

Policy title: Public Art Policy

Date adopted:

Policy number: MED-08-C

Effective date:

Policy owner: Community Services

Last amended:

Purpose

- 1 The purpose of this policy is to:
 - (1) recognize public art as a priority at the City implemented through the public art program;
 - (2) guide the development and implementation of the public art program; and
 - (3) identify a transparent selection criteria and funding process for the public art program.

Definitions

- 2 Words in this bylaw have the same meaning as in the *Municipal Government Act* (the “Act”), the *Procedure Bylaw*, and *Committees Bylaw* unless otherwise defined as follows:
 - (1) “ad-hoc committee” means a temporary council committee established by resolution as per the *Committees Bylaw*, with a terms of reference in accordance with appendix A with the purpose of providing technical expertise to recommend an artist short list for permanent public art;
 - (2) “artist” means an individual recognized by their peers, critics and other art professionals as committed to creating works of art;
 - (3) “technical community art assessment panel” means members of the Airdrie art community who have been selected by Administration to act as a technical panel of jurors to select rotating art exhibits or temporary public art and permanent public artwork under \$100,000;
 - (4) “permanent public art” means permanent artwork created by a professional artist and acquired by the City with the specific intent of being sited or staged on municipally owned lands; and
 - (5) “public artwork” (or public art) means artistic creations or collaborations in any medium. Public art can be commissioned, created or donated to be placed on municipally owned lands. Public art may be permanent or transitory, functional, integrated or discrete to the site.

- (6) “rotating art” means exhibits means art in public facilities that is displayed on a rotational basis.
- (7) “temporary public art” means indoor or outdoor art in public facilities or on public land that is typically on display for less than 6 months.
- (8) “terms of reference” means policy that directs an ad hoc committee which includes guidance on mandate, objective, term, membership and selection, member roles and responsibilities, meetings, communications, and resourcing as per the *Committees Bylaw*.

Scope

- 1 This policy will apply to all public art on municipally owned public property and buildings.

Guiding Principles

- 2 The City recognizes public art as a priority based on the following principles:
 - (1) investment in public art is a vital element in the cultural fabric of Airdrie that can recognize the City’s history, **identity** and culture;
 - (2) public art can reinforce a strong sense of community pride, ownership, and a sense of belonging;
 - (3) public art programming can add artistic, social, economic, historical and environmental value to a community for it to fully express itself;
 - (4) public art builds civic engagement, social capital and encourage civic discourse; and
 - (5) public art investment supports the local economy that reflects the diversity, needs and ambitions of the City.
- 3 The City recognizes the following principles in the development and implementation of the public art program where public art is:
 - (1) Accessible, visible and free to the public.
 - (2) Reflective of diversity, equity and inclusion principles of the City as per the *Social Policy*.
 - (3) Created with excellence, quality and innovation.
 - (4) Selected, exhibited and managed in an open, competitive and transparent process.
 - (5) Informed by residents and community groups through open engagement and consultation.

- (6) An example of a responsible disbursement of public funds through sound procurement practices in the budget, acquisition, installation, maintenance and promotion of the art.
- (7) Created by a variety of artists from local, regional and national applicants and amateur to professional artists that are given fair consideration.

Public Art Program

- 4 The public art program is managed by Administration and is comprised of:
 - (1) permanent public art;
 - (2) rotating art exhibits;
 - (3) temporary public art;
 - (4) the installation, conservation and maintenance of public art; and
 - (5) the promotion of public art.

Permanent Public Art

Permanent Public Art Definition

- 5 Permanent public art is defined as largescale and permanent artwork typically created by a professional artist and acquired by the City with the specific intent of being sited or staged on municipally owned lands.

Permanent Public Art - Capital Budget Funded

- 6 Each permanent public art project may be funded by one (1) percent of the construction budget as per Council's direction.
 - (1) eligible capital projects can include new construction of publicly accessible buildings, major renovations to existing publicly accessible buildings, development or redevelopment of regional park infrastructure and bridges;
 - (2) capital projects not eligible for a permanent public art project include underground utilities, land cost, major road networks and fleet related projects; and
 - (3) a list of permanent public art projects will be included in the 10-Year capital plan once they are identified.
- 7 Funding levels may be adjusted based on historical public art investments, public art conservation and maintenance requirements.

- 8 Council approves funding for each permanent public art project.
- 9 Each permanent public art project for approval must be identified in the 10-year capital plan and approved annually by Council.

