



Agenda Item #3  
**6-Year Art in Public Places  
Workplan**

Arts Council Hybrid Meeting  
January 15, 2025





**Illustration of *Gateway Figures* by Garth Edwards**  
Created by artist Marsha Rollinger

## Tonight's Agenda

1. Review final steps in planning process and schedule final Workshop(s)
2. Provide feedback on Plan materials:
  - Draft Guidelines for Administering the Mercer Island Public Art Program
  - Draft 2025-2030 Public Art Project Timeline and Updated Project Opportunities List
  - Updated 6-Year Workplan for Art in Public Places

## Final Steps in the Public Art Planning Process

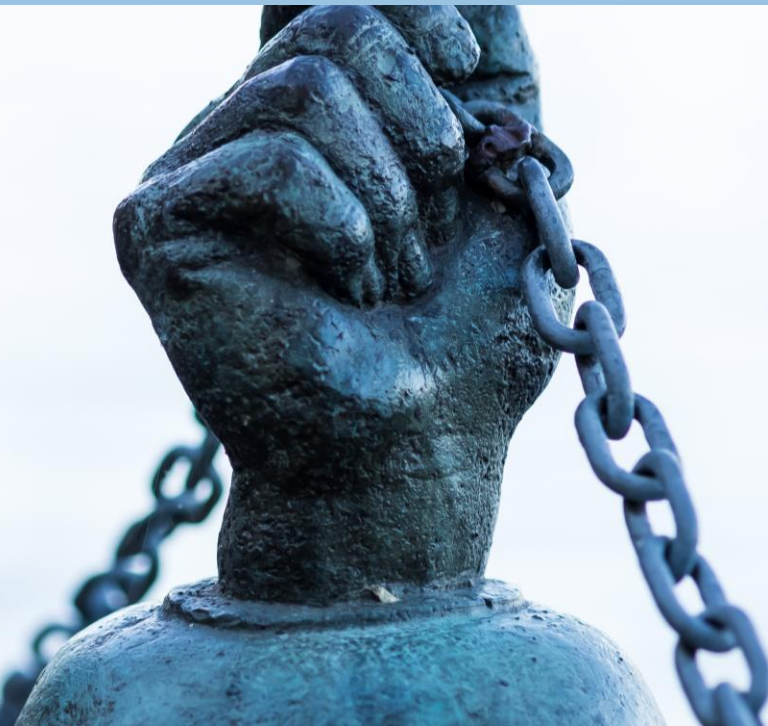


**Does the Arts Council prefer February 10  
or March 19 for final Workshop?**



# Guidelines for Administering the City of Mercer Island Public Art Program

*Handsome Bollards* by Tom Jay  
Transferred to the City in 2003



# Overview of the Proposed Guidelines (Exhibit 6)

## **Developing a Public Art Project**

- Process for seeking approval for and launching a public art commission.
- Applies to any commission for an original work of art that will use 1% funds for acquisition.
- Project Example: *Mercer Island Medallions* (LBWI Art in Public Places)

## **Evaluating Submittals for Artist/Artwork Selection**

- Process for evaluating artists and/or artworks submitted for any permanent or temporary display in public space.
- Applies to public art commissions, requests for public art donations, and temporary public art projects.

# Overview of the Proposed Guidelines (Exhibit 6)

## **Accepting Community-Initiated Project Proposals**

- Process for reviewing and accepting community-generated proposals submitted for any permanent or temporary display in public space.
- Outlines how project requests from an individual Arts Council member, community organization, resident, etc., may be added to the Project Opportunities List and/or Public Art Project Timeline.
- Project Example: *Prairie of Possibilities* exhibit (2021)

## **Deaccessioning Public Art**

- Process for withdrawing a work or works from the public art collection.
- Applies to any work of art, including commissions and donations, that have been accessioned (i.e. added to) the public art collection.

