



6-Year Art in Public Places Workplan

Arts Council Regular Hybrid Meeting
October 16, 2024



Goals for Tonight's Discussion

1. Provide feedback on Framework for Developing Public Art Projects.
2. Discuss the Public Art Project Opportunities List.
3. Look ahead and confirm the date/time for Workshop #4.





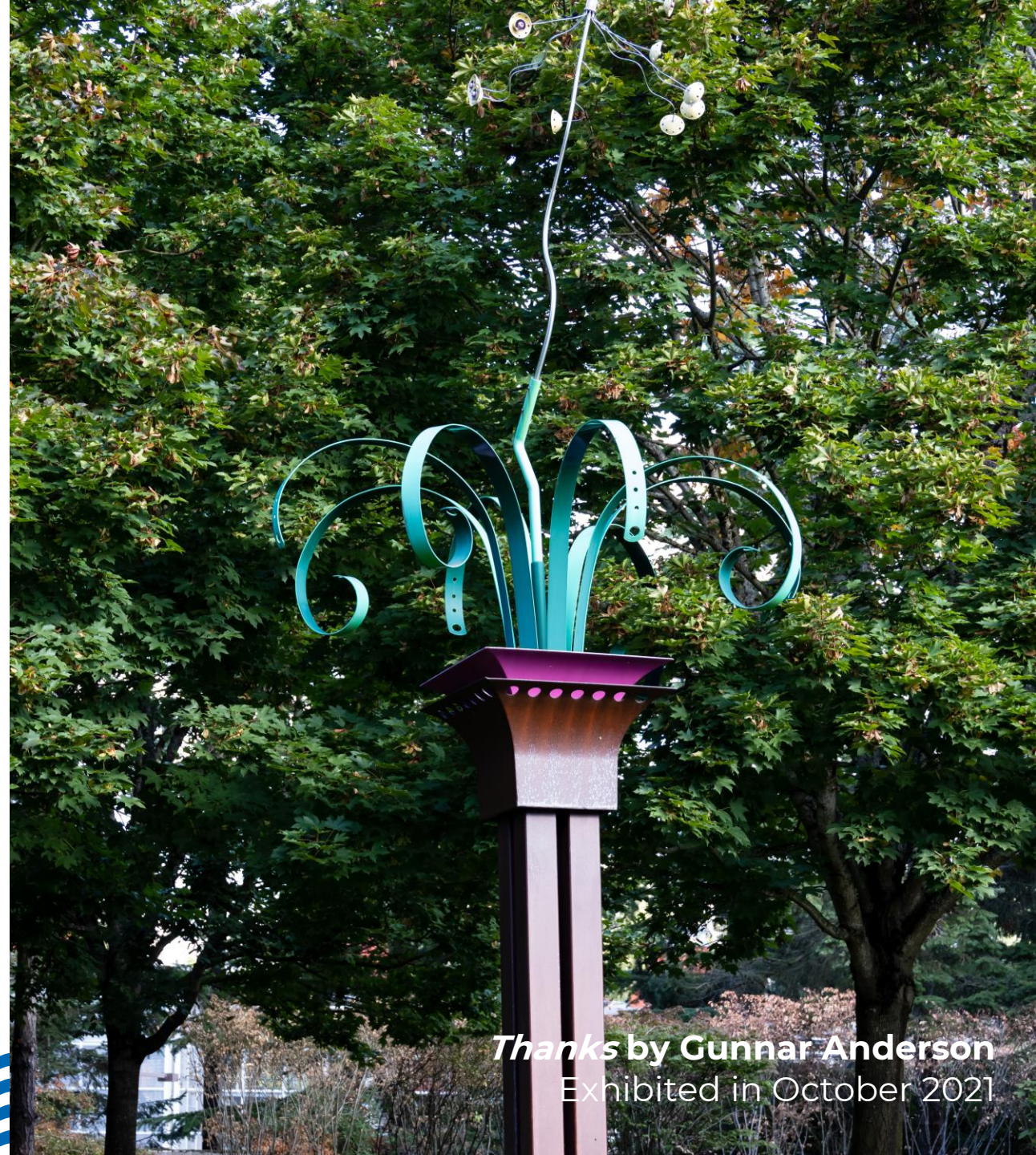
Framework for Developing Public Art Projects



Mercy by Sara Mall Johani
Donated to the City in 2001

Updates to Goals, Actions, and Selection Criteria

- Added a new goal related to diversity and refined the wording of other goals.
- Adjusted the focused actions to be less repetitive and consolidated them to tie specifically to three categories – Project Opportunities, Funding, and Public Engagement.
- Added new selection criteria for Aesthetic and Connection.