Permanent Public Art – Funded by Donations

- 10 The City prefers to accept unrestricted financial donations for permanent public art. Other physical donations will follow a process for acceptance that mirrors the outlined procurement process in this policy.
- 11 Potential donors will be reviewed as per the *Sponsorship and Naming Rights Policy*.
- 12 Donors will be recognized as per the *Sponsorship and Naming Rights Policy*.

Permanent Public Art Selection

- 13 For permanent public art projects with a project value over \$100,000 Council must strike an ad-hoc committee to recommend to Council a shortlist of up to four artist recommendations.
 - (1) Council approves permanent public art projects with a project value of \$100,000 and over based on the ad-hoc committee's recommendations.
- 14 For permanent public art projects with a project value of \$100,000 and under Administration will strike a technical community art assessment panel to recommend to the Community and Corporate Services Standing Committee a shortlist of up to four artist applicants.
 - (1) The Community and Corporate Services Standing Committee approves permanent public art projects with a project value of \$100,000 and under based on up to four recommendations from the technical community art assessment panel

Rotating Art Exhibits

Rotating Art Exhibits Definition

- 15 Rotating art exhibits specifically refers to public art that will be displayed at in public facilities or on public land.
- 16 Rotating art exhibits will typically change at a minimum of three (3) times per calendar year.

Rotating Art Exhibits Funding

- 17 Funding for rotating art exhibits will be approved by Council through the operating budget.

Rotating Art Exhibits Selection

- 18 Administration is delegated the authority to strike a panel of jurors to select rotating art exhibits that consist of professional curators, student curators or members of the technical community assessment art panel.

- (1) Canadian artists who showcase their work with the City of Airdrie will be remunerated using the Canadian Artists' Representation/Le *Front des artistes canadiens* (CARFAC) fee schedule as a guide to compensation.

Temporary Public Art

Temporary Public Art Definition

- 19 Temporary public art is defined as indoor or outdoor public art that is displayed either indoor or outdoor on public property.

Temporary Public Art Funding

- 20 Funding for temporary public art will be approved by Council annually through the operating budget.

Temporary Public Art Selection

- 21 Temporary public art projects are selected up to three (3) times per calendar year.
- 22 Administration is delegated the authority to strike a technical community assessment panel that consists of professional curators, student curator, the arts community and other community members to help with temporary public art selection process.

The Installation, Conservation and Maintenance of Public Art

- 23 The delivery, installation, project management, maintenance, conservation and promotion of public art will be the responsibility of Administration.
- 24 Administration is delegated the authority to strike a panel consisting of professional curators, student curators or members of the technical community assessment art panel to provide Council with a recommendation on matters such as public art removal, relocation or deaccession.

Policy Review and Implementation

- 25 Council delegates the authority to review, amend and approve the Public Art Policy to the Community and Corporate Services Standing Committee.
- 26 The Executive Leadership Team reviews and endorses any administrative policy related to this policy.
- 27 The City Manager approves any administrative policy related to this policy.
- 28 Community Services carries out the policy based on established administrative policy or procedures.

Relevant legislation

AirdrieOne Sustainability Plan
Committees Bylaw B-11/2024
Cultural Policy P-02/2015
Social Policy COM-72-C
Sponsorship and Naming Rights Policy P-FIN-28-C

Appendices

Appendix A – Additional Terms of Reference Requirements of an Ad-hoc Committee selected Permanent Public Art.

History

Date adopted / Motion number:

Council amendments:

Administration reviews:

Date rescinded:

Appendix A – Additional Terms of Reference Requirements of a Council Ad-hoc Committee selecting Permanent Public Art over \$100,000.

The Council ad-hoc committee to select permanent public art terms of reference will:

- Seek opportunities to align and build on the Public Art Policy guiding principles.
- Demonstrate the committee's objective to developing, reviewing and understanding each project's objectives, themes, and goals.
- Demonstrate a strong commitment to equity and inclusion.
- Identify and remove potential barriers to equity and inclusion throughout the selection process, including issues of unconscious, implicit and any other kinds of bias.
- Assess the merits of each applicant against the selection process.
- Demonstrate impartiality and objectivity as a committee member.
- Have its members attend and participate in the interviews of artist applicants.
- Have its members maintain confidentiality throughout the selection process.
- Have its members commit to attending all meetings and participate in discussions.