



**CITY COUNCIL MEETING
STAFF REPORT**

Meeting Date: August 21, 2023		Subject: Public Art Program Guidelines and Policy Draft	
		Staff Member: Erika Valentine, Arts and Culture Program Coordinator	
		Department: Parks and Recreation	
Action Required		Advisory Board/Commission Recommendation	
<input type="checkbox"/> Motion <input type="checkbox"/> Public Hearing Date: <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinance 1 st Reading Date: <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinance 2 nd Reading Date: <input type="checkbox"/> Resolution <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information or Direction <input type="checkbox"/> Information Only <input type="checkbox"/> Council Direction <input type="checkbox"/> Consent Agenda		<input type="checkbox"/> Approval <input type="checkbox"/> Denial <input type="checkbox"/> None Forwarded <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable	
		Comments: N/A	
Staff Recommendation: N/A			
Recommended Language for Motion: N/A			
Project / Issue Relates To:			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Council Goals/Priorities: 5.3 Establish the Arts and Culture Board (and fund a feasibility study for performing arts facility.)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted Master Plan(s): Arts, Culture, and Heritage Strategy – Adopted 2020	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable	

ISSUE BEFORE COUNCIL:

Staff is seeking City Council review and feedback on the draft Public Art Policy and Guidelines.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The City of Wilsonville has a robust Public Art Collection of over 20 pieces; however, there has never been a Public Art Policy to guide the program. A public art policy is the first step to legitimize, as well as establish the City's Public art program. Within the policy includes goals of the program as well as outline procedures, processes, best practices and guidelines. Creating a policy is critical to guide the work of City Staff and the Arts, Culture and Heritage Commission (ACHC). The policy will also create transparency for both community members and artists, to understand equity regarding the processes for selecting artists, specific designs, final artwork, etc.

The City Council approved [Resolution No. 2857](#), adopting the Arts, Culture and Heritage Strategy (ACHS) in November 2020, which included many key findings including that "Public Art is recognized as a significant cultural asset in Wilsonville." Additionally, recommendations that came from the ACHS include:

- Recommendation #6, "Develop a long-term, sustainable public art program," and,
- Recommendation #4, "City forms an Arts and Culture Commission and provides support staffing resource."

In order to develop a long-term, sustainable public art program, a vision for the program and public art collection is needed, as well as goals and standards, and policies and procedures for commissioning artwork. This is all included in the attached Public Art Policy and Guidelines Draft.

Public Art best practice includes issuing a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for a specific project in order to evaluate the artist's experience, aesthetic, body of work, etc. Best practice, resulting in the most successful projects, include selecting an artist and then a back and forth process between the community, City, stakeholders, etc. and the artist(s) so that the artist(s) can create an original piece of work designed specifically for The Client (City of Wilsonville) as well as designed specifically for the physical space and project goals/themes. The majority of the City's current public art collection has not followed these processes, which has resulted in a collection that lacks relativity to the community, residents, and City.

Public Art best practice and standards also include multiple panel reviews to review and decide on selected artist(s) and their design/artwork. The ACHC will serve as the primary review panel for Public Art. In addition to the ACHC, non-voting advisors may also be added to a panel such as site users, adjacent property owners, public art specialists, City staff, etc. The ACHC was formed to be representative of the entire community, thus as it is written in the policy draft the ACHC are the deciding review body when selecting artists and artwork. However, in accordance with Wilsonville City Code Section 2.313(1)(a), if the cost of a proposed Public Art project is expected to exceed \$100,000, the City Council must approve the contract for the procurement of the artwork.

The ACHC has been meeting since April 2022 and several meetings have been focused on providing the ACHC with education regarding public art programs, policies and funding. The ACHC has also reviewed the draft policy at multiple meetings. Additionally the draft policy was circulated to the Executive Team for input and feedback, and received a thorough review from the Legal Department. Staff also reviewed several other City's Arts Policies, as well as worked with other Public Art professionals in the field to review and provide feedback to the policy, including Consultant Bill Flood who completed the City's ACHS.

EXPECTED RESULTS:

- Present Council with the draft Public Art Policy and Guidelines
- Collect feedback
- Answer questions

TIMELINE:

- Draft Public Art Policy and Guidelines refinement based on City Council and ACHC feedback.
- Staff will return to a future City Council meeting for the draft Public Art Policy and Guidelines to be officially adopted.

CURRENT YEAR BUDGET IMPACTS:

There are no budget year implications specifically related to the draft policy.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PROCESS:

The ACHC reviewed and provided feedback on the draft Public Art Program Guidelines and Policy at their June 21, 2023 meeting. After receiving additional staff input and Legal's review of the draft, staff brought it back to the ACHC and they reviewed it again at their July 19, 2023 meeting.

Staff plans to bring the draft policy back to a future ACHC meeting, in order to receive their final review as well as receive a motion to forward the policy onto City Council for final approval.

POTENTIAL IMPACTS OR BENEFIT TO THE COMMUNITY:

The Public Art Program Guidelines and Policy will over time allow the City of Wilsonville to commission additional Public Art pieces that contribute to the City's cultural, social, and economic value.

ALTERNATIVES:

N/A

CITY MANAGER COMMENT:

N/A

ATTACHMENT:

1. Draft Public Art Program Guidelines and Policy