# 7 Q&A Matrix – Proposed Guidelines



Arts Councilmember	Process / Topic	Comment / Question	Staff Response / Question
Councilmember Rajagopal	General Guidelines	Is the [Guidelines] a separate document that will be valid extending beyond the 6-year planning period?	Yes, the Guidelines will be a stand-alone document and administrative tool for public art management.
Councilmember Rajagopal	Implementation	I did not find the guidelines regarding the monitoring and acceptance of the artwork after the artist is selected. Sometimes the progress might be long. Do you think it would be good to set up some guidelines for this aspect?	Staff proposed removing the “Implementation” information outlined in the existing guidelines for acquisition. The current process identifies administrative tasks that will be accomplished by City staff (e.g. contracting, construction monitoring, etc.), and those activities will continue to be conducted by staff. The Arts Council may recommend that these activities be documented in the updated guidelines if desired.
Councilmember Rajagopal	Donation Acceptance	How about accepting the donation of artwork to the City? The draft [Plan] touches this topic under the section about the "appraisal". However, appraisal might just be one aspect of this matter. I also notice in the City Code, Section 3.55.020 B (4), the Arts Council shall “review the suitability and advise on the acceptance of artwork intended as gifts to the city”.	Staff propose using the same process outlined in “Evaluating Submittals for Artist/Artwork Selection” when evaluating potential artwork donations and will update the process to clarify this element for the final draft.



# 8 Q&A Matrix – Proposed Guidelines



Arts Councilmember	Process / Topic	Comment / Question	Staff Response / Question
Vice Chair Becker	Artist/Artwork Selection Criteria – Selection Panel	<p>I thought we discussed removing “General resident” [from the Selection Panel]? Given that at least 4 of the other people are already residents (Resident with special interest; Arts Council Member; Other board/commission Member; City Council Member), I don’t see much value in adding a resident who does not have any particular focus in either art or the particular site. Unless we are trying to leave it open-ended that we could include any resident, but I don’t think we should go out of our way to find a lay resident without interest in the site.</p>	<p>Does the Arts Council support the recommendation to remove “General resident” from the composition of the Selection Panel?</p>
Councilmember Youn	Deaccession	<p>Introduce a requirement for public consultation before deaccessioning. This could ensure decisions are community-backed and transparent as well as provide info on whether the community desires something like a previous work or something totally new in that location.</p>	<p>Does the Arts Council support the recommendation to add a requirement to seek input from the community before recommending that a work of art be deaccessioned?</p>







***Prairie of Possibilities***

Temporary public art exhibit by the Moonlight Collective

## Other Guidelines Feedback?

- Does the Arts Council want to weight the different criteria in the Four Public Art Pillars Selection Criteria differently?
- **Anything else?**



# Public Art Project Opportunities and Timeline

***Flock*** by Mark Fuller  
Commissioned by the City in 2002



## Project Opportunities List → 6-Year Project Timeline

- Both the Project Opportunities List and a 6-Year Public Art Project Timeline will be included with the final version of the Plan endorsed by the Arts Council.
- The Project Opportunities List is intended as a dynamic list of public art opportunities that can be added to and reviewed on an ongoing basis.
- The Public Art Project Timeline identifies projects that will be recommended for development over the course of the 6-year planning horizon.
- Once the 2025-2030 timeline is proposed, it will be recommended for implementation through the City's biennial budget and capital improvement program (CIP) as appropriate.

# Project Opportunities Exercise

- On November 18, staff presented a draft list of 26 project opportunities and reviewed them against several factors as well as provided high-level evaluations of each.
- Arts Council members voted on whether to **keep on the list**, **remove from the list**, or **elevate to the Public Art Project Timeline**.
- Also identified some project opportunities that were either not suitable for the list (i.e. not a public art project) or better suited for incorporating into other Plan sections.

