

MWA  
MADISON WORTH  
ARCHITECTURE D P C

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The Honorable Members of the Palm Beach Town Council  
Town Hall  
360 South County Road  
Palm Beach, Florida, 33480

October 2, 2024

**RE: Hibiscus Avenue Fountain Maintenance**

Dear Honorable Members of the Palm Beach Town Council,

I wish to express my support for the proposed modification of the two end fountains located at the intersections of Worth Avenue and Hibiscus Avenue. As the designer, I have approached this project with deep love for Palm Beach and respect for the highly visible location and the legacy of the existing square.



*Original Design, Photo from 2010*

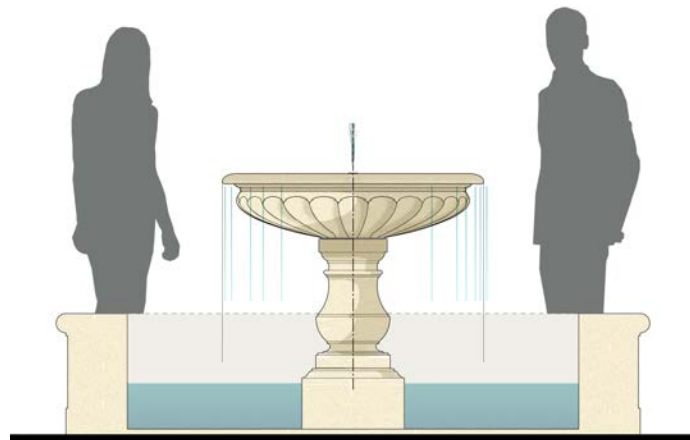


*Current Condition*



*Left: Area of modification Right: No Changes to existing conditions on Hibiscus Ave. streetscape*

Our proposal works with current conditions in a way that is both sympathetic of the original intent and respectful of the existing built conditions. Our focus is to replace the existing fountain stems and upper bowls only.



*Above: Cut-away section of proposed fountain stem designs in existing basins.*

The new proposed replacement stems and bowls are carefully scaled to complement the coping detail of the existing lower basins. The new elements would be hand-carved of a natural stone to match the color of the existing bases as closely as possible. These fountains should complement the surrounding buildings. We have followed Mr. Smith's description of his work in this area:

*"...the texture and warm colors of the [beige] stone are more tropical yet still evoke a feeling of permanence, implying the design has always been there"*

*Jeffery Smith, Wilson, J. C. (2005b). Palm Beach Splendor: The Architecture of Jeffery W. Smith. Rizzoli International Publications.*

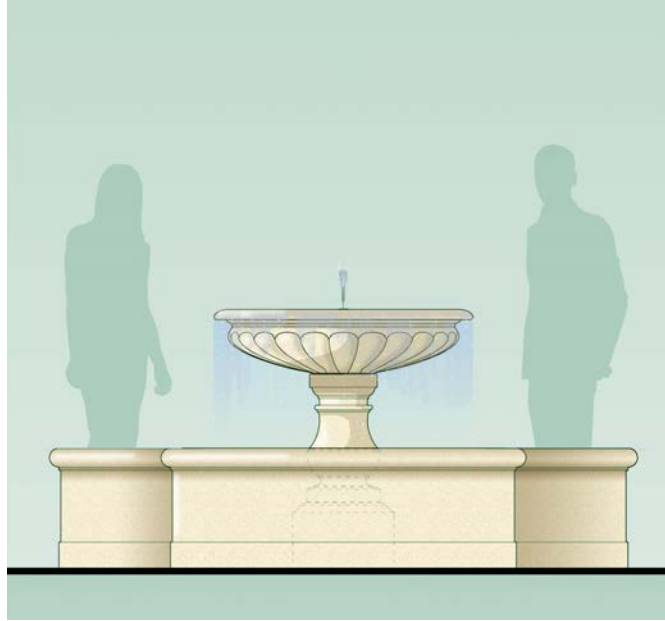


*Left: Beige Cast Stone façade of Chanel on Worth Ave. Right: Coral limestone façade of Tiffany & Co. on Worth Ave.*

#### PROPOSED MODIFICATION DDIMENSIONAL DETAILS

|                | Existing  | Proposed  |
|----------------|-----------|-----------|
| Overall Height | 3'-2"     | 3'-8"     |
| Bowl Diameter  | 3'-2"     | 3'-8"     |
| Bowl Depth     | 9"        | 11"       |
| Stem Diameter  | 5"        | 12.5"     |
| Lower Bowl     | No Change | No Change |

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*Above: Rendered elevation of proposed fountain stem designs in existing basins.*

The proposed design is simple yet classical. The inclusion of a drip spill-edge will create a subtle, soothing water flow that will visually occupy the space between the bowl and the basin. Our approach not only respects the proportions of the existing basins but also introduces a level of refinement that complements and completes the architecture of these fountains. Furthermore, it is aligned stylistically with other larger fountains in the immediate vicinity.

*Existing examples of Mediterranean Revival fountains in beige stone and cast stone in Palm Beach*



*Left: Memorial Fountain constructed of cast stone, designed to imitate the color and texture of coral stone. Right: Earl E.T. Smith Fountain in natural hand-carved stone*

The choice of materials and detailing for the fountains connects them to the iconic Worth Avenue clock tower. With the implementation of our design, the experience of strolling on Worth Avenue is punctuated by sculptural elements that relate to each other.



*Palm Beach Clock, constructed of coral stone*



*Section through Hibiscus Ave. streetscape showing proposed new fountain stems.*

We appreciate your time and consideration and the opportunity to contribute to the ongoing beauty of Palm Beach.

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