathering Steel  
16'L x 16'D x 16'H

Contact: Katelyn Zeits, CMC, CMMC  
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