

Charles James Kirk Memorial Bench



“Keep Talking”

Proposal to Install the “Charles James Kirk Memorial Bench”

at The Bridgewater Channel Memorial Walkway in Lake Havasu City, AZ

Submitted by: Virgil A. Venditto

Date: 4/15/2026



1. Purpose of Proposal

This proposal respectfully requests approval from the City Council to install the **Charles James Kirk Memorial Bench** at The Bridgewater Channel Memorial Walkway in Lake Havasu City, AZ

The memorial bench is intended to honor our freedom of speech as well as the life and legacy of Charles James Kirk (“Charlie”) and to provide a lasting space for reflection, remembrance, community gathering and to always “Keep Talking”.

2. Background

Following Charlie’s tragic assassination, members of the community expressed a strong desire to create a permanent memorial in his honor. Initial discussions included commissioning a bronze statue; however, estimated costs for such a project exceed \$125,000.

To provide a meaningful yet fiscally responsible alternative, the Charles James Kirk Memorial Bench was designed as a permanent public tribute at an estimated project cost of ~\$32,000.

The project has received overwhelming support from community members and stakeholders.

3. Description of the Memorial

The Charles James Kirk Memorial Bench will include:

- A custom designed bench constructed of durable, weather-resistant materials, with a cutout silhouette of Charlie holding a microphone
- The word “FREEDOM” is cutout across the top of the canopy
- Multiple characters also surround the bench as if listening to Charlie
- Appropriate anchoring and installation for public safety and longevity
- Landscaping to include synthetic turf along the walkway with scattered boulders
- Safety Parking Bollards

The memorial bench is designed to:

- Complement the aesthetics of the Memorial Walkway
 - Meet city safety and accessibility standards
 - Require minimal ongoing maintenance.
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4. Proposed Location

The requested installation site is:

The Bridgewater Channel Memorial Walkway in Lake Havasu City, AZ

The selected location was chosen for:

- Visibility and accessibility
 - Minimal interference with existing use
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5. Funding

- Estimated project cost: ~ \$32,000.00
 - Funding source: Private donations / Community fundraising / Sponsorships
 - No municipal funding is being requested
 - All fabrication, delivery, and installation costs will be covered through private fundraising efforts.
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6. Installation Timeline

Upon Council approval:

- Final fabrication: within 60 days of approval
 - Site preparation will be coordinated with Parks Department
 - Target installation: Summer 2026
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7. Community Support

The project has received strong support from community members, including:

- Residents
- Local business owners
- Civic groups

Petitions and letters of support can be provided upon request.

8. Request for Approval

We respectfully request that the City Council approve the installation of the Charles James Kirk Memorial Bench at the Bridgewater Channel Memorial Walkway in Lake Havasu City, AZ, allowing our community to create a lasting tribute that honors Charlie's life and provides a meaningful space for reflection, remembrance, community gathering and to always "Keep Talking".

We appreciate your consideration and welcome any questions.

Respectfully submitted,

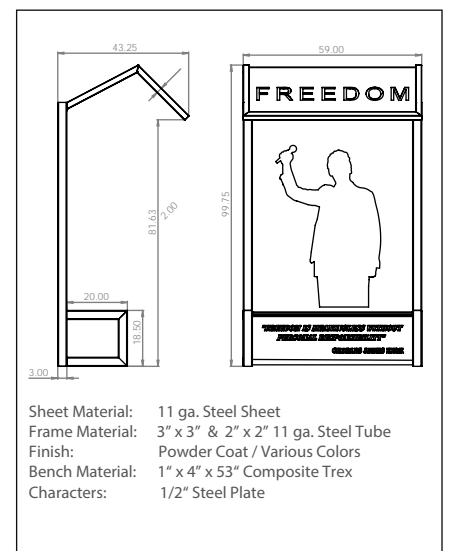


Virgil A. Venditto

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Charles James Kirk Memorial Bench



This proposal respectfully requests approval from the City Council to install the Charles James Kirk Memorial Bench, at The Lake Havasu Memorial Walkway, located at the Bridgewater Channel in Lake Havasu City. The memorial bench is intended to honor our freedom of speech as well as the life and legacy of Charles James Kirk ("Charlie") and to provide a lasting space for reflection, remembrance, community gathering and to always "Keep Talking".

Installation Site 3/4 Aerial View



Synthetic Turf 15' x 50'
750 Sq.Ft.

