



# ARTS COUNCIL

## REGULAR HYBRID MEETING

Wednesday, January 15, 2025 | 5:30pm

### BOARD MEMBERS:

Chair: Elizabeth Mitchell  
Vice Chair: Daniel Becker  
Councilors: Suzanne Skone, Jonathan Harrington,  
Hannah Youn, Irene Rajagopal

### LOCATION & CONTACT

MICEC – Slater Room Council Chambers  
and via Zoom  
8236 SE 24<sup>th</sup> Street | Mercer Island, WA 98040  
Phone: 206.275.7600 | [www.mercerisland.gov](http://www.mercerisland.gov)

*We strive to create an inclusive and accessible experience. Those requiring accommodation for meetings should notify the Staff Liaison's Office 3 days prior to the meeting at 206.795.8518 or by emailing [Katie.Herzog@mercerisland.gov](mailto:Katie.Herzog@mercerisland.gov).*

The virtual meeting will be broadcast live on Zoom and recorded and saved on the City's [YouTube Channel](#).

**Registering to Speak:** Individuals wishing to speak live during Appearances must register their request with the staff liaison at 206.795.8518 or [email](#) before 4 PM on the day of the Arts Council meeting. Each speaker will be allowed three (3) minutes to speak.

**Join by Telephone at 5:30 PM:** Call 253.215.8782 and enter Webinar ID 891 2336 1265 Password 076260 when prompted..

#### Join by Internet at 5:30 PM:

- 1) Click [this link](#)
- 2) If the Zoom app is not installed on your computer, you will be prompted to download it.
- 3) If prompted for Webinar ID, enter **891 2336 1265**; Enter Password **076260**

**Join in person at 5:30 PM:** Mercer Island Community & Event Center 8236 SE 24<sup>th</sup> Street, Mercer Island

### CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL - 5:30 PM

### APPEARANCES

### STAFF LIAISON REPORT

#### 1. Staff Liaison Report and Planning Schedule

### REGULAR BUSINESS

#### 2. Arts Council Meeting Minutes:

- A. October 16, 2024, Regular Meeting
- B. November 18, 2024, Special Meeting

**Recommended Action:** Approve minutes.

#### 3. AC25-01: 6-Year Workplan for Art in Public Places Progress

**Recommended Action:** Provide feedback on planning documents as requested, and schedule the final planning workshop to close out this planning process in February 2025.

### OTHER BUSINESS

#### 4. Absences

### ADJOURNMENT



# City of Mercer Island Arts Council



## Department Report

January 15, 2025



# Project Updates



# Clarke & Groveland Beach Joint Planning Process

- The City received more than **220 responses** to our background survey on current park uses. Thank you to the community for providing input!
- At an upcoming **City Council meeting**, the project team will present the site conditions and proposed public engagement plan for the planning process.
- After the City Council approves the scope, the effort to plan for replacing aging infrastructure at these two beach parks will begin with the community.
- Stay tuned!



[www.mercerisland.gov/cgmp](http://www.mercerisland.gov/cgmp)



# Playground Replacements

- Work continues to replace aging play equipment at Mercer Island parks!
- Permits for **Roanoke Park** have been issued, and the construction contract is being finalized. Staff anticipate construction will begin by the end of Q1 2025.
- **First Hill Park:** Playground equipment is being delivered next month, and permits are being submitted this week, with construction also planned for 2025.
- **Deane's Children's Park** play area: Later this year, the City will kick off the process to develop a new vision plan that integrates the play area, park entrance, restrooms, and other site amenities.

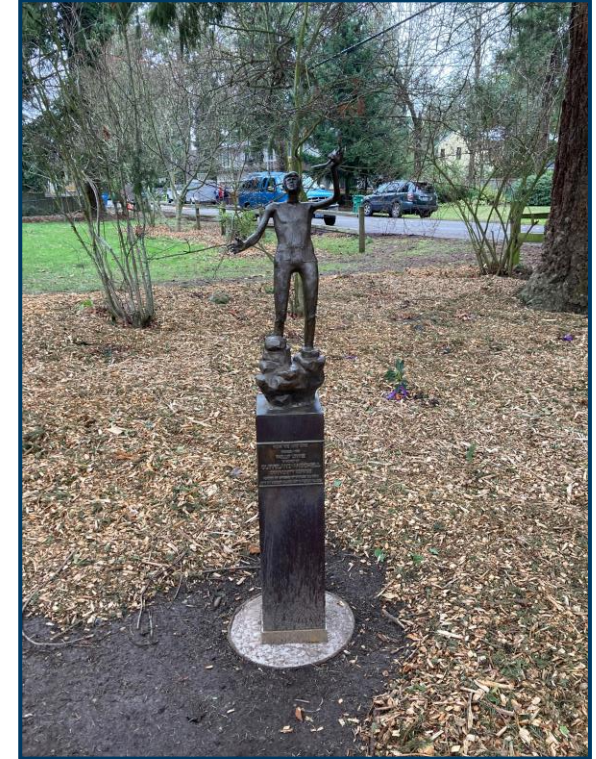


[www.mercerisland.gov/playgroundreplacements](http://www.mercerisland.gov/playgroundreplacements)



# Public Art Reinstallation at First Hill Park

- This month, the City also reinstalled *Now We Are One* by Phillip Levine at First Hill Park!
- The sculpture, which honors long-time resident and public servant Cleve Anschell, was removed in 2020 so the base could be repaired.
- Thank you to the Parks Maintenance team, who prepped the site for reinstallation, and to Art Work Fine Art Services for completing the install.
- Learn more about *Now We Are One* on STQRY!



<https://mercerisland.stqry.app/>



# Upcoming Events



需提前注册  
凭\*免费\*票入场

**FREE EVENT**  
**RSVP REQUIRED**



**FEB. 2, 2025**  
**SUNDAY,**  
**10 AM - 2 PM**

**MERCER ISLAND**  
**COMMUNITY & EVENT**  
**CENTER**



- KUNGFU** | 功夫
- PEKING OPERA** | 京剧
- WAIST DRUM** | 腰鼓
- PHOTO BOOTH** | 国风春节拍照打卡
- 30+ GAMES** | 30+ 游戏/活动
- LANTERN MAKING** | 灯笼制作
- MOVABLE TYPE PRINTING** | 活字印刷
- BOBA TEA** | 奶茶饮品
- TRADITIONAL SNACKS** | 传统小吃



Item 1.

百家

**ASIAN FAMILY MARKET**

**Mercer Island**

**Lunar New Year**

**Celebration**

**默瑟岛春节游园会**



HOST BY



DIAMOND SPONSOR



GOLD SPONSORS





# 2025 HARMONY OF COLOR ANNUAL MEMBERS SHOW



JANUARY 6 - FEBRUARY 28, 2025



HARMONY OF COLOR  
WWW.HARMONYOFCOLOR.COM  
HARMONYOFCOLORART@GMAIL.COM

January 6 - February 28, 2025

### Receptions:

Saturday, February 8, 12 - 2 PM

Please join us for hors d'oeuvres, refreshments

### Location:

MICEC Gallery  
Mercer Island Community & Event Center  
8236 SE 24th Street, Mercer Island

### Gallery Hours:

Monday - Thursday, 9 AM - 7 PM  
Friday & Saturday, 9 AM - 5 PM



Sponsored by:



Cover photographs clockwise from top left: ©Kyong Oh, ©Myongae Lee, ©Kyong Oh, ©Mira Kim, ©Jennifer Kwon, and ©Grade Kim

Item 1.

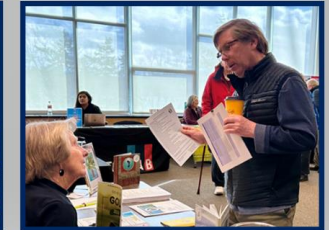


The City of Mercer Island Presents:

# SENIOR RESOURCE FAIR

MARCH 1, 2025 | 10AM - 12PM

Mercer Island Community & Event Center



## Attention Mercer Island Seniors!

The Mercer Island Senior Resource Fair returns to the Mercer Island Community & Event Center this March!

A free event for Island seniors, their care partners, and families with information on staying active, health and safety, support and respite services, mental health care, volunteer opportunities, and social connections.

- Informational booths from local and regional senior resources
- Connect with experts in senior issues and aging
- Refreshments and seated social areas

Mercer Island Community & Event Center | 8236 SE 24th St.  
206.275.7609 | miparks@mercerisland.gov

### SPONSORED BY:



# Festive Fun and Memories Made! 2024 Wrap-up!

- December 5, the annual **Tree Lighting** at Mercerdale Park brought out the community. The MIHS Choir and Creation Dance Studio performed, before the countdown to light the tree!
- December 7, the Chamber partnered for the **Holiday Makers Market** in the MICEC Gym. Lots of people attended to holiday shop!
- December 13, the **Family Movie Night and Holiday Party** at the MICEC drew a crowd of 250 people, who enjoyed snacks, arts and crafts, a movie, and even a visit from Santa.
- December 15, about 150 people gathered at Luther Burbank Park Beach for the **Argosy Christmas Ship** event, where they enjoyed carols, festive lights, hot cocoa, and cookies, all while soaking in the holiday spirit.
- On December 29, the Mercer Island **Chanukah Celebration** at Mercerdale Park added a magical touch to the season with a glow-in-the-dark menorah lighting, delicious treats, and festive music.



# Arts Council Recruitment

- The recruitment is open!
- Applications will be accepted online through February 25, 2025.
- Learn more and apply at [mercerisland.gov/bc](http://mercerisland.gov/bc). Contact [cityclerk@mercerisland.gov](mailto:cityclerk@mercerisland.gov) with any additional questions.

## Boards and Commissions

Agendas/Minutes
Arts Council
Civil Service Commission
Design Commission
Disability Board
Open Space Conservancy Trust
Parks & Recreation Commission
Planning Commission
Utility Board

## Boards and Commissions

### Application Process

The application is an **online application process**. After submitting your application online, the City Clerk will contact you regarding timeline for appointments. If you need a paper copy of the application, please contact the City Clerk at [cityclerk@mercerisland.gov](mailto:cityclerk@mercerisland.gov) or 206-275-7793.

Applications submitted via the online application process will be sent directly to the City Clerk. Paper applications may be returned via email to the City Clerk at [cityclerk@mercerisland.gov](mailto:cityclerk@mercerisland.gov), dropped off at the white drop box located outside of City Hall, or mailed to City Hall, c/o City Clerk at 9611 SE 36th Street, Mercer Island, WA 98040.

Please know that the City Council gives a great deal of thought to the make up of each board and seeks to have a diversified and balanced group. Current board or commission members who are interested in seeking reappointment should submit a **current application** to the City Clerk's Office. Please note that reappointments do not automatically occur.

### Applicant Requirements

Candidates must be current residents of Mercer Island, unless otherwise specified by the Mercer Island City Code (see MICC 3.34.030(B)2 Design Commission and MICC 3.46.030 Planning Commission). In addition, applicants are urged to familiarize themselves with the applicable criteria for the position they are applying for, as some boards or commissions highly prefer certain qualifications (for example, Design Commission and Planning Commission).

- Mercer Island Arts Council
- Design Commission
- Open Space Conservancy Trust
- Parks & Recreation Commission
- Planning Commission
- Utility Board



# Arts Council Planning Schedule

## **February 10 – Special Meeting**

- Art in Public Places Six-Year Plan

## **April 16**

- Arts & Culture Comprehensive Plan Kick-off
- Deane’s Children’s Park AIPP

## **July 16 \***

- Chair & Vice Chair Elections
- 2024 Recreation Division Annual Report
- 2025 – 2026 City Arts & Culture Workplan Update

## **October 15**

- GHOSG Activation Plan Kick-off

\*Move to June - TBD



Thank You





# ARTS COUNCIL 2025 PLANNING SCHEDULE

Items are not listed in any particular order.  
Agenda items & meeting dates are subject to change.

