



# CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH

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## City Unveils “Refresh” of *Light Gate*

**Manhattan Beach, CA (September 13, 2019)** –

The City of Manhattan Beach has unveiled a “refresh” of the popular, *Light Gate* sculpture, located at the intersection of 14th Street and Highland Avenue between City Hall and the Manhattan Beach Library.

The *Light Gate* refresh features the replacement of five glass panels with decorative glass that exhibit a brilliant color shift through transmitted and reflected light. Visitors should expect to see a vast array of colors exhibited through the sculpture, depending on the viewing angle and lighting.

“The *Light Gate* is a vital art piece in our City and this exciting enhancement is an example of our City’s commitment to excellence in our public art,” said Mayor Nancy Hersman.

The *Light Gate* sculpture originally had fused glass imbedded with a film that was designed to create a prism-like refraction when hit by sunlight. Due to fading and recent innovations in glass products, City Staff collaborated with the *Light Gate* artists to replace the existing fused glass panels without altering the intent, integrity or authenticity of the sculpture.

On March 6, 2019, at the recommendation of the Cultural Arts Commission, the City Council approved the disbursement of funds from the Public Arts Trust Fund to replace the glass panels on the *Light Gate* sculpture utilizing dichroic glass products (preferred for architectural use in sunlight) that has a ten-year warranty.

The glass product called, “Dichroic Laminated Glass” is produced in Canada and is the result of a new partnership between, Goldray Glass, a manufacturer of architectural decorative glass, and 3M Innovation, a corporation that applies science in daily lives. The collaboration resulted in a product that combined 3M’s premium-grade polymeric film with Goldray’s decorative glass techniques.



“The City is happy to see the art piece restored to its novel beauty while celebrating the City’s past and inspiring future generations in the arts with such innovative techniques,” said Mayor Hersman.

The City of Manhattan Beach will be organizing a rededication of the refreshed artwork on November 14, 2019, to observe the setting sun through the keyhole and celebrate the occasion.

#### Background

In July 2012, the City of Manhattan Beach presented an opportunity to professional artists or artist teams to submit their qualifications to the Art in Public Places Committee (APPC) to create a unique and iconic artwork in celebration of the City’s Centennial year. Harries and Héder Collective were chosen as the artists to create their submission, *Light Gate*. The artist’s commission for the project was \$130,000, using the City’s Public Art Trust Fund. The Public Art Trust Fund was established through a dedicated 1% development fee that does not impact the general fund.

*Light Gate* was dedicated on Wednesday, February 25, 2015. The art piece focuses the view through an opening down 14th Street to the ocean and each January 27th and November 14th, the sunset aligns within the keyhole. For more information about the *Light Gate*, visit the [Light Gate webpage](#). For more information about public art within Manhattan Beach, visit the [Public Art webpage](#) or contact the Park and Recreation Department at (310) 802-5448 or via [email](#).

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