New Concrete
2,250 Sq.Ft.

Havasus Landing
Ferry Boat Terminal

Installation Site Aerial View



Charles James Kirk Memorial Bench

Cost Estimates 5-1-2026

Site Landscaping

Item	Description	Qty.	UOM	Each	Total
1	Synthetic Turf / 15' x 50' / Prep & Installation	750	Sq.Ft.	\$ 12.00	\$ 9,000.00
2	Bollards 42" x 4.5" Dia. / Bolt down	10	Ea.	\$ 62.00	\$ 620.00
3	Landscape Boulders (Large)	16	Ton	\$ 200.00	\$ 3,200.00
4	8 Pcs. 12" Dia. x 24" High Concrete / Character Mounting Cylinders	0.2	Cu.Yd.	\$ 180.00	\$ 36.00
5	12" Sono Tube Forms / Mounting Cylinders	4	Ea.	\$ 21.00	\$ 84.00
6	6" x 72" x 36" Concrete Slab with 12" x 12" Footing / Bench Mounting	1	Cu.Yd.	\$ 180.00	\$ 180.00
7	2" x 8" x 12' Lumber / Slab Forms	4	Ea.	\$ 19.00	\$ 76.00
8	4" x 15' x 50' Concrete Rear Walkway	9.3	Cu.Yd.	\$ 180.00	\$ 1,674.00
9	2" x 6" x 12' Lumber / Walkway Forms	11	Ea.	\$ 19.00	\$ 209.00
10	4" x 30' x 50' Concrete Slab / Connecting Slab	18.5	Cu.Yd.	\$ 180.00	\$ 3,330.00
11	2" x 6" x 12' Lumber / Connecting Slab Forms	14	Ea.	\$ 19.00	\$ 266.00
12	Rebar & Gravel Base for Concrete	1	Lot	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,200.00
13	Concrete Forms & Finishing / Labor	2300	Sq.Ft.	\$ 3.50	\$ 8,050.00
				TOTAL	\$ 27,925.00

Bench & Character Fabrication

Item	Description	Qty.	UOM	Each	Total
1	5' x 10' x 11ga. Steel Sheet / Bench	1	Ea.	\$ 632.00	\$ 632.00
2	Laser Cutting & Bending / Bench	1	Ea.	\$ 800.00	\$ 800.00
3	5' x 10' x 11ga. Steel Sheet / Canopy	1	Ea.	\$ 632.00	\$ 632.00
4	Laser Cutting & Bending / Canopy	1	Ea.	\$ 520.00	\$ 520.00
5	3" x 3" x 11ga. Steel Tube / Bench Frame	30	Lin.Ft.	\$ 18.60	\$ 558.00
6	2" x 2" x 11ga. Steel Tube / Canopy Frame	24	Lin.Ft.	\$ 12.80	\$ 307.20
7	5' x 10' x 1/2" Steel Plate / Characters	2	Ea.	\$ 1,325.00	\$ 2,650.00
8	Laser Cutting / Characters	8	Ea.	\$ 400.00	\$ 3,200.00
9	1/2" x 4" x 4" Steel Angle x 6" Long Character Mounting Brackets	10	Lin.Ft.	\$ 23.00	\$ 230.00
10	Machine & Fabricate Character Mounting Brackets	10	Ea.	\$ 28.00	\$ 280.00
11	4' x 8' (1" x 1" x 11 Gauge) Wire Mesh / Behind Charlie	1	Ea.	\$ 562.00	\$ 562.00
12	Frame Fabrication	1	Ea.	\$ 2,680.00	\$ 2,680.00
13	1/2" Diameter, 7" Long Concrete Anchor	6	Ea.	\$ 6.60	\$ 39.60
14	1/2" Diameter, 3-1/2" Long Concrete Anchor	16	Ea.	\$ 5.20	\$ 83.20
15	1/2" Diameter, 2" Long Bolts	32	Ea.	\$ 2.10	\$ 67.20
16	1/2-13 Nuts & Washers	32	Ea.	\$ 0.80	\$ 25.60
17	Powder Coating / Bench & 8 pieces Characters	1	Lot	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00
18	Installation / Bench & 8 pieces Characters	1	Lot	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00
19	Inbound Shipping	1	Lot	\$ 350.00	\$ 350.00
19	Designs, Layouts, Dimensioned Drawings, Renderings & Coordination	1	Lot	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 6,000.00
				TOTAL	\$ 25,116.80