## REMINDER: NO MEETINGS IN AUGUST

<b>JANUARY 15, 5:30 PM</b>		<b>STAFF WORK TUE 1/07</b>	<b>AGENDA GO LIVE WED 1/08</b>
Absences:			
TIME/TOPIC		STAFF	
	AC25-01: 6 -Year Workplan for Art in Public Places Progress	Sarah Bluvas	

<b>FEBRUARY 10 (SPECIAL MEETING), 5:30 PM</b>		<b>STAFF WORK TUE 1/07</b>	<b>AGENDA GO LIVE WED 1/08</b>
Absences:			
TIME/TOPIC		STAFF	
	AC25-XX:		

<b>APRIL 16, 5:30 PM</b>		<b>STAFF WORK TUE 4/08</b>	<b>AGENDA GO LIVE WED 4/09</b>
Absences:			
TIME/TOPIC		STAFF	
	AC25-XX: Arts & Culture Comprehensive Plan Kick-off	Sarah Bluvas/Ryan Daly	
	AC25-XX: Deane’s Children’s Park AIPP	Sarah Bluvas	

<b>JULY 16, 5:30 PM (MAY MOVE TO JUNE)</b>		<b>STAFF WORK TUE 7/08</b>	<b>AGENDA GO LIVE WED 7/09</b>
Absences:			
TIME/TOPIC		STAFF	
	AC25-XX: Chair & Vice Chair Elections		
	AC25-XX: 2024 Recreation Division Annual Report	Ryan Daly/Katie Herzog	
	AC25-XX: 2025 – 2026 City Arts & Culture Workplan Update	Katie Herzog	

<b>OCTOBER 15, 5:30 PM</b>		<b>STAFF WORK TUE 10/07</b>	<b>AGENDA GO LIVE WED 10/08</b>
Absences:			
TIME/TOPIC		STAFF	
	AC25-XX: GHOSG Activation Plan Kick-off	Sarah Bluvas	



# ARTS COUNCIL MINUTES

## REGULAR HYBRID MEETING

Wednesday, October 16, 2024

### CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Becker called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

### ROLL CALL

Vice Chair Daniel Becker, and Councilors Suzanne Skone, Jonathan Harrington, and JB Gibson were present. Council Liaison Ted Weinberg was present.

Chair Elizabeth Mitchell, Councilors Hannah Youn and Irene Rajagopal were absent.

Recreation Manager Ryan Daly, Recreation Supervisor Katie Herzog, CIP Project Manager Sarah Bluvás, and Recreation Specialist Raven Gillis were present.

### PUBLIC APPEARANCES

There were no public appearances.

### STAFF LIAISON REPORT

#### 1. Staff Liaison Report & Planning Schedule Update

Katie Herzog, Recreation Supervisor, reported on the following:

- Family Movie Night Fun
- Mid-Autumn Festival
- MIVAL 2024 Holiday Show & Opening Reception
- New Recreation Programs
  - Friday Pre-Ballet
  - Urban Sketching Art Workshop
  - Exploring Ice Dyeing Art Workshop
- Public Input on Clarke & Groveland Beaches
- Town Center Trick or Treating and Pumpkin Walk
- Illuminate MI 2024
- Planning Schedule Update

### REGULAR BUSINESS

#### 2. Approval of Minutes

Minutes from the:

- A. July 17, 2024, Regular Meeting
- B. September 16, 2024, Special Meeting

It was moved by Gibson; seconded by Harrington to:

**Approve the minutes from the July 17, 2024, Regular Meeting, and the September 16, 2024, Special Meeting.**

Passed: 4 – 0

#### 3. Update on *Downtown Streetscapes: Street Name Inlays*

Sarah Bluvás, CIP Project Manager, presented. Councilors received the report.

**4. 6-Year Workplan for Art in Public Places Progress**

Sarah Bluvas, CIP Project Manager, presented. Councilors asked questions and provided feedback.

**5. 2023 – 2024 City Arts and Culture Workplan Update: Q4 2024**

Recreation Supervisor Katie Herzog presented. Councilors received the report.

**6. 2025 – 2026 City Arts and Culture Workplan**

Recreation Supervisor Katie Herzog presented. Councilors reviewed the report.

It was moved by Gibson; seconded by Harrington to:

**Endorse the 2025-2026 Arts and Culture Workplan as Amended**

Passed: 4 – 0

**OTHER BUSINESS**

**7. Absences**

No future absences were mentioned.

Vice Chair Becker asked for a motion to excuse Chair Mitchell's, and Councilors Youn's and Rajagopal's absences from tonight's meeting.

It was moved by Gibson; seconded by Harrington to:

**Excuse Chair Mitchell's, and Councilors Youn's and Rajagopal's absences from tonight's meeting**

Passed: 4 – 0

**ADJOURNMENT**

The Regular Hybrid Meeting adjourned at 6:56pm.





# ARTS COUNCIL MINUTES

## SPECIAL HYBRID MEETING

Monday, November 18, 2024

### CALL TO ORDER

Chair Elizabeth Mitchell called the meeting to order at 5:32 pm.

### ROLL CALL

Chair Elizabeth Mitchell and Councilors Suzanne Skone, Jonathan Harrington, JB Gibson and Irene Rajagopal were present. Council Liaison Ted Weinberg was present.

Vice Chair Daniel Becker and Councilor Hannah Youn were absent.

Management Analyst II Carson Hornsby, CIP Project Manager Sarah Bluvas, Recreation Manager Ryan Daly, Recreation Supervisor Katie Herzog, and Recreation Specialist Raven Gillis were present.

### PUBLIC APPEARANCES

There were no public appearances.

### SPECIAL BUSINESS

#### 1. Parks Zone Public Art Development Standards

Recreation Manager Ryan Daly and Management Analyst II Carson Hornsby presented. Councilors asked questions and provided input.

It was moved by Skone; seconded by Gibson to:

**Recommend Public Art as a permitted use in the draft Parks Zone without development standards, and to continue to utilize the Arts Council to steward the recommendation processes for solicitation, acceptance, and placement of Public Art installations.**

Passed: 5 – 0

#### 2. 6-Year Workplan for Art in Public Places Progress

Sarah Bluvas, CIP Project Manager, presented. Councilors asked questions, provided feedback, and unanimously agreed to endorse the Public Art Program Goals.

### OTHER BUSINESS

#### 3. Absences

Councilors had no future absences reported.

Chair Mitchell asked for a motion to excuse Vice Chair Daniel Becker's and Councilor Hannah Youn's absences from tonight's meeting.

It was moved by Gibson; seconded by Skone to:

**Excuse Vice Chair Daniel Becker's and Councilor Hannah Youn's absences from tonight's meeting.**

Passed: 5 – 0

**ADJOURNMENT**

The Special Hybrid Meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.

DRAFT



# ARTS COUNCIL STAFF REPORT

**AC 25-01**  
**January 15, 2025**  
**Regular Business**

## AGENDA ITEM INFORMATION

<b>TITLE:</b>	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"/> Ordinance <input type="checkbox"/> Resolution
<b>RECOMMENDED ACTION:</b>	Provide feedback on planning documents as requested, and schedule the final planning workshop to close out this planning process in February 2025.	

<b>STAFF:</b>	Sarah Bluvas	
<b>COUNCIL LIAISON:</b>	Ted Weinberg	
<b>EXHIBITS:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Summary of Planning Process</li> <li>2. Draft 6-Year Workplan for Art in Public Places – UPDATED</li> <li>3. Results of Project Opportunities Review Exercise</li> <li>4. Draft Project Opportunities List – UPDATED</li> <li>5. Draft 2025-2030 Public Art Project Timeline</li> <li>6. Draft Guidelines for Administering the City’s Public Art Program</li> <li>7. Current Guidelines for Acquisition and Deaccession</li> </ol>	

## SUMMARY

The Mercer Island Arts Council (Arts Council) has collaborated with City staff since May 2024 to develop a 6-Year Workplan for the Art in Public Places Program (the Plan), a planning-level document that will guide internal decision-making for future public art projects. When finalized, the Plan will include 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. 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 Mercer Island City Council (City Council) when appropriate.

To date, the Arts Council has participated in four special meetings (i.e. workshops) and two 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.

On January 15, the Arts Council will continue its discussion of the draft Plan (Exhibit 2), including reviewing an updated draft of the Project Opportunities List (Exhibits 3 and 4); receiving the draft 2025-2030 Public Art Project Timeline (Exhibit 5); and providing feedback on the proposed Guidelines for Administering the City’s Public Art Program (Exhibits 6 and 7). Staff also recommend scheduling a final workshop in 2025 to seek the Arts Council’s endorsement of the Plan and to close out this planning process.

### UPDATED PLAN DRAFT

The Arts Council received the first draft of the Plan at the November 2024 workshop and endorsed the public art program goals. Exhibit 2 includes the latest version of the draft Plan. Additional edits/new content are included in the draft in red. Staff request additional feedback on the overall structure and general content of

the Plan in January. Then staff will prepare a final version for review and, if desired, endorsement by the Arts Council at the next meeting.

#### **UPDATED PROJECT OPPORTUNITIES LIST**

The Project Opportunities List will be included in the final version of the Plan and is intended as a dynamic list of public art opportunities that can be added to and reviewed on an ongoing basis. On November 18, the Arts Council reviewed the initial list of 26 project opportunities and provided feedback on which items to keep on the list, remove from the list, or elevate to the Public Art Project Timeline. During the discussion, the Arts Council also noted 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 sections of the Plan. Those project opportunities have been moved accordingly.

Exhibit 3 provides the results of the keep/remove/elevate exercise and the associated follow-up actions. Exhibit 4 provides the updated draft Project Opportunities List. Note that staff have added a new column to the updated Project Opportunities List that identifies relevant park master plans associated with opportunities.

At the January meeting, staff will seek the Arts Council's endorsement of the updated opportunities list. Once the Plan is endorsed by the Arts Council and approved by the City Council, staff will move forward with activities to solicit additional project opportunities from the community and add ideas to the list for future review at the biennial public art planning workshop recommended in the Plan.

#### **DRAFT RELEASE: 2025-2030 PROJECT OPPORTUNITIES LIST**

Recognizing that the City has limited financial, staff, volunteer, and other resources, only a small number of project opportunities can be pursued during each biennium. The proposed 2025-2030 Public Art Project Timeline (Exhibit 5) identifies projects that will be recommended for development over the course of the Plan and includes ongoing projects (e.g. annual public art maintenance) and discreet projects (e.g. Deane's Children's Play Area AIPP).

Staff considered the following when developing the draft timeline:

- Arts Council feedback – Some project opportunities that received 3 or more Arts Council votes to “elevate” have been added to the draft timeline.
- In-process projects – Some projects (e.g. Luther Burbank Waterfront AIPP – *Mercer Island Medallions*) are in process already so have been added to the draft timeline.
- Projects included in the 2025-2030 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) – Projects included in out years of the 2025-2030 CIP have been added. (e.g. *The Source* Restoration)
- Time constraints and workplan balance – When placing projects on the timeline, staff aimed to include projects that are more time-sensitive (e.g. GHOSG Activation Plan) earlier in the timeline.

During the January meeting, staff request Arts Council feedback on the draft 25-30 project timeline. Input will be incorporated into a final draft, which will be presented for final review at the next meeting. After the Arts Council identifies their recommended project timeline, individual projects will be explored and recommended to the City Council for approval via the draft CIP, biennial budget, and/or department workplans as appropriate.

#### **DRAFT REVIEW: GUIDELINES FOR ADMINISTERING THE CITY OF MERCER ISLAND PUBLIC ART PROGRAM**

The Arts Council also received the draft Guidelines for Administering the City of Mercer Island Public Art Program (Exhibit 6) via e-mail on Thursday, November 7. This document combines and updates the existing

acquisition and deaccession procedures as well as proposes a review process for accepting community-initiated public art project proposals. (The current procedures with notations are attached as Exhibit 7.) Staff seek Arts Council feedback on the updated/proposed procedures on January 15. A refined draft will be presented for review and endorsement at the next meeting.

**UPCOMING PLANNING SCHEDULE**

Staff previously proposed scheduling the final workshop for this planning process on Monday, February 10, at 5pm, at the Mercer Island Community and Event Center. On Wednesday, the final workshop date and time will be confirmed; then staff will add the special hybrid meeting to the City website.

After the Arts Council endorses the Plan materials, staff will also work with the City Clerk and City Manager’s Office to schedule the City Council’s review and adoption of the Arts Council’s recommendation. That timing will be shared with the Arts Council as soon as it is confirmed.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Provide feedback on planning documents as requested, and schedule the final planning workshop to close out this planning process in February 2025.