Log	Project Idea	Summary	Relevant Priority	% Fund	Candidates for Other Funding	Related to CIP	Partnership Opportunities	Other Agency Coordination	Time Constraints	Other Considerations
1	Transition the Orlin Heckert Outdoor Sculpture Gallery into the new gallery's permanent location.	Phase Connection Longevity	Yes	Maybe	Yes - Outdoor Gallery Improvements (27-28)	Yes - Teen Center businesses, MVAL	Yes - WSDOT	East Link Light Rail scheduled to open 2025.	High improvement project.	Aubrey Davis Park Playground.
2	Refresh the Teen Center Barriers	Update the existing barriers installed on TC sign walls.	Place Connection	Yes	No	Yes - Teen Center businesses, MVAL	Yes - WSDOT	None	Could be coordinated with ADP L&B Playground, Replacement and ADA improvements (28-30)	Current barriers installed in 2018. May want to consider something more permanent than and barriers if a project like this again.
3	Community Artmaking Project	Collaborate with this community to develop and implement a series of permanent public art installations.	Aesthetic Connection	Yes	Yes	No	Yes - Depends on location and scope of project	Depends on location.	None	None
4	Outdoor Gallery Gift	Refresh OROSC with pop-up gift tables designed by an artist and/or installed in the public art collection.	Place Connection	Maybe	Yes	No	Yes - Teen Center businesses, MVAL	Yes - WSDOT	Consider placing along also on the Island	Future Teen Center construction ongoing project may impact implementation.
5	Aubrey Davis Park Streets Project	Streets area with gathering place, including portable seating, pathways, MVAL.	Aesthetic Place Connection	Yes	Yes	Proposed by private donor	Yes - Currently not planned in 20-30 CIP	Yes - WSDOT	None	Requires separate Park & Recreation Commission measurement.
6	The Source Renovation	Refresh and refresh the existing space for use for SPF Anniversary at waterfront.	Aesthetic Place Longevity	Yes	Yes - No Some Renovation (29-30)	Yes - Friends of Luffkin Street Park	No	None	See Source table in 2020	Could be coordinated with ADP L&B Playground, Replacement and ADA improvements (27-28)
7	Custom Sculpture Park Interpretive Installations	Design and implement interpretive art for 50+ year old building to better connect to community.	Aesthetic Place Connection Longevity	Yes	Yes - Currently 25-30 CIP	Yes - Seattle not planned in 20-30 CIP	Yes - Friends of Luffkin Street Park	No	None	Project may be eligible for Youth Center or other ADP funding but requires close and early coordination with community partners and Parks & Recreation Commission.

Log	Project Idea	Summary	Relevant Priority	% Fund	Candidates for Other Funding	Related to CIP	Partnership Opportunities	Other Agency Coordination	Time Constraints	Other Considerations
8	Public Safety and Maintenance Building Art	Integrated public art for future capital project.	Aesthetic Place	Yes	Yes	Yes - Future project in 2025.	None	None	None	Could be a good opportunity for partnership with other departments.
9	L&P Bull Building Art	Create a "signature artwork" from the Bull Building to the west end of the park as part of the long-term vision.	Aesthetic Place	Yes	Yes	Yes - L&P Bull Building (20-25)	Yes - MVA, MVAL, Friends of Luffkin Street Park	None	None	Monitor progress for reviewing P2 of capital project.
10	Historical Street Names Project	Install a permanent sign on the park for City and community events.	Aesthetic Place Connection	Yes	Maybe	No	Yes - MVA, MVAL, Friends of Luffkin Street Park	None	None	Event sign light rail highlighted to open 2025.
11	Construct a Permanent Sign on the Park	Install a permanent sign on the park for City and community events.	Place Connection	Yes	Maybe	Yes	Yes - MVA, MVAL, Friends of Luffkin Street Park	None	None	None
12	Enhance outdoor art collection with public art	Artwork for outdoor art collection with public art.	Place Connection	Yes	Maybe	No	None	None	None	Funding and staffing support required from Operations.
13	Art Installation in the Community	Artwork for outdoor art collection with public art.	Place Connection	Yes	Maybe	No	Yes - MVA, MVAL, Friends of Luffkin Street Park	None	None	Consider playing during Arts on the Island weekend.
14	Public Art Installation	Artwork for outdoor art collection with public art.	Place Connection	Yes	Maybe	No	Yes - MVA, MVAL, Friends of Luffkin Street Park	None	None	Funding and staffing support required from Operations.
15	Local Art Auction	Artwork for outdoor art collection with public art.	Place Connection	Yes	Maybe	No	Yes - MVA, MVAL, Friends of Luffkin Street Park	None	None	Funding and staffing support required from Operations.
16	Local Art Auction	Artwork for outdoor art collection with public art.	Place Connection	Yes	Maybe	No	Yes - MVA, MVAL, Friends of Luffkin Street Park	None	None	Funding and staffing support required from Operations.
17	Local Art Auction	Artwork for outdoor art collection with public art.	Place Connection	Yes	Maybe	No	Yes - MVA, MVAL, Friends of Luffkin Street Park	None	None	Funding and staffing support required from Operations.
18	Local Art Auction	Artwork for outdoor art collection with public art.	Place Connection	Yes	Maybe	No	Yes - MVA, MVAL, Friends of Luffkin Street Park	None	None	Funding and staffing support required from Operations.
19	Local Art Auction	Artwork for outdoor art collection with public art.	Place Connection	Yes	Maybe	No	Yes - MVA, MVAL, Friends of Luffkin Street Park	None	None	Funding and staffing support required from Operations.
20	Local Art Auction	Artwork for outdoor art collection with public art.	Place Connection	Yes	Maybe	No	Yes - MVA, MVAL, Friends of Luffkin Street Park	None	None	Funding and staffing support required from Operations.
21	Local Art Auction	Artwork for outdoor art collection with public art.	Place Connection	Yes	Maybe	No	Yes - MVA, MVAL, Friends of Luffkin Street Park	None	None	Funding and staffing support required from Operations.
22	Local Art Auction	Artwork for outdoor art collection with public art.	Place Connection	Yes	Maybe	No	Yes - MVA, MVAL, Friends of Luffkin Street Park	None	None	Funding and staffing support required from Operations.
23	Local Art Auction	Artwork for outdoor art collection with public art.	Place Connection	Yes	Maybe	No	Yes - MVA, MVAL, Friends of Luffkin Street Park	None	None	Funding and staffing support required from Operations.
24	Local Art Auction	Artwork for outdoor art collection with public art.	Place Connection	Yes	Maybe	No	Yes - MVA, MVAL, Friends of Luffkin Street Park	None	None	Funding and staffing support required from Operations.
25	Local Art Auction	Artwork for outdoor art collection with public art.	Place Connection	Yes	Maybe	No	Yes - MVA, MVAL, Friends of Luffkin Street Park	None	None	Funding and staffing support required from Operations.
26	Local Art Auction	Artwork for outdoor art collection with public art.	Place Connection	Yes	Maybe	No	Yes - MVA, MVAL, Friends of Luffkin Street Park	None	None	Funding and staffing support required from Operations.