Thanks by Gunnar Anderson
Exhibited in October 2021

Goals for the Mercer Island Public Art Program

Through public art, the Mercer Island Arts Council and City staff seek to:

- Spark curiosity where Mercer Island residents live, gather, and play.
- Cultivate community pride, civic engagement, high quality of life, and social connection.
- Share Mercer Island's rich history, natural beauty, and local creativity with Island residents and visitors.
- Invite and encourage community members to share their own diverse experiences, backgrounds, and beliefs through artmaking.
- Provide accessible, inclusive, and safe public art experiences that make all feel welcome.
- Steward a public art collection that future generations can sustainably enjoy, engage with, and enhance.

Focused Action: Project Opportunities

- Action: Maintain a dynamic list of public art opportunities that can be implemented as resources allow.
- The list should include/reflect:
 - Preferred locations for pursuing public art projects
 - Locally significant events, locations, or details that can be highlighted through projects
 - Capital projects that are eligible/strong candidates for Art in Public Places projects using 1% funds
 - Projects proposed by Arts Council members, community groups, and Island residents

Focused Action: Funding

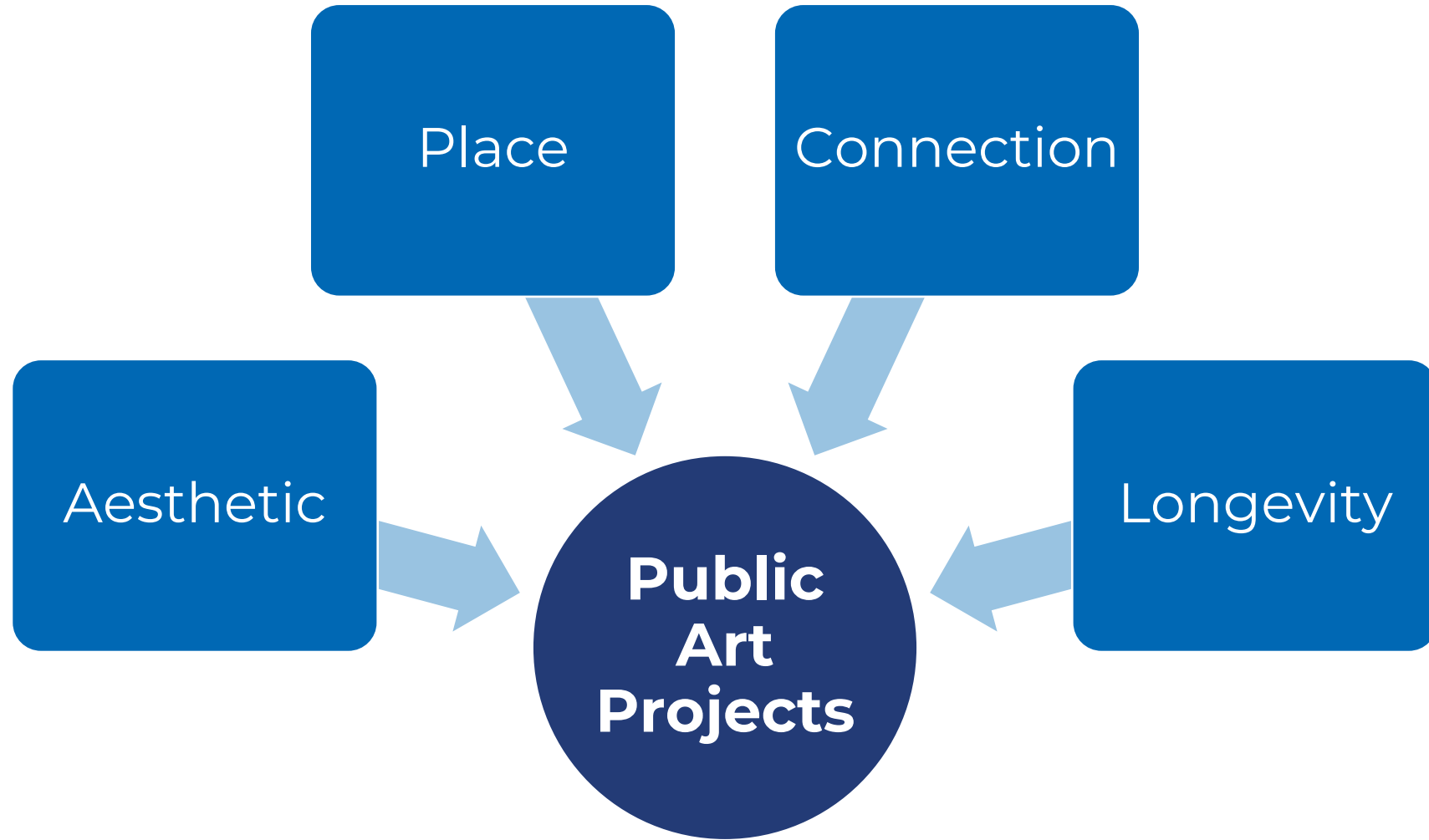
- Action: Identify new funding strategies to support public art on Mercer Island.
- The Plan should:
 - Track local, state, and federal grant opportunities for public art projects.
 - Forecast 1% for Art in Public Places Fund contributions & expenditures, and update the forecast on a biennial basis aligned with the City's Capital Improvement Program (CIP).
 - Consider opportunities for soliciting private donations, sponsorships, and other outside funding from individuals and organizations.

