

**CITY OF AIRDRIE  
PUBLIC ART POLICY**

**Effective Date:** February 19, 2008

**Revision Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Approved By:** City Council

**Approved On:** February 19, 2008

**Resolution #:** 2008-C-055

**PURPOSE:**

The purpose of this policy is to guide the acquiring and acceptance procedures of all received public art to the City of Airdrie.

**SCOPE:**

This policy covers accepted Public Art that is to be placed on City of Airdrie property and its controlled corporations.

**POLICY STATEMENT:**

The City of Airdrie recognizes that Public Art contributes to a healthy quality of life for its citizens. It promotes a vibrant environment to live in and helps establish a strong sense of community pride and ownership.

**POLICY GOALS:**

- To ensure that the process for acquiring public art is fair and equitable.
- To ensure that the process is integrated into the municipal planning, engineering and development process.
- Allocate specific funds as part of annual operating budgets to ensure maintenance of current and future public art asset inventory.
- Encourage collaboration between the public agencies, private sector and the arts community.
- Make every reasonable effort to have public space available for public art.

**DEFINITION:**

Public art work is defined as artistic creations or collaborations in any medium whether fixed or freestanding, permanent or temporary, within external or internal settings intended to be freely accessible to the general public.

Examples of public art may include but are not limited to: Sculptures, statues, murals, functional art and architectural embellishments.

**GUIDELINES:****1. Initial screening:**

City of Airdrie staff will review all documentation and requirements for completeness. Depending on the scope of the project, specific input from the community regarding the proposed piece(s) of public art will be compiled and brought forward to the Community Services Advisory Board, as well as City Council.

**Examples of community input may include:**

- Hosting an open house and inviting the general public to view submission(s)
- Consulting with specific community organizations and art groups
- If necessary, forming an ad-hoc group that would consist of community members, artists and city staff
- Providing an online forum or survey to obtain local resident feedback

**2. Proposed public art project requirements:**

- Photograph, model, or drawing of the specific artwork
- Background information on the artist and the types of materials used
- Existing condition of the gift and certificate of ownership
- Consideration of lighting needs
- Preliminary budget for the project to address installation costs
- Identification plaque
- Anticipated maintenance program and schedule for artwork
- Replacement costs

**3. Site selection considerations:**

Prior to selecting a site, staff will consult other City of Airdrie departments to discuss the following information:

- The visibility of the site by the general public
- The applicant may propose the project for a specific site
- Public safety and risk management is to be reviewed internally
- Interior and exterior vehicular and pedestrian traffic patterns
- Relationship to current / future architectural and natural features
- Review future development plans for the area
- Landscaping preparation and design are planned

**4. Presentation to Community Services Advisory Board:**

When all information collected is complete and ready for further discussion, staff will make recommendations to the Community Services Advisory Board. The artist, donor or community organization involved in the proposed public art project may be asked to attend and present more detailed information.

**5. Presentation to City of Airdrie Council:**

The Community Services Advisory Board will make a recommendation to City of Airdrie Council for approval. The artist, donor or community organization involved in the proposed Public Art project may be asked to attend and present more project specific information.

**6. Final Acceptance Procedures:**

Final acceptance of works of public art is conditional until the following information is provided directly to the City of Airdrie.

- Acknowledgment of recipient
- Projected 5 year maintenance costs
- Independent professional appraisal

**7. Maintenance of Public Art:**

Once a work of public art has been accepted; the care, conservation and maintenance will be the responsibility of the municipality. Depending on how the City of Airdrie receives the work of public art long-term maintenance costs will be allocated through the City of Airdrie Optional Amenities Agreement, or through budget of the City of Airdrie department where the piece of public art will reside.


**8. Removal of Public Art:**

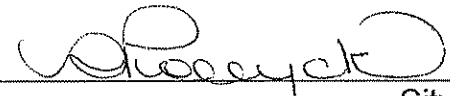
The City of Airdrie has the right and responsibility to remove public art whenever the municipality deems necessary. All reasonable efforts shall be made to rectify problems, or re-site the art work where appropriate. Reasons for removal include, but are not limited to:

- Endangerment of public safety
- Costly and/or ongoing repairs
- Public accessibility is no longer available
- Demolition of a site or structure
- Expiry of project lifespan

**9. Temporary Exhibits, Loans and Art Events:**

Temporary exhibits, loans and art events are also subject to the municipal public art acceptance process. On a case-by-case basis and depending on the scope and duration of the exhibit, certain aspects of the process may be omitted.

  
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Mayor

  
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City Clerk