Log	Project Idea	Summary	Relevant Priority	% Fund	Candidates for Other Funding	Related to CIP	Partnership Opportunities	Other Agency Coordination	Time Constraints	Other Considerations
27	Community Artmaking Project	Collaborate with this community to develop and implement a series of permanent public art installations.	Aesthetic Connection	Yes	Yes	No	Yes - Depends on location and scope of project	Depends on location.	None	None
28	Outdoor Gallery Gift	Refresh OROSC with pop-up gift tables designed by an artist and/or installed in the public art collection.	Place Connection	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes - Teen Center businesses, MVAL	Yes - WSDOT	Consider placing along also on the Island	Future Teen Center construction ongoing project may impact implementation.
29	Aubrey Davis Park Streets Project	Streets area with gathering place, including portable seating, pathways, MVAL.	Aesthetic Place Connection	Yes	Yes	Proposed by private donor	Yes - Currently not planned in 20-30 CIP	Yes - WSDOT	None	Requires separate Park & Recreation Commission measurement.
30	The Source Renovation	Refresh and refresh the existing space for use for SPF Anniversary at waterfront.	Aesthetic Place Longevity	Yes	Yes - No Some Renovation (29-30)	Yes - Friends of Luffkin Street Park	No	None	See Source table in 2020	Could be coordinated with ADP L&B Playground, Replacement and ADA improvements (27-28)
31	Custom Sculpture Park Interpretive Installations	Design and implement interpretive art for 50+ year old building to better connect to community.	Aesthetic Place Connection Longevity	Yes	Yes - Currently 25-30 CIP	Yes - Seattle not planned in 20-30 CIP	Yes - Friends of Luffkin Street Park	No	None	Project may be eligible for Youth Center or other ADP funding but requires close and early coordination with community partners and Parks & Recreation Commission.



***Growing Up*** by Richard Beyer  
Purchased with City funds in 1987

# Results of the Exercise

- 7 opportunities elevated to 25-30 Public Art Project Timeline
- 5 opportunities removed and incorporated into a different Plan section.
- 5 opportunities combined with others (e.g. mural projects).
- 5 opportunities removed completely.