Agenda Item AC25-01: 6-Year Workplan for Art in Public Places  
 Exhibit 1: Summary of Planning Process

Date	Title	Resources	Summary
05/20/24	Special Hybrid Meeting (Workshop #1)	<a href="#">Agenda Item #2</a> <a href="#">Video Recording</a> (Begins at 7:13)	The Arts Council reviewed City planning documents relevant to public art and explored the City’s public art collection and program. They shared their observations as well as short phrases/sentences they wrote responding to two prompts.
06/17/24	Special Hybrid Meeting (Workshop #2)	<a href="#">Agenda Item #2</a> <a href="#">Video Recording</a> (Begins at 3:02)	The Arts Council began discussing the framework for developing public art projects over the six-year planning horizon and shared feedback on public art policies.
07/17/24	Regular Hybrid Meeting	<a href="#">Agenda Item #5</a> <a href="#">Video Recording</a> (Begins at 1:30:00)	Staff recapped planning progress, and the Arts Council endorsed the Public Art Pillar as well as provided feedback on the planning process and timeline.
09/16/24	Special Hybrid Meeting (Workshop #3)	<a href="#">Agenda Item #1</a> <a href="#">Video Recording</a> (Begins at 01:59)	The Arts Council provided feedback on public art program goals, actions, and selection criteria as well as continued their discussion of public art procedures.
10/16/24	Regular Hybrid Meeting	<a href="#">Agenda Item #4</a> <a href="#">Video Recording</a> (Begins at 13:25)	Arts Council members provided feedback on the updated goals, actions, and selection criteria and previewed the first draft of the Project Opportunities List.
11/18/24	Special Hybrid Meeting (Workshop #4)	<a href="#">Agenda Item #2</a> <a href="#">Video Recording</a> (Begins at 19:00)	Arts Council members endorsed the goals for the public art program, reviewed the Project Opportunities List, and participated in a prioritization exercise to begin identifying projects to move to the Public Art Project Timeline.



# 6-Year Workplan for Art in Public Places

DRAFT

1/8/2025



## Introduction

The City of Mercer Island (City) began amassing a public art collection in the 1980s and established a 1% for Art in Public Places Fund (1% Fund) in 1993 to support the acquisition and maintenance of visual artworks for the public realm. Per the establishing ordinance, the 1% Fund is funded by 1% of construction costs for qualifying capital improvement projects, which include major renovations/repairs and new construction of public parks and streets. Today, the City's public art collection includes more than 60 works of two- and three-dimensional art installed in public facilities and parks around Mercer Island.

In 2022, the Mercer Island City Council (City Council) adopted the 2022 Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan (PROS Plan), which identified the need to develop a long-range project plan for the 1% Fund. To achieve this goal, City Recreation and Capital division staff collaborated with the Mercer Island Arts Council (Arts Council) in 2024-2025 to draft this 6-Year Workplan for the Mercer Island Public Art Program (the Plan).

### What does the Plan include?

- Goals for the City's public art program
- Public art project opportunities to consider over the 6-year planning horizon
- Funding resources
- Guidance for engaging the Mercer Island community in public art acquisition and exhibition
- Details about public art collection management and updating the Plan
- Roles and responsibilities for City staff and for the Arts Council in implementing the Plan
- Updated procedures for permanent acquisition, temporary exhibition, and deaccession

### Who implements the Plan?

City staff and the Arts Council are tasked with reviewing the workplan and identifying individual action items to propose for the City's Biennial Budget and Capital Improvement Program (CIP). Once the budget and CIP are approved by the City Council, workplan items will be carried out by the appropriate City departments with Arts Council input and collaboration as necessary.

### What are the goals of the Plan?

Through the public art program, the 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.
- Promote and implement sustainability practices through public art creation and exhibition.
- Provide accessible, inclusive, and safe public art experiences that make all feel welcome.
- Steward a public art collection that future generations can enjoy, engage with, and enhance.

To achieve these goals, the 6-year workplan is divided into three key components – **Project Opportunities**, **Funding**, and **Public Engagement**. When coordinated, these components will result in a successful, meaningful public art program for the Mercer Island community. Details about these three components and how they relate are provided in the next sections.



## Project Opportunities

Project Opportunities represent the starting point for administering the City's public art program. What project ideas exist? Which ideas are feasible given City requirements and resources? And what will the public art program focus on over the time horizon of the Plan?

### Project Opportunities List

The Project Opportunities List is a dynamic list of public art opportunities that can be implemented by the City as resources allow. The list captures the following information:

- Preferred locations for installing public art projects
- Locally significant history, people, events, locations, and/or other details to highlight through public art projects
- Planned capital projects that are eligible and/or strong candidates for public art projects using 1% Fund dollars
- Project ideas proposed by Arts Council members, Mercer Island residents, local community groups, and/or others

City staff, in consultation with the Arts Council, are responsible for maintaining this list, including updating it on a quarterly basis to ensure new opportunities are catalogued. (More details about community input for the Project Opportunities List are provided in the Public Engagement section.)

**The updated matrix of public art opportunities will be included as Appendix A in the final Plan document.**

### Public Art Project Timeline

Recognizing that the City has limited financial, staff, volunteer, and other resources, a small number of project opportunities will be pursued during each biennium. City staff will work with the Arts Council Chair and Vice Chair to schedule a biennial Arts Council workshop to recommend projects for the upcoming biennium. Staff are responsible for ensuring the workshop is conducted ahead of Citywide development of the biennial budget and CIP, including allowing adequate time to engage the Mercer Island community in prioritizing project opportunities if desired by the Arts Council. After the Arts Council identifies a prioritized project list, their recommendation will be presented to the City Council for approval via the draft CIP and/or City department workplans as appropriate.

**A draft 2025-2030 Public Art Project Timeline and high-level project descriptions are provided on the following pages.**

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 – Mercer Island Medallions	█				█																			
Deane’s Children’s Playground			█		█				█															
<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																								

### Collection Care

- Annual Public Art Maintenance: Routine assessment and cleaning of the public art collection.
- 6-Year Workplan Update: Biennial update of the 6-Year Workplan for Art in Public Places.
- Public Art Collection Curation: Evaluate curation of existing public art collection, including siting, security, signage, and engagement opportunities.
- Public Art Reinstallations
  - *Now We Are One* by Philip Levine – Deinstalled in 2020 due to damaged base. Piece has been repaired and will be reinstalled in First Hill Park in 2025.
  - *Fire Flower* by Gizel Berman – Deinstalled in 2020 due to vandalism/attempted theft. Piece has been restored and will be reinstalled in Town Center in 2026 (tentatively planned for installation at Xing Hua development, 77<sup>th</sup> and 78<sup>th</sup> Avenues SE).
  - *Island Poles* by Steven Jensen – Deinstalled in 2024 due to upcoming construction of the Town Center Commuter Parking project. Reinstallation location and details TBC.
- *The Source* Restoration: Restore *The Source* by John Hoge in preparation for the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of this earthwork. Project identified in the 2025-2030 CIP for 2029-2030.

### Art in Public Places (AIPP) Projects

- Luther Burbank Park Waterfront – *Mercer Island Medallions*: Community engagement and design completed in 2023. Artwork fabrication and installation will take place during construction of the Luther Burbank Park Waterfront Improvements (LBWI) capital project, currently planned for 2025-2026.
- Deane’s Children’s Playground Renovation: Visioning process to redesign the Deane’s Children’s Park Playground begins in 2025, and construction is planned for 2026-2027. The redesign offers nature-themed art integration opportunities, including potential for building off *Kenton’s Dragon* by Kenton Pies, the popular dragon sculpture/play structure at the park.

### Other Public Art Projects

- Greta Hackett Outdoor Sculpture Gallery (GHOSG) Activation Plan: Develop a phased plan for implementing improvements at the Greta Hackett Outdoor Sculpture Gallery, including temporary arts activations, curation of existing artwork, enhancements to park areas, etc. Project identified in the 2025-2030 CIP for 2027-2028.
- Community Mural Project: Develop a mural project in partnership with Mercer Island High School, local artists/community groups, and others at a highly visible location. Ideas for locations include Aubrey Davis Park basketball courts and Luther Burbank Park pickleball courts.

### Tracking Projects

- New City Facility AIPP (TBD): Early design underway to construct a new Public Safety and Maintenance Building, but funding, timing for construction, and other elements still unknown. City staff will update the Arts Council if/when more details are available.
- Mercer Island Transit Interchange Art: Explore opportunities for enhancing the roundabout at 77<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE and North Mercer Way. City staff will update the Arts Council if/when more details are available.

## Funding

Funding is the second critical component for administering the City’s public art program. What resources exist? What new funding strategies can the City consider and pursue to fund public art? And how will the City apply resources to specific projects?

### 1% for Art in Public Places Fund

The 1% Fund is established by [MICC 4.40.200](#), which requires all qualifying capital improvement projects to set aside 1% of the total project cost to support permanent public art installations. Qualifying capital improvement projects are defined as:

*Projects funded wholly or in part by the City to construct or remodel any public project, including buildings, decorative or commemorative structures, parks or any portion thereof; and projects involving the construction, renovation or repair of public streets, sidewalks, and parking facilities.*

A project’s 1% Fund contribution may be used to integrate a public art project into the capital project or transferred to the 1% Fund for future use. Transfers are calculated at project closeout by Public Works and Finance staff and are completed at the end of the fiscal year closeout (typically in Q2 of the following fiscal year).

City staff are responsible for tracking 1% Fund contributions and documenting the following.

- Previous fiscal year contributions – These contributions have been confirmed with Public Works and Finance staff, and the transfer to the 1% Fund had been completed.
- Current fiscal year anticipated contributions – These contributions are identified for projects expected to complete construction during the current fiscal year, estimated using the construction contract amount.
- Anticipated contributions for the upcoming biennium – These projects are pulled from the 6-Year Capital Improvement Program (CIP) and documented for long-range planning purposes.

Completed and anticipated contributions for 2023-2026 are documented in the tables below.

#### 2023 Contributions to 1% Fund – Completed

Project ID	Project Title	2023 Construction Spend	1%
PA0118	Lincoln Landing Watercourse Restoration	\$13,762.50	\$137.63
PA0125	Mercerdale Park Playground	\$48,824.39	\$488.24
PA0136	LBP South Shoreline	\$376,430.80	\$3,764.31
PA0165	Bike Skills Area	\$302,500	\$3,025
SP0100	Residential Street Resurfacing	\$978,709.21	\$9,779.27
SP0101	Arterial Street Preservation	\$42,631.25	\$416.31
SP0120	Sunset Hwy/77 <sup>th</sup> Ave SE Improvements	\$1,137,561.29	\$11,375.61
SP0129	4400 ICW Improvements	\$192,840.57	\$1,928.41
		<b>Total 1% Contribution</b>	<b>\$30,914.78</b>

**2024 Contributions to 1% Fund – Anticipated**

Project ID	Project Title	2024 Construction Budget	1%
PA0109	ADP Trail Safety Improvements	\$447,701.83	\$4,477.02
PA0124	LBP Boiler Building Phase 1	\$1,884,401.10	\$18,844.01
PA0130	Roanoke Park Playground Replacement	\$420,262.03	\$4,202.62
PA0143	LBP Sport Courts Renovation	\$978,904.84	\$9,789.05
SP0100	Residential Street Resurfacing	\$481,896	\$4,818.96
SP0101	Arterial Street Preservation	\$81,401	\$814.01
SP0135	ICW Corridor Improvements	\$1,127,127	\$11,271.27
SP0111	80 <sup>th</sup> Ave SE Pedestrian Improvements	\$1,590,160	\$15,901.60
SP0137	Traffic Signal Improvements	\$161,808	\$1,618.08
<b>Total 1% Contribution</b>			<b>\$71,736.62</b>

**2025-2026 CIP Projects Contributing to 1% Fund – Anticipated**

Project ID	Project Title	2025	2026
90.20.0015	Deane’s Play Area Improvements		X
90.20.0020	LBP Dock & Waterfront Improvements	X	X
90.20.0043	First Hill Playground	X	
90.25.0001	Residential Street Resurfacing	X	X
90.25.0002	Arterial Preservation Program	X	X
90.25.0014	SE 27 <sup>th</sup> Street Overlay (76 <sup>th</sup> to 80 <sup>th</sup> )		X

**Other Public Art Funding Strategies**

Beyond the 1% Fund, other resources and funding strategies documented below may be applicable to public art projects identified in this workplan. A list of potential opportunities is provided below. Staff are responsible for ensuring these resources are current, including adding new resources as they emerge.

