



## PUBLIC ART COMMISSION OF TRUCKEE STAFF REPORT

Date: May 6, 2025

To: Public Art Commission of Truckee

From: Nola Mitchell, Associate Engineer and Chloe Myers, Engineering Technician

Subject: Public Art Inventory Criteria

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The Public Art Commission of Truckee (PACT) has prioritized updating the public art inventory. The primary purpose of the public art inventory is to create a resource that helps guide residents and visitors on a tour of Truckee's public art. The public art inventory lists artworks located throughout the town, encouraging public engagement and appreciation of Truckee's cultural assets.

The Truckee Public Art Master Plan (PAMP) defines public art as, "artwork of any media, for example sculpture, painting, mural, live performance or performing art (i.e. musical or dance), drawings, photographs, and other similar forms of art, whether temporary or permanent, that is either owned by a public agency and placed on public property, or owned by private entities and placed in public spaces or owned by private entities, placed on private property but viewable by the public." The PAMP prioritizes the public art inventory and includes policy 2.1(a) "Develop a visual inventory of existing public artwork. Create a publicly-accessible GIS map/database (available on multiple platforms) depicting the locations of existing public art installations throughout the community. The map/database should include a photo, date installed, funding source, artist name, and any other relevant information."

To help determine artwork included in the inventory, staff have researched and created criteria. The following outline staff's recommendations on what types of artwork should be included or excluded from the inventory:

### **Art to be Included in Inventory**

#### **1. Permanent Outdoor Public Art (Priority Inclusion)**

- Art located outside and on public property will be included.
- This includes permanent sculptures, murals, and installations that are accessible without entering a building.

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## **2. Permanent Art in Public Buildings**

- Art that is on display inside public buildings such as the Truckee Donner Public Utility District (TDPUD) or other Town-owned facilities will be included, especially if they are regularly accessible to the public.

## **3. Outdoor Art at Tahoe-Truckee Unified School District (TTUSD) Truckee Schools**

- Kerstin Kramer, TTUSD Superintendent Chief Learning Officer, supports keeping murals and artwork located outside of TTUSD Truckee schools in the art inventory.
- To ensure clarity, staff will add a disclaimer stating that visitors should not enter school grounds during school hours, but that the artworks are accessible after hours and on weekends.
- Artwork inside TTUSD schools will not be included in the art inventory as they are not accessible to the public.

## **4. Temporary Art Inside or Outside of Public Buildings**

- Temporary art exhibits inside or outside public facilities (e.g., Town Hall, Truckee-Donner Recreation & Park District buildings) may be included.

## **5. Outdoor Art on Private Property Viewable by the Public**

- Outdoor artworks located on private property that are viewable by the public will be included in the public art inventory. This includes murals on private property that can be publicly viewed.

## **Art Not Included in Inventory**

### **6. Art in Private Locations or Areas Not Publicly Accessible**

- Artworks inside private businesses such as restaurants and grocery stores will not be included in the public art inventory.
- Artworks in areas that cannot be publicly viewed, like the Tahoe Forest Hospital Gene Upshaw Cancer Center, will not be included in the art inventory.

### **7. Live Performance and Performing Art**

- While the PAMP public art definition includes live performance and performing art, because the public art inventory will only be updated annually, information on specific performances will become outdated quickly. In addition, inclusion of performances or performance venues expands the scope of the inventory such that it becomes more difficult for users to navigate and staff to update.
- Other agencies already provide information that can be referenced to identify performing art opportunities. The Truckee Chamber of Commerce (<https://truckee.com/>) under "Explore Truckee" has links to the Truckee Cultural District, art, galleries, performing art, and events. The Nevada County Arts Council (<https://www.nevadacountyarts.org/>) also has a calendar of events as well as a cultural asset map that provides locations of performance spaces (<https://www.nevadacountyarts.org/cultural-asset-map>). Staff propose to provide links to all these resources on the Public Art Inventory webpage.

### **8. Private Galleries**

- Private galleries are not proposed to be included in the inventory, but the Nevada County Arts Council cultural asset map can be referenced for gallery locations.

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Application of these staff recommendations would result in the removal of the following pieces from the Public Art Inventory:

- Art inside Raley's
- Art inside of TTUSD Buildings
- Art inside the Tahoe Forest Hospital Gene Upshaw Cancer Center
- Mural inside Moody's
- Art inside private businesses
- Live performance and performing art

Based on these criteria, staff is also recommending the following pieces be added to the Public Art Inventory:

- Art piece in the Old Truckee Jail Museum (disclaimer that open hours are limited)
- "Path" - Brockway Wall Art
- "Weightless" - Donner Lake Fish Art
- Mural on wall at Tahoe Truckee Lumber on Soaring Way
- Church Street/Truckee Way Roundabout (placeholder until installed)
- DEWBEYÚMUWE? PARK (West River Street Park) Artworks (placeholder until installed)

Additionally, to help update the art inventory, staff pushed a social media post in early May to encourage the public to fill out the "Public Art Opportunities form" to help collect any overlooked public art for the art inventory. Kevin Schofield is scheduled to take art inventory photos on Friday May 9, 2025, and this discussion will help determine the final list of artworks to photograph.

Staff is recommending that the PACT direct staff to use the criteria outlined in this staff report to update the Public Art Inventory. Alternatively, the PACT may recommend revisions to the criteria.

**Staff Recommendation:**

That the Commission direct staff to use the criteria outlined in this staff report to update the Public Art Inventory.