# 14 Updated Project Opportunities List



Project Title	Summary	Relevant Pillars	1% Fund Eligible	Candidate for Other Funding	Related to CIP	Related to Master Plan	Partnership Opportunities	Other Dept/Agency Coordination	Time Constraints	Other Considerations
Refresh the Town Center Banners	Update the existing banners installed on TC light poles.	Place Connection	Yes	No	No		Yes – Town Center businesses, MIVAL	Yes – City ROW and Engineering	None	Current banners installed in 2018. May want to consider something more permanent than vinyl banners if do a project like this again.
Community Artmaking Project	Collaborate with the community to develop and implement a small-scale, permanent public art installation.	Aesthetic Connection	Yes	Yes	No	Depends on location.	Yes – Depends on location and scope of project	Depends on location.	None	
LBP Boiler Building AIPP – Signature Entrance to the Waterfront	Create a “signature entrance” from the Admin Building to the Waterfront as part of P2 of the Boiler Building renovations.	Aesthetic Place	Yes	Yes	Yes – LBP Boiler Building P2 (28-30)	Yes – Luther Burbank Park Master Plan (2006)	Yes – MI Historical Society, MIVAL, Friends of Luther Burbank Park	Yes – Parks & Recreation Commission	Monitor progress for developing P2 of capital project.	Requires significant Parks & Recreation Commission involvement.
Historic Street Names project	Highlight Mercer Island historic downtown street names.	Aesthetic Place Connection	Yes	Maybe	No		Yes – MI Historical Society, TC businesses, MIVAL	Yes – City ROW and Engineering	None	
Costume/Stage Design Sponsorships for Live Performance	Sponsor costume, set, and other design for live performances.	Aesthetic Connection	No	Maybe	No		Yes – YTN, Seattle Shakespeare Company	No	None	
Natural Resources + Public Art Collaboration	Public art project in connection with City’s forest stewardship program.	Aesthetic Place Connection	Yes	Maybe	Maybe	Depends on location.	Yes – City Forest Stewards	Yes – Open Space Conservancy Trust Board	None	Could be a good project for a permanent public art piece at future Public Works/Safety building or City Hall (future capital projects not currently included in CIP).

**Does the Arts Council have additional feedback for Project Opportunities?**



# Draft 2025-2030 Public Art Project Timeline

- Exhibit 5 includes the proposed 2025-2030 Public Art Project Timeline.
- Timeline considers:
  - Arts Council feedback
  - In-process projects
  - 2025-2030 CIP
  - Time constraints and workplan balance



*Extraordinary Journey* by Gunnar Anderson  
Acquired in 2001 with 1% Funds

# 16 Draft 2025-2030 Public Art Project Timeline

25-30 Public Art Project Timeline	2025				2026				2027				2028				2029				2030			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
<b>Collection Care</b>																								
Annual Public Art Maintenance	█				█				█				█				█				█			
6-Year Workplan Update					█		█						█		█						█		█	
Public Art Collection Curation													█											
<i>Now We Are One</i> Reinstallation	█																							
<i>Fire Flower</i> Reinstallation					█																			
<i>Island Poles</i> Reinstallation									█															
<i>The Source</i> Restoration																	█				█			
<b>Art in Public Places (AIPP)</b>																								
Luther Burbank Waterfront – <i>Mercer Island Medallions</i>	█				█																			
Deane’s Children’s Play Area			█		█				█															
<b>Other Public Art Projects</b>																								
GHOSG Activation Plan					█				█				█											
Community Mural Project																	█				█			
<b>Tracking</b>																								
New City Facility AIPP (TBD)	█				█				█				█				█				█			
Mercer Island Transit Interchange Art	█				█				█				█				█				█			