- City [Park Enhancement Donations program](#)
- [Greta Hackett Outdoor Sculpture Gallery](#) sales
- Individual donations/[crowdfunding](#)
- Partnerships with local arts and other community organizations
- Partnerships with private developers and businesses
- Federal, state, county, and local grant opportunities (a list of grant resources is provided as Appendix B)
- **Fundraising events, such as local art auctions and benefit concerts/performances**

**Selecting the Right Funding Source**

Funding sources will be identified for specific projects as they are moved from the project opportunities list to the project timeline. When choosing funding sources for specific projects, considerations should include, but not be limited to, the following.

- Relevant community groups and others who could serve as fundraising partners and/or project sponsors for grant requirements
- Deadlines for grants and other application-based opportunities
- Match, City Resolution, and other requirements for application-based opportunities
- Fundraising goals for individual donations and other outside funding pursuits

## Public Engagement

Public Engagement is the third critical component for fostering a successful public art program. How will the community engage in the public art process from start to finish? How will the City keep the community informed about progress, engagement opportunities, and achievements?

### Community Collaboration to Develop Public Art

Collaborating with the Mercer Island community to produce public art projects is one avenue for cultivating community ownership of and pride in public art. The following methods for community collaboration will be considered throughout the process to develop and implement public art projects.

#### Community Input for Project Opportunities and Timelines

Soliciting project ideas is a useful way to implement the community's public art interests and needs. Ideas may be general, such as requests for installation sites, artwork mediums/genres, or themes. General ideas will be solicited through City channels, such as the City website, Let's Talk, on-site signage, and during regular Arts Council meetings, on a rolling basis and added to the project opportunities list by City staff. Staff are responsible for updating the Arts Council when new project opportunities have been added to the list and for ensuring that the list is updated prior to engaging the Arts Council in recommending projects for the upcoming biennium.

Occasionally, members of the Arts Council, the community, or local organizations may submit a formal public art project proposal for the City's consideration. A formal proposal is one that includes a defined project scope and a request for City resources to implement, including funding. The City may choose to establish a formal "Call for Project Proposals" or accept proposals on a rolling basis. The process for evaluating community-initiated public art project proposals is provided in the Guidelines for Administering the Mercer Island Public Art Program (Appendix C).

#### Community Role in Project Development

After a public art opportunity is prioritized for a future biennium (i.e. moved to the project timeline), City staff and the Arts Council will identify the best method(s) for engaging the community in project development. These may include, but not be limited to, the following.

- Identify and engage community organizations and/or broad community feedback to develop the preferred project scope.
- Require project-specific community engagement methods in the request for qualifications/proposals.
- Partner with local schools and/or youth organizations to develop projects and foster early connection with the arts among local young people.
- Organize design workshops or charettes for community members to provide input on project themes, design elements, and/or site-specific details.

#### Community Role in Artist/Artwork Selection

The process for evaluating submittals for a permanent or temporary public art project is outlined in the Guidelines for Administering the Mercer Island Public Art Program (Appendix C). Per the process, community members may participate in the Selection Panel to choose an artist or artwork in the following roles.

- Resident with special interest in the proposed project
- General resident
- Other Mercer Island Board or Commission Member(s)

- Other individuals as appropriate

Occasionally, it may be appropriate to seek feedback from the broader community when making a final selection of an artist or artwork. Ways to solicit broader community input include, but are not limited to, the following.

- Host finalist presentations and allow the attendees to ask questions and submit comments.
- **Post finalist visuals and videos on social media, and encourage residents to comment, share, and vote on their favorite finalist.**
- Mount temporary displays of finalist proposals in high-traffic areas (e.g. Mercer Island Community and Event Center, Mercer Island Library, Town Center events, etc.) where residents can view options and submit feedback on-site.
- Invite small groups of diverse community representatives to review the finalists and provide additional insights to the Selection Panel.

### **Community Role in Artmaking**

Providing opportunities to participate in the artmaking process can transform public art from a passive experience to a deeply communal one. When developing public art projects, the City should consider opportunities for engaging the community in creation. Public art projects that may be good candidates for community artmaking include, but are not limited to, the following.

- Murals
- Graphic arts, such as printmaking and banners
- Performance and time-based art
- Environmental art installations
- Works that are created individually and assembled to create the whole, such as mosaic, collage, and fiber/textile arts

### **Public Art Activation**

Engaging the community with existing public art installations is another important way to foster connection and understanding, both with the public art collection and within the community itself. Both digital and in-person opportunities should be considered for activating public art and include, but not be limited to, the following.

- STQRY – A digital community engagement platform that includes details about Mercer Island public art, culture, and history/heritage.
- City social media accounts – Digital channels that can be used to promote STQRY content as well as implement other engagement opportunities, such as inviting residents to submit their photos and stories of works in the public art collection to highlight both public art and local community members' experiences with it.
- Interpretive signage – Signs installed at public art installations that include artwork tombstone and a QR code that sends users to STQRY.
- Public art maps – Maps of the entire public art collection and/or themed tours that can be distributed to community groups, posted on-site, and downloaded digitally.
- Events at public art sites – City-run and community-hosted events that encourage gathering at public art sites, including public art walks, large-scale special events, art-focused nature walks, community artmaking activities, and other in-person activities.
- Artist talks and/or panel discussions – In-person or virtual events where artists from the public art collection discuss their work, process, and stories behind works in the collection.

- Literary and performing arts events inspired by/incorporating public artworks – Opportunities to connect visual, performing, and other artforms to bolster awareness of the public art collection and strengthen the entire arts and culture ecosystem on Mercer Island.

## Communicating Progress and Achievements

Clear and consistent communication about public art progress and achievements is another important piece of successfully engaging the public with the public art program. City staff are responsible for producing and maintaining public art communications, which may be distributed via the following City channels:

- City website ([www.mercerisland.gov/publicart](http://www.mercerisland.gov/publicart)) – Static information about the public art program.
- Let's Talk ([letstalk.mercergov.org](http://letstalk.mercergov.org)) – Collecting community feedback and project-specific needs.
- MI Weekly newsletter – Calls to action, such as community input opportunities, event announcements, and other immediate/time-sensitive needs.
- STQRY ([mercerisland.stqry.app](http://mercerisland.stqry.app)) – Ongoing and deeper learning about the public art collection.
- On-site signage and other materials – Pop-up announcements and other timely information.



## Collection Care

City staff are responsible for managing the public art collection, which encompasses a range of tasks outlined in this section as well as other duties and responsibilities that may arise to safely maintain works in the collection.

### Documentation

When a new work of art is added to the public art collection, the artist or artist's representative will provide the following documentation:

- Artwork Statement – Facilitates understanding of the completed artwork and may be used for interpretation and engagement purposes.
- Public Art Record Form (Appendix D) – Includes tombstone (title, artist, medium, year built, acquisition method) and other object details, including size dimensions, valuation, and condition upon acquisition.
- Technical and Maintenance Requirements Form (Appendix D) – Outlines the methods and materials used to execute, install, and maintain the artwork as well as any other special considerations for collection care.

This and other documentation related to acquisition, installation, maintenance, and interpretation will be maintained in a public art record. Photographs, media coverage, and other interesting or important materials will also be kept in the public art record and may be used for interpretation and engagement activities related to the individual artwork.

### Asset Inventory

Works of art in the public art collection are tracked as City assets by the City's Geographic Information System (GIS) team. City staff are responsible for notifying GIS of new acquisitions, deaccessions, temporary deinstallations, or other changes to the public art collection to ensure the asset inventory stays accurate.

### Public Art Record

Staff maintain a public art record for each work in the public art collection. The record includes provenance documentation related to acquisition, installation, maintenance, and interpretation as well as photographs, media coverage, and other interesting or important materials.

### Appraisal

Artwork valuations are established for insurance purposes and should be estimated at the time a work is added to the public art collection. When artwork is donated to the City, appraisal is required at the time of the gift and should be provided/paid for by the donor. If updated valuations are needed, staff work with a qualified professional to appraise artworks.

### Insurance

Works of art in the public art collection and works temporarily exhibited by the City are insured by the Washington Cities Insurance Authority (WCIA), the City's insurance provider. When updates to the collection are made through acquisition or deaccession, staff are responsible for reporting changes to the City's Administrative Services and City Attorney's office to ensure the City's property schedule is accurate.

## Routine Maintenance

City staff develop a public art maintenance plan that is updated annually and includes cleaning, minor repair, and other needs for each work in the public art collection. Routine public art maintenance is funded by the 1% for Art in Public Places Fund (1% Fund) and conducted annually by a contract art conservator in consultation with staff and based on the maintenance plan.

## Major Repair and Restoration

Occasionally, public artworks may require significant repair or restoration. Staff consult with the artist and/or a contract art conservator to develop a scope of work. When possible, the City will contract with the artist to complete the work or will engage a contract art conservator to execute the repair. Staff are responsible for determining the funding source for special repairs or restorations that fall outside the scope of routine maintenance.

## Artwork Curation

Every five years, existing public art installations should be evaluated for safety, accessibility, integration, and other site-related aspects to determine if artworks should/can be adjusted. This assessment work could be timed with annual routine public art maintenance or conducted separately by staff and members of the Arts Council as desired. If need to re-site, deaccession, or otherwise adjust an existing installation arises, staff are responsible for proposing a scope of work that will include costs, timeline, required review/approvals, and other components to successfully re-site an artwork.

## Revising the 6-Year Workplan for Art in Public Places

The Plan is intended as a living document that may be reviewed and revised at different points throughout the 6-year time horizon. This section recommends a cadence for updating the Plan. Additional reviews may be requested by the City Council, the Arts Council, or City staff, with the understanding that:

- Minor updates that do not substantively change the Plan (e.g. corrections to grammar/typos, updates to citations, etc.) will be made by City staff on a rolling basis and do not require approval; and
- Requests for significant revisions outside of the regular review cycle may require additional discussion and approvals prior to being completed.

City staff are responsible for overseeing regular, routine updates to the Plan, including compiling project ideas submitted to the City and adding them to the Project Opportunities List on a quarterly basis; and tracking 1% Fund contributions and updating the Plan annually with accurate numbers.

To update the Public Art Project Timeline, staff will schedule a biennial workshop with the Arts Council and ensure that the updated timeline is completed prior to the City's biennial budget and CIP planning process. For example, the 2027-2028 Public Art Project Timeline should be recommended by the Arts Council by March 2026 and incorporated into the draft CIP and department workplans for the 2027-2028 biennium by City staff.

The guiding elements of the Plan – including the goals and the key components of Project Opportunities, Funding, and Public Engagement—should be reviewed every five years but may be revised earlier if directed to do so by the City Council.

## Terms & Definitions

### **Accession**

Adding an artwork to the permanent public art collection.

### **Artist**

Practitioner who produces works of art for commission, acquisition, and/or exhibition.

### **Artwork**

All forms of art conceived in any discipline or medium, including visual, performance, literary, media, and other methods.

### **Conservation**

Repair of damaged or deteriorating artwork to maximize endurance while changing as little to the object as possible.

### **Deaccession**

Formal removal of accessioned artwork from the permanent collection.

### **Donation**

Artwork or sum of money given willingly and without compensation.

### **Maintenance**

Regular routine inspection and care of artwork carried out by a trained technician.

### **Medium**

May refer to both the type of artwork (e.g. painting, sculpture, earthwork, etc.) and the material(s) the artwork is made from.

### **Public Art**

Original works of art that are accessible to the public and that possess functional as well as aesthetic qualities.

### **Public Art Collection**

All works of art owned and accessioned by the City of Mercer Island.

### **Restoration**

Treatment to return an artwork to a known or assumed state, often by the addition of non-original material.

