



TAU AND THE TONY SMITH SCULPTURE PROJECT

Setting the record straight

QUESTION: Why do this project now? — *because the Estate said so!*

ANSWER: The sculpture project has been four years in the making. After years of discussion about acquiring a Tony Smith sculpture for South Orange, this unique opportunity needed to be pursued when it arose to ensure its success. The Lennie Pierro Memorial Arts Foundation took on this project because it is a natural progression of the hundreds of arts-minded South Orange volunteers whose vision and hard work enhance the quality of life for all residents.

The passion and dedication of volunteers who annually stage (to name a few) "Giants of Jazz," the "Arts in the Park" summer concerts and movies, the exhibitions, educational programs and Holiday Crafts Fair at the Pierro Gallery, and "Jazz at the Baird," benefit all villagers. The Tony Smith Sculpture Project is a culmination of these efforts and will enhance South Orange's reputation as the vibrant arts community it has become.

QUESTION: How big is TAU? — *very similar to gazebo!*

ANSWER: Detractors of the project have been distributing completely misleading "before" and "after" images of TAU at the Sloan Street site. Their distorted, manipulated images do not take into account the fully redesigned plaza which will have elegant seating, lighting and other elements to make it aesthetically harmonious with the historic train station.

The dimensions of TAU are approximately 14'H x 21'W x 7'D. In comparison to the gazebo, TAU is shorter and it will not sit at the center of the plaza. Project opponents are well aware of TAU's dimensions, yet they continue to distribute images that purposefully make TAU appear much larger than it is.

QUESTION: What is the total cost of the sculpture project?

ANSWER: The estimated total costs of fabrication, transportation, installation, and the redesign and construction of the Sloan Street site are \$410,000. The Pierro Foundation is working very closely with the engineers, landscape architect and the town to keep costs at or below this estimate. Survey work at the site and design improvements have already resulted in a \$10,000 cost savings.

*+ bond interest &
cost overruns !!*

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