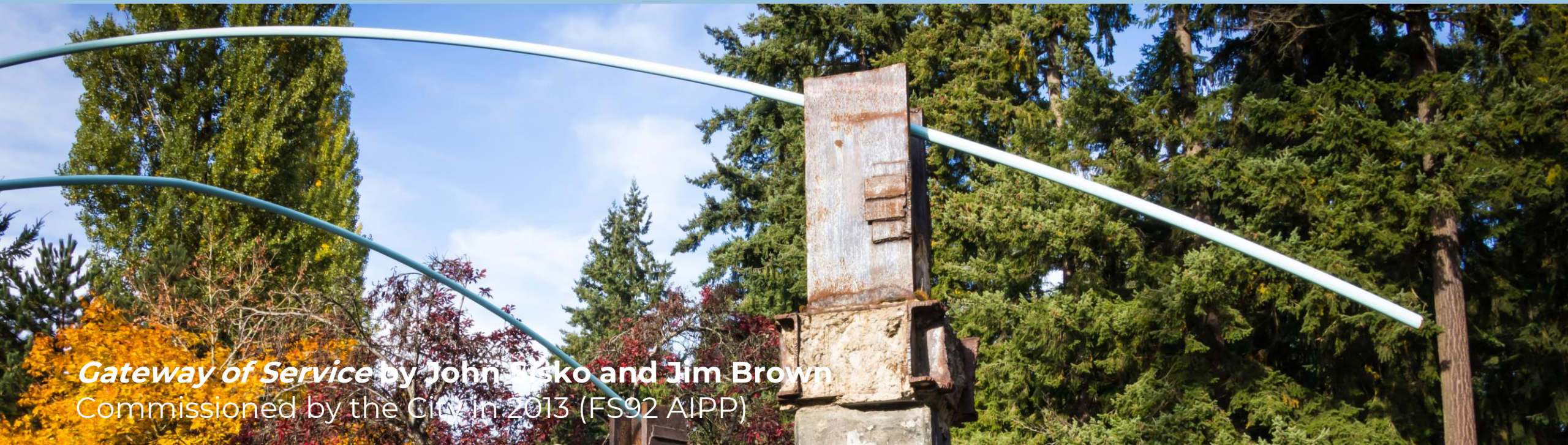
Slide not presented on 01.15.25





# Updated 6-Year Workplan for Art in Public Places

*Gateway of Service* by John Nisko and Jim Brown  
Commissioned by the City in 2013 (FS92 AIPP)



## Updates to the Workplan Draft

- Exhibit 2 includes the updated draft of the full 6-Year Workplan for Art in Public Places document.
- Edits are provided in red and include:
  - Draft 2025-2030 Public Art Project Timeline and high-level project descriptions (also provided separately as Exhibit 5).
  - Two additions to Funding (page 6)
  - Two additions to Public Engagement (pages 8-9)
  - One addition Collection Care (page 11)
- General formatting comments
  - Add a Table of Contents.
  - Move the Terms/Definitions and Public Art Project Types to end of document in Appendix D.

# 19 Q&A Matrix – Funding

Arts Councilmember	Page #	Comment / Question	Staff Response / Question
Councilmember Skone	5-6	You identify contributions for 2023, 2024, and 2025-26. Would it not be more helpful to state the amount in the fund as of January 2025, and identify projects for the 6-year period of this plan 2025-2030? At least drop the 2023-completed table.	The 1% Fund information included in this section is a rolling account of the current Fund standings and will be updated by staff at least annually. 1% Fund contributions are calculated after a construction project is completed, and there can sometimes be a lag between the end of the project and when the contribution is transferred. (For example, 2023 contributions listed in this section were not completed until the end of Q1 2024). Staff will add the most updated 1% Fund balance to the final Plan document but also recommend keeping the rolling account of completed and estimated 1% contributions.
Vice Chair Becker	6	There's something wrong with the link to "crowdfunding." It links to a Chrome Extension rather than just a URL.	Link will be fixed in final Plan document.

**Does the Arts Council have additional feedback for Funding?**

Arts Councilmember	Page #	Comment / Question	Staff Response / Question
Councilmember Rajagopal	8	<p>Community Role in Artmaking</p> <p>Suggest amending language:</p> <p>...When developing public art projects, the City, <b>in consultation with the Arts Council</b>, should consider opportunities for engaging the community in creation.</p>	<p>In the context of the plan, staff view “the City” as encompassing City staff, boards &amp; commissions, and the City Council. However, if the Arts Council would prefer to be called out by name, staff suggest amending this to read: <b>City staff and the Arts Council...</b></p> <p>If the Arts Council prefers this wording, staff will also update the language throughout the plan to ensure consistency for the final draft.</p>

**Does the Arts Council have additional feedback for Public Engagement?**

Arts Councilmember	Section / Page #	Comment / Question	Staff Response / Question
Councilmember Rajagopal	Collection Care  Public Art Record – Page 10	Will this record be made public and/or provided to the Arts Council?	Public Art Records are currently kept in hard-copy and digital form by the City. Some elements of the digital copy (archival photos, design sketches, editorial, etc.) are shared with the public via STQRY. The hard copies are not currently available for public use, but Arts Council members are welcome to view the files if interested.
Councilmember Rajagopal	Revising the 6-Year Workplan for Art in Public Places  Page 12	The second paragraph notes that City staff will update the Project Opportunities List on a quarterly basis. Will the City consult with the Arts Council before making such update before or after?	City staff plan to update the list at least quarterly to ensure new project opportunities are not lost in between planning periods. Staff plan to update the Arts Council on new project opportunities during the biennial workshop proposed in the Public Art Project Timeline section but are open to providing more frequent updates if the Arts Council desires.

**Does the Arts Council have additional feedback for Other Sections?**