### **Site-Specific**

Artwork specifically designed for and permanently installed in a particular location.

### **Temporary Exhibit**

Work or works of art loaned to the City of Mercer Island for limited exhibition in a public space.

### **Tombstone**

Lists the primary details of an artwork, including the object title, artist, creation date, and acquisition information

## Public Art Project Types

### Earthwork or Landform

Artwork made directly into a landscape by sculpting the land itself or making structures using natural materials such as grass, twigs, and rocks.

### Graphic Arts

Visual artistic expression typically produced on flat surfaces, including drawing, printmaking, banners, and tapestry.

### Light-Based Art

Visual artwork in which light is the main and/or sole medium of creation.

### Mixed Media

Artwork composed with a combination of media or materials.

### Mosaic

Artwork composed of tiles or other small parts traditionally made of ceramic, glass, stone, or other materials.

### Mural

Large-scale painting or other artwork applied directly on or attached to a wall, street, sidewalk, or other surface.

### Painting

Two-dimensional artwork produced by applying paint or other media on a surface.

### Performance Art

Artwork created through actions by the artist and/or other participants that may be live, recorded, spontaneous, and/or scripted.

### Photograph

Image produced by the action of light on a light-sensitive material.

### Sculpture

Three-dimensional artwork produced through carving, modeling, casting, constructing, or other processes using a variety of materials.

### Sound-Based Art

Art that uses sound as both its medium (what it is made of) and its subject (what it is about).

# Appendix A. Project Opportunities List

The updated matrix of public art project opportunities will be included as Appendix A in the final Plan document.

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## Appendix B. Grant Opportunities for Public Art Projects

City staff are responsible for tracking and applying for grants. For some opportunities, City Council authorization may be required before a grant application can be submitted.

Organization	Grant	Funding Level	Match Required	Funding Cycle	Key Elements
National Endowment for the Arts	<a href="#">Our Town</a>	\$25,000 - \$150,000	Yes – equal to grant amount	Annual Due in August	Placemaking Partnerships
	<a href="#">Grants for Arts Projects: LAAs</a>	\$10,000 - \$100,000	Yes – equal to grant amount	Biannual Due Feb. & July	Partnerships
ArtsWA	<a href="#">Grants to Organizations: Art Project</a>	\$2,000 - \$5,000	No	Annual Due in Spring	Programs
WA State Historical Society	<a href="#">Heritage Capital Program</a>	\$10,000 - \$1m	Yes – 50%	Annual 2-stage process	Capital Needs Heritage
4Culture	<a href="#">Doors Open: Facilities</a>	\$250,000 - \$2.5m	No	Annual	Capital Needs Programs Partnerships Racial Equity
	<a href="#">Art Projects</a>	\$2,000 - \$10,000	No	Annual	Programs Partnerships Racial Equity
Port of Seattle	Economic Development Partnership Grant	\$1 per capita	Yes – 50%, ½ can be in-kind support, ½ financial match	Annual	Placemaking
Mercer Island Community Fund	<a href="#">Community Grants</a>	\$500 - \$5,500	No	Annual	Community
Bloomberg Philanthropies	<a href="#">Public Art Challenge</a>	Up to \$1m	No	4-year cycle 2022 last year	Large-Scale Partnerships Community
	<a href="#">Asphalt Art Initiative</a>	Up to \$100,000	No	Annual	Safe Streets Public Space
Project for Public Spaces	<a href="#">Community Placemaking Grants</a>	Varies	No	Annual	Placemaking Public Space

# Appendix C. Guidelines for Administering the Mercer Island Public Art Program

The updated guidelines will be included as Appendix C in the final Plan document as a reference. The guidelines will be a stand-alone document that must be approved by the Mercer Island City Council before taking effect.

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## Appendix D. Public Art Documentation Forms

### Public Art Record

Accession Number (Asset ID) \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Artist \_\_\_\_\_

Type & Medium \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Year Built \_\_\_\_\_ Year Acquired \_\_\_\_\_

Acquisition Method \_\_\_\_\_

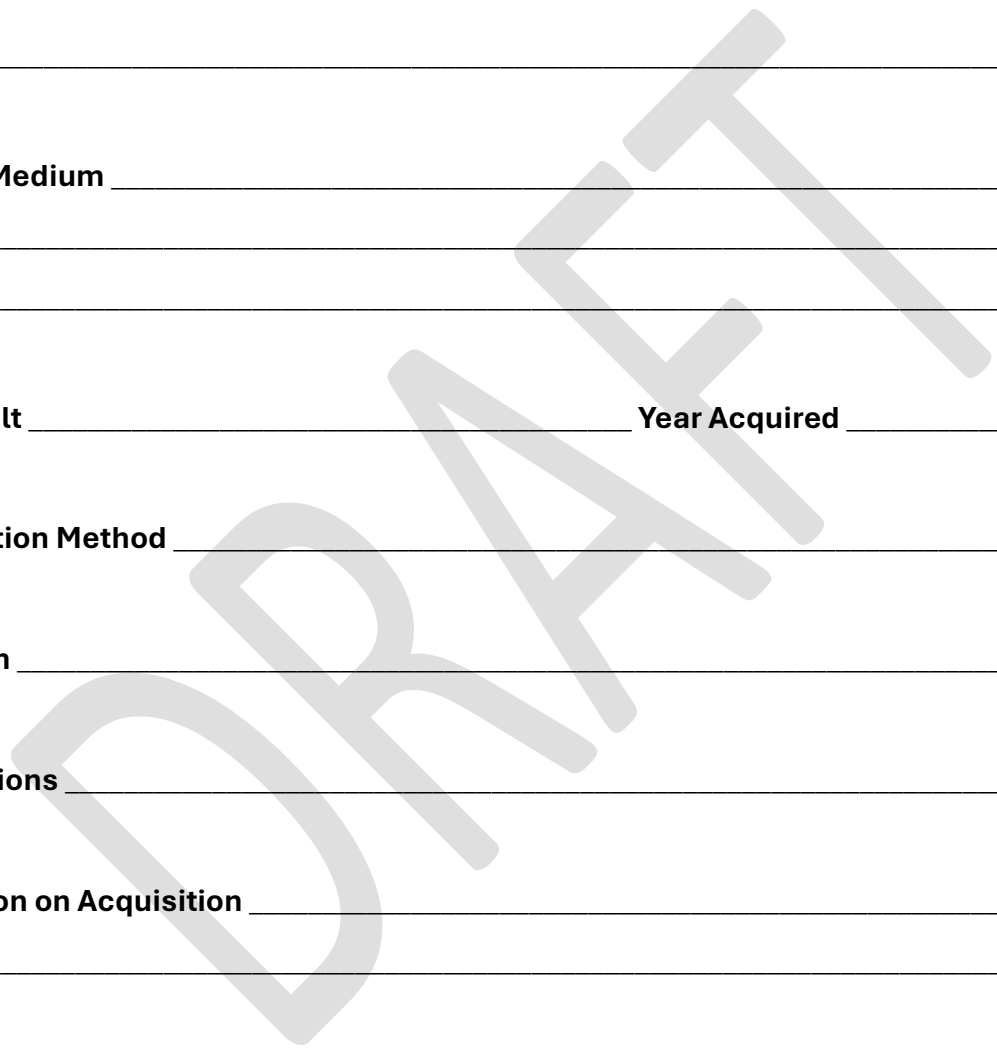
Location \_\_\_\_\_

Dimensions \_\_\_\_\_

Condition on Acquisition \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Value \_\_\_\_\_



## Technical and Maintenance Requirements

Accession Number (Asset ID) \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Artist \_\_\_\_\_

**Material(s)** – Including material thickness; finishing materials (glaze, paint color and type, sanding grit, tool pattern, patina, surface sealer, etc.); welding or jointing materials; etc.

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**Fabrication Method(s)** – Including general construction techniques/methods; welding or jointing methods; casting alloy, wax body, glass or fiber type; finishing methods; etc.

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**Foundation Material/Method(s)**

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**Other maintenance considerations?**

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Log	Project Title	Summary	Keep / Remove / Elevate	Action
1	Transform the Greta Hackett Outdoor Sculpture Gallery (GHOSG) into Mercer Island's Premier All-Season Destination	Imagine GHOSG as a vibrant, all-season hub that caters to people of all ages, interests, and abilities.	Elevate – 7	Renamed GHOSG Activation Plan and added to project timeline.
2	Mural at Aubrey Davis Park Basketball Courts	Mural implemented by local artists, students, community members, and others.	Keep – 6	Combined with other mural opportunities and added to project timeline.
3	Refresh the Town Center Banners	Update the existing banners installed on TC light poles.	Keep – 5 Remove – 1	Kept on opportunities list.
4	Community Artmaking Project	Collaborate with the community to develop and implement a small-scale, permanent public art installation.	Keep – 4 Remove – 2	Kept on opportunities list.
5	Outdoor Gallery Golf	Activate GHOSG with pop-up mini golf holes designed by an artist and/or inspired by artworks in the public art collection.	Keep – 2 Remove – 3	Removed. Could be explored with GHOSG Activation Plan.
6	Aubrey Davis Park Stacks Project	Transform Stacks area into a gathering place, including painting the stacks and installing portable seating, pathways, stage, etc.	Keep – 4 Remove – 1 Elevate – 1	Removed. Donation is no longer viable.
7	<i>The Source</i> Restoration	Fix water feature and refresh landscaping in time for 50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of earthwork.	Keep – 6 Elevate – 1	Added to project timeline.
8	Luther Burbank Park Amphitheater Renovations	Design and implement renovations of 50+ year old facility to better serve future performances and audiences.	Keep – 4 Elevate – 2	Removed. Not a public art project. Staff will continue to track this capital project need and reengage the Arts Council if/when necessary.
9	Public Safety and Maintenance Building AIPP	Integrated public art for future capital project.	Keep – 5 Elevate – 1	Renamed New City Facility (TBD) and added to project timeline.
10	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.	Keep – 5 Remove – 1	Kept on opportunities list.
11	Historic Street Names project	Highlight Mercer Island historic downtown street names.	Keep – 5	Kept on opportunities list.
12	Construct Permanent Stage at Mercerdale Park	Install a permanent stage at the park for City and community events.	Keep – 2 Elevate – 3 Remove – 1	Removed. Not a public art project. Staff will continue to track this capital project desire and reengage the Arts Council if/when necessary.
13	Enhance activities at the Luther Burbank Park Waterfront	Activate the waterfront with arts activities.	Keep – 1 Remove – 3	Removed. Not a public art project.
14	Art Walk at the Greta Hackett Outdoor Sculpture Gallery	Offer tours in GHOSG.	Keep – 3 Remove – 1 Elevate – 1	Removed. Could be explored with GHOSG Activation Plan.
15	Public Art Talks	Offer talks by local artists and/or at works in the public art collection.	Keep – 2 Remove – 3	Incorporated in Public Engagement section of workplan.
16	Local Art Auction Fundraiser	Art exhibit of local artists to raise funding for public art projects.	Keep – 2 Remove – 3	Incorporated in Funding section of workplan.
17	Host Literary Events	Offer literary art events such as poetry readings and showcase works at Community Center gallery.	Keep – 3 Remove – 2	Incorporated in Public Engagement section of workplan.
18	Mural Collaboration with MIHS	Produce a community mural in collaboration with MIHS students.	Keep – 1 Remove / Move – 2 Elevate – 3	Combined with other mural opportunities and added to project timeline.
19	Public Art Collection Curation	Evaluate existing curation and implement improvements.	Keep – 3 Remove / Move – 2 Elevate – 1	Incorporated in Collection Care section of workplan.
20	Public Art Installation at Mercer Island Transit Interchange	Install a sculpture in the roundabout at 77 <sup>th</sup> Avenue SE and North Mercer Way.	Remove – 2 Elevate – 4	Added to project timeline.
21	5-Minute Performances at Arts Council Meetings	Host local artists at Arts Council meetings.	Remove / Move – 4 Elevate – 2	Removed. Not a public art project.
22	Costume/Stage Design Sponsorships for Live Performance	Sponsor costume, set, and other design for live performances.	Keep – 3 Remove – 2	Kept on opportunities list.