Focused Action: Public Engagement

- Action: Engage the community throughout the public art process.
- Methods for involving the community:
 - Collaborate with community organizations to develop public art projects.
 - Solicit project ideas from Island residents.
 - Activate public art sites with events, gatherings, and other opportunities.



Four Public Art Pillars



Artwork & Artist Selection Criteria

Aesthetic

- Quality – Does the proposal demonstrate high artistic merit?
- Representation – Will the proposal add new mediums, materials, artmaking processes, styles/genres, and/or artists to the public art collection?
- Originality & Innovation – Will the proposal bring something fresh and unique to the public art collection?
- Sustainability – Is resource conservation thoughtfully considered for the design and creation of the proposed project?

Artwork & Artist Selection Criteria

Place

- Context – Does the proposal demonstrate understanding of the project site and its historical, cultural, and environmental context?
- Functionality – How will the proposal integrate into and/or enhance the site?
- Sense of Identity – Will the proposal enhance and/or cultivate a strong sense of place for residents and visitors?



Artwork & Artist Selection Criteria

Connection

- Inspiration – Will the proposal provoke feeling in the viewer?
- Collaboration – Does the proposal provide opportunities for Mercer Island residents, community groups, and others to participate in the public art process?
- Diversity – Will the proposed project resonate with people of diverse abilities, backgrounds, and beliefs?
- Community Cohesion – Is resource conservation thoughtfully considered for the design and creation of the proposed project?
- Inclusion & Accessibility – Does the proposal provide a safe and inclusive public art experience for all?

Artwork & Artist Selection Criteria

Longevity

- Staying Power – Does the proposal demonstrate appeal for future Mercer Island generations?
- Collection Care – Can the proposed project be completed and maintained within budget?





Public Art Project Opportunities



***Bench* by John Hoge**
Donated to the City in 1998

What is the Public Art Project Opportunities List?

- Dynamic list of public art opportunities that can be implemented by the City as resources allow (i.e. Focused Action #1).
- List will be included in the final version of the 6-year workplan.
- Staff propose updating the running list on a quarterly basis to ensure new opportunities are documented.



Developing the Public Art Project Opportunities List

- Draft list is Exhibit 2 in Agenda Packet
- Ideas drawn from:
 - Previously proposed by community to Arts Council and/or City staff since 2020
 - Proposed by staff based on opportunities identified since 2020
 - Proposed by current Arts Council members in response to staff e-mail on 09.17.24
- Other ideas to add to the list?
- What community input does the Arts Council want to finalize the list?

Primavera II by Roslyn Mazzilli

Purchased with City funds and donations in 1995



Upcoming Planning Schedule

Date	Title	Topics	Milestone
November 18	Special Hybrid Meeting (Workshop #4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project Opportunities • Goals, Actions, and Selection Criteria • Public Art Policy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Endorsement: Goals, Actions, and Selection Criteria • Draft Review: 25-30 Project Opportunities • Draft Review: Public Art Guidelines
January 15, 2025	Regular Hybrid Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project Opportunities • Public Art Policy • Collection Care • Funding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Endorsement: 25-30 Project Opportunities Matrix • Endorsement: Public Art Guidelines
February 10, 2025	Special Hybrid Meeting (Workshop #5)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft Review: Updating the Plan