

Information and Discussion

Wednesday, May 3, 2023

Bellevue Arts Commission

1E-113 or Zoom Meeting

City of Bellevue, WA

LAUNCH OF ART POLICIES REVIEW

At today's meeting, staff will present a review of current Art Policies in preparation for an upcoming body of work to update and formally adopt the policies.

Code and bylaw support: This item is presented to the Commission as it is supported by City Code 3.56.070 item F: "Develop recommendations for acquiring public artwork consistent with guidelines and priorities approved by city council;" and H: "Review and make recommendations on the suitability of any work of art intended as a gift to the city."

BACKGROUND

As we know, public art plays a significant role in our community by promoting cultural and artistic expression, enhancing public spaces, and contributing to the City's economic vitality. However, the policies governing the acquisition, de-acquisition, gifts, donations, and loans of public artwork have not been reviewed in several years. It is time to ensure that they are up-to-date and reflect best practices.

GOALS

This review aims to create a more comprehensive and transparent policy framework that will guide decision-making around the selection and management of public art. We will work closely with the Arts Commission and other city departments to gather input and feedback on the current policies and identify areas where updates and revisions are needed.

Some of the key objectives of this project include:

- Ensuring that the policies reflect current best practices in public art management.
- Establishing clear guidelines for acquiring and de-acquisition of public art, including procedures for evaluating new and existing artwork and determining when artwork should be removed from public spaces.
- Developing protocols for the donation and loan of artwork, including criteria for accepting donations and loans and ensuring that donated or loaned artwork meets established standards for public display.
- Ensuring that artists are fairly compensated and recognized for their contributions to the city's cultural landscape.

AREAS OF REVIEW

The below areas of policy review are a starting place based on current City policies and areas that staff believe need better-established and formally adopted guidance.

- Accession Policy
 - Procedure for New Artwork
 - Procedure for Existing Artwork
 - Procedure for Donations, Gifts and Loans
- De-Accession Policy
 - Procedure
 - Evaluation Criteria
 - Action

- Jury Selection Policy
 - Appointment and composition
 - Responsibilities
 - Compensation
 - Recommendation

- Artist Selection Process
 - Administrative Review
 - Call
 - Winner Selection
 - Endorsement

- Display Policy

- Maintenance Policy
 - Procedure
 - Criteria

NEXT STEPS

Staff will incorporate any feedback from the Arts Commission at this meeting and begin work evaluating best practices.

STAFF CONTACT

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