


**Public Spaces and Cultural Heritage Board**

**DEPARTMENT:** Parks and Recreation  
**FROM:** Jen Basham, Director of Parks and Recreation  
**MEETING:** May 12, 2026

**SUBJECT:**

Receive a report, hold a discussion and provide staff feedback regarding the workflow and definition of art in public spaces. *(Staff Contact: Jen Basham, Director of Parks and Recreation)*

**STRATEGIC PRIORITY AND GOAL(S):**

Strategic Priority	Strategic Goal
 <p><b>High Performing City Organization</b>          Providing Exceptional, People Focused Services</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.2 Continue to improve the efficiency and productivity of operations</li> <li>1.3 Deliver high-quality service and communications to external and internal customers</li> </ul>

**SUMMARY:**

Following the presentation of the Burleson Public Art Plan, staff is advancing into the next phase of implementation. The purpose of this memo is to outline a clear and structured path from plan adoption to execution, including how projects will be identified, prioritized, developed, and advanced toward the City’s first Call for Art.

This approach is designed to ensure the program is implemented in a manner that is intentional, transparent, and sustainable, while aligning with the vision, goals, and community input reflected in the adopted Public Art Plan.

As part of this workflow, all projects will be evaluated using the Public Art Plan’s adopted definition of public art to ensure consistency and alignment with policy. Public art is defined to include original works such as sculpture, monuments, murals, painting, photography, mixed media, and functional or environmental art, including artist-designed street furniture and artistic landscape compositions.

The definition also establishes clear parameters for eligibility. Public art does not include mass-produced or standard design elements; traditional architectural or landscape features; signage,

wayfinding, or branding elements; or works intended primarily for commercial or promotional purposes. Performing arts, general programming, and mechanical reproductions are also excluded unless they are limited editions controlled by the artist.

Grounding the workflow in this definition ensures that all projects brought forward for consideration are artist-driven, original in nature, and consistent with the intent of the Public Art Plan.

Staff will advance implementation through the following workflow:

#### **Project Identification and Intake**

Potential public art projects will be identified through capital projects, City initiatives, private development, and community-driven opportunities. All proposed projects will undergo an initial screening for eligibility based on the adopted definition of public art.

#### **Evaluation and Prioritization**

Eligible projects will be evaluated based on alignment with the Public Art Plan, site suitability, community impact, funding availability, and readiness. This step ensures resources are directed toward projects that best advance the City's goals.

#### **Concept Development and Coordination**

For prioritized projects, staff will coordinate internally and with external partners as needed to define scope, site parameters, budget, and any applicable development or regulatory requirements, including coordination with Development Services for items such as signage or mural compliance where applicable.

#### **Board Review and Public Engagement**

Projects will be presented to the Public Spaces and Cultural Heritage Committee for review, with defined opportunities for public input to ensure community alignment and transparency.

#### **Call for Art and Artist Selection**

Once projects are fully defined, staff will initiate a Call for Art. Artist selection will follow established processes outlined in the Public Art Plan, ensuring fairness, quality, and alignment with project intent.

#### **Implementation and Installation**

Selected projects will move into fabrication and installation, with staff oversight to ensure compliance with design intent, safety standards, and contractual requirements.

By following this structured workflow, the City establishes a clear and consistent process for advancing public art projects from concept to completion, while maintaining alignment with adopted policy and community expectations.

# BURLESON PUBLIC ART PLAN WORKFLOW

PATH TO IMPLEMENTATION: PROGRESSING PROJECTS



## RECOMMENDATION:

Staff is seeking feedback from the Public Spaces and Cultural Heritage Board on the proposed workflow and the application of the adopted public art definitions to guide project identification and evaluation.

## PRIOR ACTION/INPUT (Council, Boards, Citizens):

The City of Burleson Public Art Policy adopted in the fall of 2025 provides general guidance regarding the flow of projects.

The Burleson Public Art Plan outlines a definition of public art as "...sculpture, statues or monuments in any material or combination of materials; painting; murals; graphic arts including printmaking and drawing; photography; crafts in clay, fiber and textiles, wood, metal, plastics, glass and other materials; mixed-media, any combination of forms or media, including collage; functional art such as street furniture, as defined by the City of Burleson Public Art Program; environmental art consisting of landforms and artistic landscape composition.

The term "Public Art" does not include reproductions by mechanical or other means of original works of art, except for limited editions, controlled by the artist, of original prints, cast sculptures, photographs or other works of art; decorative, ornamental, or functional elements which are

designed by the building architect or consultants engaged by the architect which are a traditional and typical element of architectural design; elements generally considered to be conventional components of a landscape architectural design including, but not limited to, plant materials, pools, paths, benches, receptacles, fixtures and planters except street furniture as defined by the City of Burleson Public Art Program and environmental art consisting of landforms and artistic landscape composition; "Art objects" which are mass produced or of a standard design, such as playground sculpture or fountains, except pieces of historical significance to the city; directional or other functional elements, such as supergraphics, signage, color coding and maps, except where sculptural pieces are used to define gateways in the city; electrical, water or mechanical service for activation of the work; exhibitions and educational programs related to the work; performing arts; and art that displays slogans, logos, mascots or commercial advertising" (Exhibit B: Public Art Policy, Burleson Public Art Plan, page 64-65).

**REFERENCE:**

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

**STAFF CONTACT:**

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