

# SOLAR WALK

City of Gainesville Collaborative Project

**A Public Art Project  
in cooperation with  
Alachua Astronomy Club  
Art in Public Places Trust  
by artist Elizabeth Indianos**

**Installed**

**March 2002**

# What is the *Solar Walk*?



- A linear path of 10 concrete monoliths stretching along 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue representing the solar system.
- Spaced in ratios of the actual distances between the planets on a scale of 4 billion to 1.
- Contains tactile and visual information including scientific facts, symbols and poetry.
- Made of recycled glass, brick, marble stones and relief text.

# A Different Kind of Walk

- Uniquely educational:
  - Science
  - Nature
  - Art
- The entire Solar Walk may be viewed at once.
- Distinct size
- Located between a major greenway and an important thoroughfare.



# Activity Uses

---

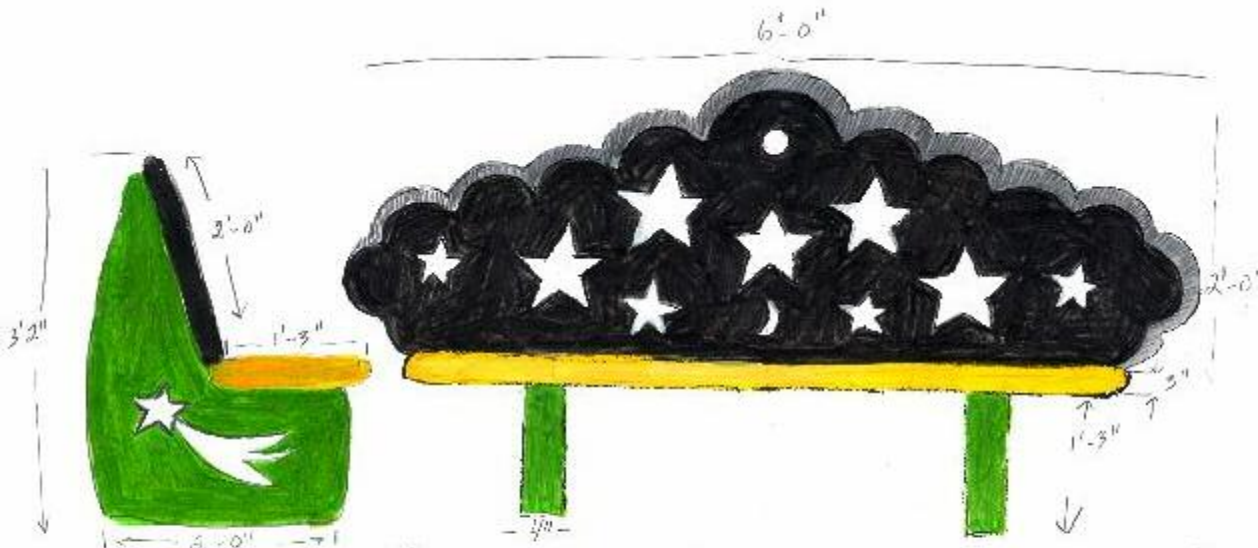
- **Jogging**
- **Cycling**
- **Running**
- **Walking**
- **Observing**



- **Need:** A place for visitors to rest and/or observe the surroundings.
- **Solution:** Solar Walk Benches



