



AGENDA ACTION FORM

Consideration of a Resolution to Approve the Permanent Installation of two Public Art Pieces

To: Board of Mayor and Aldermen

From: Chris McCartt, City Manager *CM*

Action Form No.: AF-06-2026

Work Session: January 20, 2026

First Reading: N/A

Final Adoption: January 20, 2026

Staff Work By: Committee

Presentation By: Michael T. Borders

Strategic Focus Area: 3. Exceptional Cultural & Recreational Opportunities

Recommendation:

Approve the resolution

Executive Summary:

If approved, the City will permanently install two public art pieces located at the Kingsport Area Transit Service and the Fox Den Playground.

The City utilizes the Public Art Fund to support the placement of art in public spaces that enhance community identity and visitor experience. The Portal sculpture has been installed at the Kingsport Area Transit Service under a temporary lease agreement since 2020, allowing staff and the public to evaluate the appropriateness of the artwork for long-term placement. Based on its successful integration at the site, it is recommended that Portal be permanently installed at KATS. Previous lease payments will be applied toward acquisition, with any remaining balance scheduled to be paid over multiple fiscal years from the Public Art Fund.

The Fox Den Playground public art installation was developed as part of the playground's design and was created in coordination with the Fox family to serve as a welcoming entry feature that reflects the park's character and purpose. The installation includes an entryway sign and a large natural stone feature incorporating a bronze sculpture of a boy and a fox. The artwork is intended to serve as a permanent entry landmark and, if approved, is expected to be completed in the spring.

The Cultural Arts Commission reviewed both projects and issued positive recommendations supporting the permanent installation of each public art piece.

Funding is available in the Public Art Fund, with additional funding provided by Bays Mountain Park for the Fox Den Playground installation.

Attachments:

1. Resolution
2. The Portal image
3. Fox Den Playground entry rendering

	Y	N	O
Baker	—	—	—
Cooper	—	—	—
Duncan	—	—	—
George	—	—	—
Mayes	—	—	—
Phillips	—	—	—
Montgomery	—	—	—