Log	Project Title	Summary	Keep / Remove / Elevate	Action
23	Community-Initiated Public Art Projects	Host an annual call for proposals from the community	Keep – 2 Remove / Move – 3	Incorporated into Public Engagement section of workplan.
24	Deane’s Children’s Park AIPP	Integrate art into the Deane’s playground renovation CIP project.	Keep – 2 Elevate – 5	Added to project timeline.
25	Natural Resources + Public Art Collaboration	Public art project in connection with City’s forest stewardship program.	Keep – 3 Remove – 2	Kept on opportunities list.
26	LBP Sport Courts Mural	Add artistic designs and/or mural(s) to the bare walls inside the newly renovated sport court facility.	Keep – 5 Elevate – 1	Combined with other mural opportunities and added to project timeline.

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).

### Public Art Project Timeline

Recognizing that the City has limited financial, staff, volunteer, and other resources, a small number of project opportunities will be pursued during each biennium. City staff will work with the Arts Council Chair and Vice Chair to schedule a biennial Arts Council workshop to recommend projects for the upcoming biennium. Staff are responsible for ensuring the workshop is conducted ahead of Citywide development of the biennial budget and Capital Improvement Program (CIP) including allowing adequate time to engage the Mercer Island community in prioritizing project opportunities if desired by the Arts Council. After the Arts Council identifies a preferred project list, their recommendation will be presented to the City Council for approval via the draft biennial budget and CIP and/or City department workplans as appropriate.

A draft 2025-2030 Public Art Project Timeline is provided below. High-level project descriptions are included on page 2.

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																								

### Collection Care

- Annual Public Art Maintenance: Routine assessment and cleaning of the public art collection.
- 6-Year Workplan Update: Biennial update of the 6-Year Workplan for Art in Public Places.
- Public Art Collection Curation: Evaluate curation of existing public art collection, including siting, security, signage, and engagement opportunities.
- Public Art Reinstallations
  - *Now We Are One* by Philip Levine – Deinstalled in 2020 due to damaged base. Piece has been repaired and will be reinstalled in First Hill Park in 2025.
  - *Fire Flower* by Gizel Berman – Deinstalled in 2020 due to vandalism/attempted theft. Piece has been restored and will be reinstalled in Town Center in 2026 (tentatively planned for installation at Xing Hua development, 77<sup>th</sup> and 78<sup>th</sup> Avenues SE).
  - *Island Poles* by Steven Jensen – Deinstalled in 2024 due to upcoming construction of the Town Center Commuter Parking project. Reinstallation location and details TBC.
- *The Source* Restoration: Restore *The Source* by John Hoge in preparation for the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of this earthwork. Project identified in the 2025-2030 CIP for 2029-2030.

### Art in Public Places (AIPP) Projects

- Luther Burbank Park Waterfront – *Mercer Island Medallions*: Community engagement and design completed in 2023. Artwork fabrication and installation will take place during construction of the Luther Burbank Park Waterfront Improvements (LBWI) capital project, currently planned for 2025-2026.
- Deane’s Children’s Playground Renovation: Visioning process to redesign the Deane’s Children’s Park Playground begins in 2025, and construction is planned for 2026-2027. The redesign offers nature-themed art integration opportunities, including potential for building off *Kenton’s Dragon* by Kenton Pies, the popular dragon sculpture/play structure at the park.

### Other Public Art Projects

- Greta Hackett Outdoor Sculpture Gallery (GHOSG) Activation Plan: Develop a phased plan for implementing improvements at the Greta Hackett Outdoor Sculpture Gallery, including temporary arts activations, curation of existing artwork, enhancements to park areas, etc. Project identified in the 2025-2030 CIP for 2027-2028.
- Community Mural Project: Develop a mural project in partnership with Mercer Island High School, local artists/community groups, and others at a highly visible location. Ideas for locations include Aubrey Davis Park basketball courts and Luther Burbank Park pickleball courts.

### Tracking Projects

- New City Facility AIPP (TBD): Early design underway to construct a new Public Safety and Maintenance Building, but funding, timing for construction, and other elements still unknown. City staff will update the Arts Council if/when more details are available.
- Mercer Island Transit Interchange Art: Explore opportunities for enhancing the roundabout at 77<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE and North Mercer Way. City staff will update the Arts Council if/when more details are available.

## **GUIDELINES FOR ADMINISTERING THE CITY OF MERCER ISLAND PUBLIC ART PROGRAM**

### **Overview**

These guidelines establish the procedures for administering the City of Mercer Island (“City”) public art program.

The Mercer Island Arts Council (“Arts Council”) and City staff oversee the public art program and are responsible for ensuring it is fair, equitable, and appropriate given the scope of a specific project and the evolving needs of the Mercer Island community.

The Mercer Island City Council (“City Council”) is responsible for approving public art projects and, when necessary, may request additional process steps be taken outside those outlined in these guidelines.

This document outlines the following procedures:

- **Developing a Public Art Project** – The general process for seeking approval and launching a public art commission.
- **Evaluating Submittals for Artist/Artwork Selection** – The general process for evaluating artists and/or artworks submitted for a permanent public art acquisition or a request to temporarily exhibit art in public space.
- **Accepting Community-Initiated Project Proposals** – The general process for reviewing and accepting community-generated proposals for a permanent public art acquisition or a request to temporarily exhibit art in public space.
- **Deaccessioning Public Art** – The general process for withdrawing a work or works from the public art collection.



## GUIDELINES FOR ADMINISTERING THE CITY OF MERCER ISLAND PUBLIC ART PROGRAM

### Developing a Public Art Project

#### Procedure

When a new opportunity to commission a permanent work of public art is identified, the following process will be used to seek approval and launch the project.

#### 1. Establish a Public Art Committee.

The Arts Council, in collaboration with City staff, will appoint a Public Art Committee consisting of 1-2 Arts Council members, City staff, and relevant project stakeholders, which could include other City board members, Mercer Island residents, outside consultants, and/or others interested in the project.

#### 2. Develop the proposed project scope.

The Public Art Committee will propose an appropriate project scope that may include, but not be limited to, the following:

- Artist selection methods: Methods may include Open Competition, Limited Competition, or Direct Selection.
- Project goals: Identify metrics for gauging the success of the project, such as goals for artist/artwork representation, community engagement, use of sustainable materials, etc.
- Project site and context: Describe the project's location, intent, and historical, cultural, or other significance (if relevant). If a specific location is not proposed, identify potential sites available for the project.
- Public benefit: Describe the expected public benefit of the project, including the significance of the selected site, theme, etc.
- Project budget and schedule: Include major milestones such as Selection Panel review period, City Council approval date, and estimated project completion/installation date.
- Submittal requirements: Basic requirements are outlined at the end of this section. Additional materials may be required based on the scope and needs of the project.
- Proposed Selection Panel: Identify individuals to serve on the Selection Panel, the group responsible for reviewing artist/artwork submittals and recommending an artist/artwork for selection for the project. (More information about the Selection Panel is detailed in the "Evaluating Submittals for a Public Art Project" section.)

#### 3. Seek approval of project scope.

Once the proposed project scope is developed, the Public Art Committee will present it to the Arts Council for review and recommendation. Depending on the scope of the project, the Public Art Committee may seek endorsement from other City Boards or Commissions before presenting to the Arts Council. City staff will transmit the Arts Council's final recommendation to the City Council for authorization to open the project for submittals.

#### 4. Open the project for submittals.

Following City Council approval, City staff will develop and distribute a Request for Qualifications or Proposals based on the approved project scope.

## GUIDELINES FOR ADMINISTERING THE CITY OF MERCER ISLAND PUBLIC ART PROGRAM

### Submittal Requirements

Standard submittal requirements outlined in a Request for Qualifications include:

- **Narrative of artwork intent/approach:** The narrative should articulate the submitter's intent for the project, including how their work, process, and experience relate to the project. The narrative should explain how the proposed Artist/Artwork will meet the stated goals of the project.
- **Artist's vision/approach:** Describe the vision for the project, including the submitter's specific approach to the site, the themes, and/or the Mercer Island community in general. Include the submitter's personal and/or artistic approach to promoting Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Sustainability.
- **Community engagement approach:** Summarize how the submitter intends to engage the community in the creative process.
- **Artist's statement:** Provide a brief bio that can be used in future communications and promotions about the project.
- **Resume/CV:** Submit a current, professional resume. Artist Teams should submit resumes for each team member compiled into one document.
- **Images of previous work:** Provide up to five (5) images of previous work by the Artist or Artist Team that demonstrate the submitter's ability to complete the project. (JPEG format, 1920 pixels maximum on the longest size, 72 dpi, with compression settings resulting in the best image quality where the file size remains under 2MB.)
- **Ability to work within city government structure:** Describe the submitter's ability to successfully execute a public art project, including previous work with local governments or other experience working with municipal staff, elected official, volunteer boards, or others to complete public sector projects.
- **References:** Submit three (3) current references, including the reference's name, phone, e-mail, and title as well as a brief description of the reference's professional association to the submitter.

If the City decides to distribute a Request for Proposals, the following additional submittal materials will be required:

- **Artwork concept design(s):** Provide concept designs, including potential site locations, for the proposed artwork(s). Include up to five (5) images, including sketches, plans, models, renderings, precedents, or concepts.
- **Cost estimates:** Provide cost estimates for each proposed art piece, including best estimates of current year material, artist time, and installation costs.

## GUIDELINES FOR ADMINISTERING THE CITY OF MERCER ISLAND PUBLIC ART PROGRAM

### Evaluating Submittals for Artist/Artwork Selection

#### Procedure

When the City receives submittals for a permanent or temporary public art project, a Selection Panel will review submittals and recommend a preferred selection. The Selection Panel may consist of the following individuals:

- Working artist generally recognized for producing quality work
- Resident with special interest in the proposed project – Based on the project scope and location
- General resident
- Mercer Island Arts Council Member – Serves as the Chair of the Selection Panel
- Other Mercer Island Board or Commission Member(s) – Based on the project scope and location
- Mercer Island City Council Member
- City Staff – Non-voting member
- Other individuals as appropriate

Once a Selection Panel is identified, the following process will be administered.

#### 1. Review submittals.

Panelists will individually review and preliminarily score submittals using the Four Public Art Pillars Selection Criteria outlined at the end of this section.

#### 2. Convene the Selection Panel.

After individually reviewing the submittals, Panelists will meet to review each submittal, compare their preliminary scores, and rank the submittals. Depending on the Panel's rankings and the scope of the project, the Panel may choose to invite a finalist or finalists to a second-round interview. Finalists will be compensated with an honorarium, the amount of which will be determined based on the overall project budget but will not be less than \$500 per finalist.

#### 3. Seek approval of artist or artwork selection.

Once the Selection Panel reaches a consensus, the Chair will report the Panel's decision to the Arts Council for review and recommendation. City staff will transmit the Arts Council's recommendation to the City Council for approval and budget appropriation (if necessary).

#### 4. Implement the project.

Upon City Council approval, City staff will notify all finalists of the result and move forward with the appropriate administrative steps (execute a contract, complete the donor transfer, etc.).

#### Conflict of Interest

To avoid any conflict of interest or appearance thereof, any Panelist having an association with an applicant must state their conflict of interest. The Selection Panel Chair will determine if the association exempts the Panelist from discussion or dismissal from the Selection Panel.

**GUIDELINES FOR ADMINISTERING THE CITY OF MERCER ISLAND PUBLIC ART PROGRAM**

**Rejection of All Submittals**

If the Selection Panel finds that no submittal conforms to the Selection Criteria, it may recommend that the Arts Council:

- Reject all submittals and request a new solicitation;
- Cancel the project; or
- Another option as identified by the Arts Council and/or City staff.

**Four Public Art Pillars Selection Criteria**

The criteria for selecting artists and/or artwork are based on Four Public Art Pillars outlined below.

