Bonita Springs public art collection to include new sculpture, art exhibit at River Park

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River Park, a quiet space off U.S. 41 along the Imperial River, is quickly becoming the art center of Bonita Springs.

Two tall sculptures in the city parkwill be joined by a third. The wind sculptures twist and turn like precise double windmills with the slightest gust.



A pair of metal wind sculpture at River Park in Bonita Springs is pictured on Tuesday, Feb. 19, 2019. (Photo11: Jon Austria/Naples Daily News USA TODAY NETWORK - FLORIDA)

"Having a third sculpture will bring it to perfection," said Nigel Fullick, volunteer chair of the Art in Public Places Board. "It's an interactive piece. Go down there whenever there is a slight breeze. It's so well engineered."

Art lovers can go to the River Park to appreciate the spinning sculptures. River Park — not to be confused with the popular event venue Riverside Park in downtown Bonita Springs — has a small nature trail and kayak launches into the Imperial River.



A metal wind sculpture spins in the wind, Tuesday, Feb. 19, 2019, at River Park in Bonita Springs. (Photo11: Jon Austria/Naples Daily News USA TODAY NETWORK - FLORIDA)

The Art in Public Places Board "has started putting a lot of work in that park," said Nicole Perino, Parks and Recreation director. "They want it to become an art park."

City council approved the final art tower's purchase for nearly \$15,000 earlier this month. Called the "Double Spinner" wind sculpture by artist Lyman Whitaker, the first two were purchased last year with money from the Art in Public Places Board.

The board has about \$25,000 left to find and install art for 2019.