# Bench Design

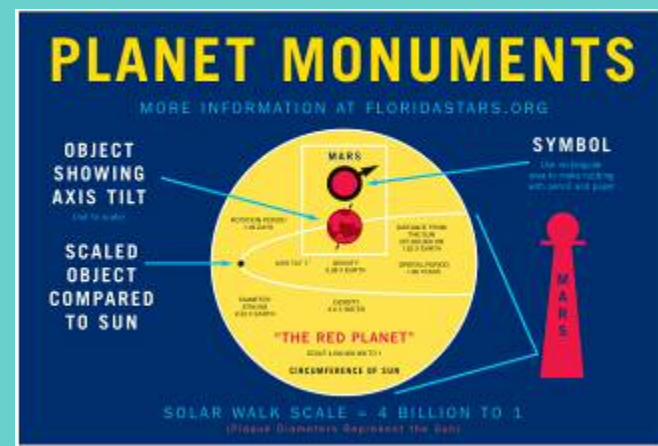
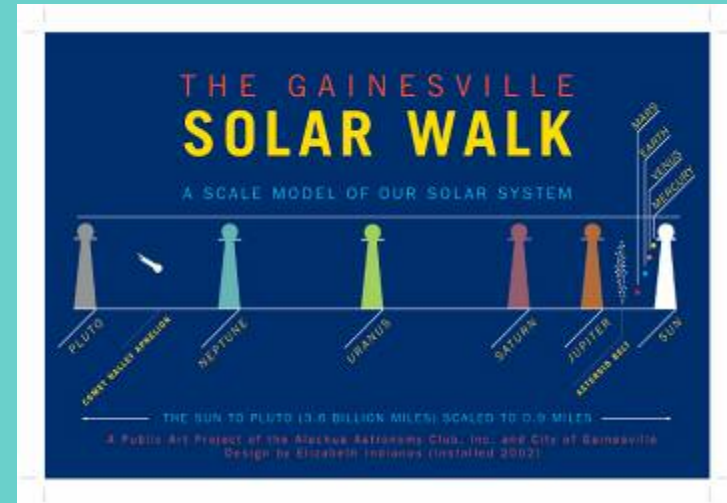


"Clouds STARS + MOON" Backrest material 7/8x105 @ J. EDWARDS

closed bench bottom - slats closed + recessed 1/4"

# SIGNAGE

- Need: Signage to explain the project visitors.
- Solution: The Alachua Astronomy Club has proposed a pair of interpretative signs accompanying each end of the solar walk.





# Donor Plaques

---

- The Sun and Pluto sculptures will contain a plaque honoring those who generously gave donations for the walk.
- One plaque will be located on the Pluto sculpture.
- The Alachua Astronomy Club will have their plaque located on the Sun sculpture.

# DONORS

- City of Gainesville Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs and Solid Waste Division
- Alachua Astronomy Club, Inc.
- Alachua County Waste Management Division
- Florida Department of Environmental Protection
- University of Florida Powell Center for Construction and Environment
- University of Florida Department of Urban and Regional Planning
- The Plastic Lumber Company, Inc.
- Moriah Industries LLC
- Cherry Tree Recycling
- Americorps National Civilian Community Corps



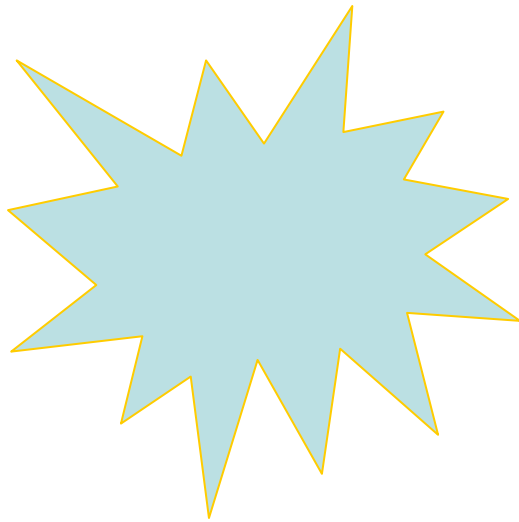
# Improvements

- Various stones need to be replaced due to vandalism.
- Stronger epoxies would ensure protection against missing stones.
- Different epoxies have been tested for durability.



# *Future* **PROJECTS**

---



- Asteroid Belt
  - Comet Halley Marker
  - Lighting- solar powered
  - Pavement Design
  - Additional Enhancements
- Every Year



# LIGHTING

---



evening — “Red M” — day  
Miami  
Riverwalk  
Station



“Talking Continents”  
Jacksonville Arena  
Plaza



# Pavement Enhancement

The pavement could be replaced or improved with creative and artistic designs.



Ft. Lauderdale



Miami,  
Historic Over town District



# Connecting **The** Community