**Commented [SB1]:** Does the Arts Council want each pillar to be weighted evenly?

Public Art Pillar	Evaluation Questions	Score
<b>Aesthetic</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quality – Does the proposal demonstrate high artistic merit?</li> <li>• Representation – Will the proposal add new mediums, materials, artmaking processes, styles/genres, and/or artists to the public art collection?</li> <li>• Originality and Innovation – Will the proposal bring something fresh and unique to the public art collection?</li> <li>• Sustainability – Is resource conservation thoughtfully considered for the design and creation of the proposed project?</li> </ul>	
<b>Place</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Context – Does the proposal demonstrate understanding of the project site and its historical, cultural, and environmental context?</li> <li>• Functionality – How will the proposal integrate into and/or enhance site?</li> <li>• Sense of Identity – Will the proposal enhance and/or cultivate a strong sense of place for residents and visitors?</li> </ul>	
<b>Connection</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inspiration – Will the proposal provoke feeling in the viewer?</li> <li>• Collaboration – Does the proposal provide opportunities for Mercer Island residents, community groups, and others to participate in the public art process?</li> <li>• Diversity – Will the proposed project resonate with people of diverse abilities, backgrounds, and beliefs?</li> <li>• Community Cohesion – Will the proposal foster community dialogue and enhance community members’ understanding of each other?</li> <li>• Inclusion &amp; Accessibility – Does the proposal provide a safe and inclusive public art experience for all?</li> </ul>	
<b>Longevity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staying Power – Does the proposal demonstrate appeal for future Mercer Island generations?</li> <li>• Collection Care – Can the proposed project be completed and maintained within budget?</li> </ul>	
<b>Total Score (out of 100)</b>		

## GUIDELINES FOR ADMINISTERING THE CITY OF MERCER ISLAND PUBLIC ART PROGRAM

### Accepting Community-Initiated Project Proposals

#### Procedure

Occasionally, members of the Arts Council, the community, or local organizations may propose a public art project for the City’s consideration. The City may choose to establish a formal “Call for Project Proposals” or accept proposals on a rolling basis. To properly evaluate these proposals, the following process will be used.

#### 1. Intake proposal.

City staff review project proposals and determine, in consultation with Arts Council leadership, whether the proposal should be transmitted to the Arts Council for review.

#### 2. Present proposal to the Arts Council.

When a proposal is sent to the Arts Council for review, the proposal author will be invited to present to the Arts Council at a regular or special meeting. Following their presentation, the author will be excused from the meeting, and the Arts Council will review the proposal using the Four Public Art Pillars Selection Criteria and either:

- Preliminarily accept the proposal;
- Reject the proposal;
- Seek additional information from the proposal author; or
- Request other next steps as identified by the Arts Council and/or City staff.

#### 3. Advance the project proposal.

If the Arts Council decides to preliminarily accept the proposal, they may choose to recommend the following:

- Add the project to the Project Opportunities List for consideration in a future biennium;
- Prioritize the project in the current biennium; or
- Another option as identified by the Arts Council and/or City staff.

Following preliminary acceptance, City staff will seek relevant approvals, which may include from other City departments impacted by the proposed project and the City Council.

#### Proposal Requirements

Community-initiated project proposals will include, but not be limited to, the following materials:

- Project overview
- Proposed location
- Design concepts
- Anticipated budget and funding strategy
- Demonstration of community support
- Description of public benefit
- Preferred project timeline

## GUIDELINES FOR ADMINISTERING THE CITY OF MERCER ISLAND PUBLIC ART PROGRAM

### Deaccessioning Public Art

Deaccession is a procedure to permanently withdraw an artwork from the public art collection. All artworks owned by the City are eligible for deaccession. (For donated works, all legal documents relating to the donation will be consulted prior to beginning the deaccession process.)

City staff are responsible for assessing the public art collection and recommending deaccession needs to the Arts Council. Works will be carefully and impartially evaluated within the context of the entire collection, and staff may consult other qualified individuals, including the artist, an art conservator, an appraiser, a curator, and/or the City Attorney's office, before recommending deaccession. Additionally, staff may consider notifying community members and groups that a work is being considered for deaccession.

#### Criteria for Deaccession

A deaccession may be recommended for one or more of the following reasons:

- The artwork is being displaced from its current location and cannot be re-sited.
- The artwork has been damaged or has deteriorated, and repair is impractical or unfeasible.
- The condition or security of the artwork cannot be reasonably guaranteed by the City.
- The artwork endangers public safety.
- The artwork is not, or is only rarely, exhibited due to the lack of a suitable installation site.
- The artwork has been determined to be significantly incompatible or inferior in the context of the public art collection.
- The City wishes to replace the artwork with work of more significance by the same artist.
- The artwork requires excessive maintenance or has faults of design or workmanship.
- In the case of site-specific artwork, the artwork is destroyed by severely altering its relationship to the site.

#### Seeking Approval to Deaccession

After a work has been identified for deaccession, City staff will present the need to the Arts Council for review and recommendation to the City Council. Upon receiving the Arts Council's recommendation, City staff will transmit the recommendation to the City Council for approval at a regularly scheduled meeting. Once City Council approves the recommendation, City staff will move forward with finalizing the deaccession, including coordinating deinstallation needs, updating the public art record, and messaging to the public.

#### Disposing of Deaccessioned Artwork

Depending on the condition of the artwork and the conditions of the deaccession, City staff and the Arts Council may recommend that the work be:

- Returned to the artist;
- Traded for one or more works of comparable value by the artist;
- Sold in compliance with law and policies governing surplus property;
- Responsibly destroyed; or
- Responsibly disposed of in some other manner not described here.

# GUIDELINES FOR THE ACQUISITION PROGRAM OF ART IN PUBLIC PLACES

Item 3.

## MERCER ISLAND ARTS COUNCIL

These guidelines establish the process to be followed for the acquisition of art for public places for the City of Mercer Island. The process assures objective and equitable artist participation based on the scope of a given project as well as public participation in artist selection. It is the responsibility of the Mercer Island Arts Council to see that the process is properly administered and that the final decision on art selection is the most appropriate choice.

Definition of terms used in this guideline document. See Appendix I

Acquisition of art for public places is a three phase process.

- 1 - ART ACQUISITION PROGRAM - A document identifying the who, how, what, and why of acquiring art for a particular project.
- 2 - ARTIST SELECTION - The process by which an artist is chosen for a particular art project.
- 3 - IMPLEMENTATION - The preparing of paperwork to cause the artist to begin work, the monitoring of artwork progress and installation, and the organizing of the presentation ceremony.

### PHASE 1. PROGRAM FOR ACQUISITION OF ART IN PUBLIC PLACES

**Outlined as “Developing a Public Art Project” in the Guidelines for Administering the City of Mercer Island Public Art Program document.**

1.1 Program Writing Committee - The Chair of the MIAC will name a three to six member Program Writing Committee to each project for which a public artwork is to be commissioned. The Committee will be chaired by the MIAC member and includes the professional designer who is responsible for the total project, an interested Mercer Island citizen, a MIAC staff member, and/or others chosen from City elected officials and City staff.

1.2 Content - The Art Acquisition Program shall include and not be limited to the following information.

1.2.1 Artist Selection Methods - The Program Writing Committee will determine which of the following is appropriate for artist selection. The choice of selection method is guided by the scope and needs of the project. **Open Competition:** Any artist is welcome to receive an Artwork Prospectus and submit a proposal. Limitations appropriate to a given project may be added by the Program Writing Committee and will be written into the prospectus. **Limited Competition:** A limited number of artists, selected by the Program Writing Committee, will be invited to submit proposals. **Direct Selection:** The Program Writing Committee shall select one artist to submit either an existing artwork or create a new artwork for a project. If a project site requires a collaboration of artists, only the direct selection method will be applied.

1.2.2 Site and Project Description - A description of the specific setting for the artwork including the intent of the project. If the setting is not a specific location, identify potential sites available for the artwork. Include a descriptive statement of a historic nature (if any) pertinent to the site.

1.2.3 Description of Public Benefit - A statement of expected public benefit from the artwork and reason for having artwork at this site. Address any special considerations such as commemorative art for individual or event, express a specific mood, is the artwork to be informational or educational, should there be a participatory, or passive response from the observer. List any maintenance and safety restrictions. The artist shall visit the site and

coordinate with the City, project architect, contractor on the specific location and installation of the artwork.

Item 3.

1.2.4 Funding and Budget Breakdown for Artwork - The MIAC staff will furnish the Program Writing Committee with this information.

1.2.5 Artist's Entry - See Appendix II for contents of artist's portfolio.

1.2.6 Artwork Time Schedule - This will include and not be limited to the following. (Consult the MIAC staff in setting dates.)

1. Date for Program & Artist Selection Panel (ASP) presentation to MIAC for vote
2. Date for Program & Artist Selection Panel (ASP) presentation to MICC for vote
3. Date when artwork entries are due back to MIAC
4. Date for MIAC vote on finalist chosen by ASP
5. Date for MICC vote on contract with artist (finalist)
6. Tentative date of artwork installation completion
7. Tentative date of artwork presentation ceremony

1.2.7 Installation Resources - Identify resources available to assist the artist with artwork installation. Consult with MIAC staff.

1.3 Program Approval - The Chair of the Program Writing Committee shall present the Program to the MIAC for approval or revision. After MIAC approval, the Program shall be presented by MIAC staff to the City Council for their vote. Upon City Council approval, the Program Writing Committee is dismissed, having completed their assignment.

1.4 Artwork Prospectus and Requests for Proposals - The MIAC staff and the Chair of the Program Writing Committee will draw up an Artwork Prospectus based on the Program. The staff will also make distribution of "requests for proposals" to artists through direct mailings and public notice in accordance with the approved artists selection method and will send an Artwork Prospectus to artists who respond to proposal requests.

## **PHASE 2. ARTIST SELECTION PROCESS**

**Outlined as "Evaluating Submittals for Artist/Artwork Selection" in the Guidelines for Administering the City of Mercer Island Public Art Program document.**

- The overriding criterion in the selection of the artist is to assure that artwork is of the highest quality.

2.1 Artist Selection Panel - An Artist Selection Panel (ASP) of six members is chosen by the MIAC Chair and staff and recommended to the MIAC for approval. After MIAC approval, the ASP shall be presented to the City Council for vote. Upon City Council approval, this panel will review the art acquisition program for this project and visit the artwork site. Then the panel will review the artists' entries and select the one which in their estimation most closely complements the specifications of the Art Acquisition Program, illustrates creative skills, and evidences high quality work. Each ASP member will represent one of the following interests.

1. An artist generally recognized for producing quality work



- 2. A Mercer Island citizen with special interest in the proposed site
- 3. A MIAC member (will serve as Chair of the ASP)
- 4. A Mercer Island Design Commission member
- 5. A lay citizen of the City
- 6. A Mercer Island City Council Member
- 7. A City staff advisor (non-voting member)

2.1.1 Artwork Proposal Review and Selection - The ASP will review each artist's proposal and use an Artist Selection Checklist Form in the review process. See Appendix III for

Artist Selection Checklist Form. The ASP will meet to discuss applicants' credentials and review slides of artwork, again using the Artist Selection Checklist Form in coming to a decision. To avoid any conflict of interest or appearance thereof, the MIAC requests that a panelist having any association with an applicant, so state. The Chair will decide if this association will exempt the panelist from discussion or cause dismissal from the Committee.

2.1.2 The Approval Process - The ASP Chair shall report the Panel's findings to the MIAC as follows.

- 1. The ASP selects an artist's artwork in accordance with the Program for Acquisition of Art for Public Places. At this time the artist's entry and portfolio will be shown to the MIAC. If the ASP finds that no artist conforms to the requirements, it may recommend further MIAC studies to promote public art in this specific project (i.e. amend the Program review budget, etc.). See Appendix IV for sample letters to the MIAC.
- 2. The MIAC will review the ASP's findings and approve the Panel's ascending recommendation or act accordingly on their descending recommendation.
- 3. Upon MIAC approval of an artist, the MIAC staff will present this selection to the City Council for authorization to enter into contract.
- 4. The Chair of the ASP will inform the artist of his/her selection in writing. All applicants will receive notification of the artist selection result with thanks for their participation.

**PHASE 3. IMPLEMENTATION**

**Staff propose removing this process information from the Guidelines, as these are administrative tasks that will be accomplished by City staff (contracting, construction monitoring, etc.). The Arts Council may recommend documenting this information in the 6-Year Art in Public Places Workplan if desired.**

3.1 Contract - The MIAC staff, in consultation with the ASP, is to assist the City Attorney in drafting the contract between the City of Mercer Island and the artist. With the completion of the contract, the ASP is dismissed, having completed their responsibilities.

