



ARTS COUNCIL CITY OF MERCER ISLAND

AC 25-02
March 19, 2025
Regular Business

AGENDA BILL INFORMATION

TITLE:	AC 25-02: 6-Year Workplan for Art in Public Places Progress	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discussion Only <input type="checkbox"/> Action Needed: <input type="checkbox"/> Motion <input type="checkbox"/> Recommendation
RECOMMENDED ACTION:	Provide final feedback on planning documents and, if desired, recommend that the Plan be adopted by the City Council.	

STAFF:	Sarah Bluvas, CIP Project Manager
EXHIBITS:	1. Summary of Planning Process – UPDATED 2. Draft 6-Year Workplan for Art in Public Places – UPDATED 3. Draft Project Opportunities List – UPDATED 4. Draft Guidelines for Administering the City’s Public Art Program – UPDATED 5. Summary of Plan Edits since January 15, 2025

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this agenda bill is to present the updated draft of the 6-Year Workplan for Art in Public Places (the Plan) for final review by the Mercer Island Arts Council (Arts Council).

- The Arts Council has collaborated with City staff since May 2024 to develop the Plan, which will guide internal decision-making for future public art projects.
- It includes goals for the City’s public art program; public art opportunities to consider over the 6-year planning horizon; guidance for community engagement and collection management; and other information to support the public art program.
- Once adopted, the Plan will provide a roadmap for making future public art project recommendations to the Mercer Island City Council (City Council).
- During the special meeting on March 19, City staff will present updated materials to the Arts Council for their final review and feedback.

BACKGROUND

The Arts Council began working with City staff in May 2024 to develop a 6-Year Workplan for Art in Public Places (the Plan), which will guide internal decision making for future public art projects. The Plan includes goals and other elements to steward the City’s public art program. The Plan does not commit funding or other City resources to specific projects. Instead, it provides a roadmap for making future public art project recommendations to the City Council when appropriate. To date, the Arts Council has participated in four special meetings (i.e. workshops) and three regular meetings to provide input on the Plan. A summary of the planning process with links to agenda packet materials and video recordings is provided as Exhibit 1.

ISSUE/DISCUSSION

On March 19, the Arts Council will conduct its final review of three documents:

1. Draft 6-Year Workplan for Art in Public Places (Exhibit 2)
2. Draft Project Opportunities List (Exhibit 3)
3. Draft Guidelines for Administering the Public Art Program (Exhibit 4)

New content and deletions are indicated in red in the documents. A summary of edits made since the Arts Council regular meeting on January 15 is provided as Exhibit 5.

POTENTIAL RECOMMENDATIONS

Staff seek direction for finalizing the Plan materials. The following recommendations could be considered by the Arts Council:

1. Recommend that the Plan be finalized and transmitted to the City Council for adoption.

If the Arts Council is satisfied with the edits that have been made to the Plan since January 15 and does not request additional, substantive changes, the board may vote to recommend that the Plan be sent to the City Council for adoption. Staff will conduct a final review for typos, grammatical errors, etc., and schedule City Council adoption for Q2 or Q3 2025.

2. Request that City staff bring the final Plan document back on April 30 for approval.

If the Arts Council requests additional, substantive edits to the Plan documents, the board may request that staff complete those changes and return to the special meeting on April 30 to seek a recommendation. Following the meeting on April 30, staff would conduct a final review for typos, grammatical errors, etc., and schedule City Council adoption for Q2 or Q3 2025.

The Arts Council may also recommend other direction if desired.

NEXT STEPS

Once a recommendation is provided, staff will move forward with the appropriate next steps to finalize the Plan materials and prepare for City Council adoption.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Provide final feedback on planning documents and, if desired, recommend that the Plan be adopted by the City Council.