3.1.1 The MIAC staff is to provide, as a minimum, the following information in sufficient form and detail for inclusion in the contractual agreement by the City Attorney.

- 1. A description of the art work to be acquired, such as sketches, written descriptions, models, etc., being in a form that can be attached to or identified specifically by reference, be incorporated in the contract.

2. Identify critical review points and establish a progress and payment schedule of the fabrication of the art work. A completion date will be decided upon by the artist and the MIAC staff member.

3. Identify, with the artist's assistance and advice, and with professional counsel as necessary, the structural support, utilities required, and other logistic measures (including special installation equipment) required of the work according to the artist's concept and intent.

4. All risks such as, but not limited to, fabrication, transit, and installation are the responsibility of the artist until the work has been accepted by the City.

5. Schedules and scope of services to be provided by the City.

6. These three (3) documents will be appended to the contract - "Technical and Maintenance Record," "Public Report Format," and "Documentation for Public Art Collection." See Appendix V.

3.2 Accomplishment of the Artwork

3.2.1 The ASP Chair and the MIAC staff are to monitor the artwork progress including the following.

- 1. Verbally report artwork progress and contractual conformance to the MIAC.
- 2. With the artist's counsel, keep support service participants advised as to when their services are needed.

3.3 Presentation of the Artwork

3.3.1 The MIAC staff is to plan the presentation ceremony and promote event attendance to the community.

3.3.2 Particular recognition is to be given to the following.

- 1. The artist
- 2. Funding sources
- 3. Elected officials who took official action to make the artwork possible
- 4. Artist Selection Panel
- 5. City staff assisting (by name with assistance provided)
- 6. MIAC
- 7. Program Committee

Definition of terms used in the document.

**“Terms and Definitions” and “Public Art Project Types” now included in the 6-Year Art in Public Places Workplan document.**

**Artist** - A person generally recognized by critics and peers as a professional who produces quality artwork on a regular basis.

**Artwork** - Includes, and is not limited to, a sculpture, monument, mural, fresco, relief, painting, fountain, banner, mosaic, ceramic, weaving, carving, and stained glass. Artwork would normally not include landscaping, paving, architectural ornamentation or signage unless the services of an artist were required for these tasks.

**City** - City of Mercer Island

**Art in Public Places** - Any expression by an artist of visual works of art available to the public in an open City-owned facility in areas designated as public areas, or on non-City property if the work of art is installed or financed, either whole or in-part, by the City.

## APPENDIX II

Artist Portfolio Contents

**Outlined as “Submittal Requirements” under “Developing a Public Art Project” in the Guidelines for Administering the City of Mercer Island Public Art Program document.**

1. Artist's resume
2. Maximum of twenty (20) 35mm slides of completed work in a plastic slide sheet, numbered and marked for front/top and artist's last name
3. A sheet of paper correlating to the numbered slides, listing title, date of work, medium, size, and other relevant information.
4. A written proposal, design considerations (scaled if possible), conception sketches, and proposed location of artwork on 8 1/2" x 11" paper describing the concept and materials for this project and giving the proposed installation date
5. Two (2) references from public, private, and/or corporate entities.
6. A self-addressed, stamped envelope adequate in size for the return of visual materials.

No other materials will be presented to the Artist Selection Panel.

ARTIST SELECTION PANEL CHECKLIST

**Outlined as “Four Public Art Pillars Selection Criteria” under “Evaluating Submittals for Artist/Artwork Selection” in the Guidelines for Administering the City of Mercer Island Public Art Program document.**

Indicate your evaluation of the artist’s credentials based on information included in the artist’s portfolio and slides.

yes      no

1. The artist is generally recognized by critics and peers as a professional who routinely creates high quality work.

2. The artist evidences that she/he has entered into prior artwork contractual agreements with public, private, or corporate entities.

3. The artist evidences that prior commissioned work was completed on schedule and within budget.

low                      high  
1 2 3 4 5 6

4. The artist evidences (e.g. slides) that she/he has produced artwork which is sensitive and responsive to a broad range of the public.

5. The artist’s entry shows a sensitivity to the public benefit concept as described in the Program for Acquisition of Art in Public Places. Reference paragraph 1.2.3.

6. The artist has crafted an artwork entry which is in scale with the site and/or in scale with it’s intended use and does not interfere with traffic patterns of any sort.

7. The artist’s entry recognizes issues of theft, vandalism, weather, and excessive maintenance costs.

8. The artist has experience in (score higher) or knowledge of (score lower) the medium chosen for his/her design.

9. The artist’s written concept, sketches, and chosen material express a compatible strain of thought.

10. The artist’s entry is compatible with the prospectus.

TOTAL

Artist Selection Panel Recommendation Letters to MIAC  
**Eliminated from updated Guidelines document.**

~~TO: Mercer Island Arts Council~~

~~—The Artist Selection Panel having reviewed all the entries submitted to the artwork portion of the project has selected as the winning artist.~~

~~Signed by the Artist Selection Panel~~

~~OR...~~

~~—TO: Mercer Island Arts Council~~

~~—The Artist Selection Panel having reviewed all the entries submitted to the artwork portion of the project finds that no artist entry conforms to the Art Acquisition Program requirements and recommends the MIAC re-study all aspects of artwork acquisition for the project to assure that public art be included in this project.~~

~~Signed by the Artist Selection Panel~~

CITY OF MERCER ISLAND ARTS COUNCIL  
Documentation For Public Art Collection

Item 3.

Items now included in "Documentation" section of "Collection Care" in the 6-Year Art in Public Places Workplan document.

- Public Report Format renamed "Artist Statement;" no specific form required.
- Updated Public Art Record and Technical & Maintenance Requirements forms included as workplan appendices.

Accession No. \_\_\_\_\_

Classification \_\_\_\_\_

ARTIST \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ DOB \_\_\_\_\_

TITLE of Work \_\_\_\_\_

Edition No. \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

Location \_\_\_\_\_

Medium/Material (include a description on back of page) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Dimensions: Height \_\_\_\_\_ Width \_\_\_\_\_  
Depth \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Aquisition Commission \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Purchase \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_

Condition on Aquisition \_\_\_\_\_

Date Examined \_\_\_\_\_

Appraised Value \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Appraised Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Company \_\_\_\_\_

Placement of Artwork (limitations regarding sunlight, heat, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Maintenance (cleaning agent and procedure, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Maintenance Record: \_\_\_\_\_

Deaccessioned: Authorized by \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_

Documentation completed by \_\_\_\_\_

PUBLIC REPORT FORMAT

To facilitate the understanding of works of art within public agencies, the Artist shall make a statement regarding the Work. This statement shall be used in public art brochures and in public presentations.

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**TECHNICAL AND MAINTENANCE RECORD  
3-DIMENSIONAL**

Name of Artist \_\_\_\_\_ Accession No. \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Work \_\_\_\_\_

**Special Methods and Materials Utilized in Execution of Artwork**

A. Material \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Material Thickness \_\_\_\_\_

B. Welding or Jointing Method \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

C. Welding Rod Alloy or Joint Material \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

D. Casting Alloy, Wax Body, Glass or Fiber Type \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

E. Technique or Construction Method (attach fabrication drawings)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

F. Material Finish (glaze, paint color and type, sanding grit, tool pattern, patina, surface sealer) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

G. Foundation Installation Structure (including bolt/pin size and grout) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

H. Is there any other consideration pertinent to the maintenance of this piece? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



**Policy**

Deaccessioning is a procedure to permanently withdraw for the withdrawal of an artwork from the public collection. All artworks owned by the City are eligible for deaccession. (For donated works, all legal documents relating to the donation will be consulted prior to beginning the deaccession process.)

City staff are responsible for assessing the public art collection and recommending deaccession needs to the Arts Council. Works will be carefully and impartially evaluated within the context of the entire collection, and staff may consult other qualified individuals, including the artist, an art conservator, an appraiser, a curator, and/or the City Attorney's office, before recommending deaccession. Additionally, staff may consider notifying community members and groups that a work is being considered for deaccession. Deaccessioning should be considered only after a significant amount of time has elapsed from the date of installation of permanent works and acceptance in the case of portable works or under special circumstances (e.g., the piece has been damaged beyond repair.) Deaccessioning will be considered only after a careful and impartial evaluation of the artwork within the context of the collection as a whole. At the beginning of the process, District staff will make reasonable effort to notify any living artist whose work is being considered for deaccessioning.

**Eligible Artworks**

All artworks owned by Mercer Island whether acquired through the Commission, a Percent for Art Program, donation, or any other method. In the case of donated artworks, all legal documents relating to the donation will be consulted prior to beginning the process.

**Criteria for Deaccessioning**

A PAAC may consider the deaccessioning of artwork for one or more of the following reasons in the event that it cannot be resited: A deaccession may be considered for one or more of the following reasons:

1. A work is not, or is only rarely, on display because of lack of a suitable site.
2. The condition or security of the artwork cannot be reasonable guaranteed.
3. The artwork has been damaged or has deteriorated and repair is impractical or unfeasible.
4. The artwork endangers public safety.
5. In the case of site specific artwork, the artwork is destroyed by severely altering its relationship to the site.
6. The artwork has been determined to be significantly incompatible or inferior in the context of the collection.
7. The City wishes to replace the artwork with work of more significance by the same artist.
8. The artwork requires excessive maintenance or has faults of design or workmanship.

**Deaccessioning Procedure Seeking Approval to Deaccession**

After a work has been identified for deaccession, City staff will present the need to the Arts Council for review and recommendation to the City Council. Upon receiving the Arts Council's recommendation, City staff will transmit the recommendation to the City Council for approval at a regularly scheduled meeting. Once City Council approves the

~~recommendation, City staff will move forward with finalizing the deaccession, including coordinating deinstallation needs, updating the public art record, and messaging to the public.~~

~~A Deaccessioning Subcommittee will be appointed by the Arts Council when necessary. This subcommittee will consist of no more than five arts professionals/experts (including one member of the Public Art Committee and an art conservator or curator).~~

~~As part of the ongoing evaluation of the collection, the Deaccessioning Subcommittee of the Public Art Committee will review the collection when deemed appropriate. The Arts Council staff will be responsible for recommending artworks for consideration/evaluation for deaccessioning:~~

- ~~1. The Subcommittee determines that an artwork meets one of the criteria for deaccessioning listed above:~~
- ~~2. The Council staff prepares a report that includes:
  - a) The opinion of legal staff on any restrictions which may apply to this specific work:
  - b) Approval of appropriate city authority
  - c) Written recommendation for deaccessioning:~~
- ~~3. The Public Art Committee will review the report. The Committee may seek additional information regarding the work from artists, art galleries, curators, appraisers or other professionals prior to making a recommendation to the full Arts Council:~~
- ~~4. A recommendation for action is sent to the City Council for approval at a regularly scheduled meeting:~~

### **Disposing of Deaccessioned Artwork**

~~Depending on the condition of the artwork and the conditions of the deaccession, City staff and the Arts Council may recommend that the work be:~~

- ~~• Returned to the artist;~~
- ~~• Traded for one or more works of comparable value by the artist;~~
- ~~• Sold in compliance with law and policies governing surplus property;~~
- ~~• Responsibly destroyed; or~~
- ~~• Responsibly disposed of in some other manner not described here.~~

~~Upon confirmation of its recommendation, a PAAC shall consider the following actions:~~

- ~~1. Sale or Trade
  - a) Artist will be given first option to purchase or trade artwork:
  - b) Sale may be through auction, gallery resale or direct bidding by individuals, in compliance with appropriate law and policies governing surplus property.
  - c) Trade may be through artist, gallery, museum or other institutions for one or more artwork(s) of comparable value by the same artist.~~

- ~~d) — No works of art shall be sold or traded to members or staff of the District, consistent with District conflict of interest policies.~~
- ~~e) — Proceeds from the sale of a work of art shall be returned to a departmental account form, which the original purchase was made if acquired through the District or a % for Art Program. Funds from the sale of gifts shall go into a Public Art Trust Fund for future artwork projects. Any pre-existing contractual agreements between the artist and the District regarding resale shall be honored.~~
  
- ~~2. — Destruction of work deteriorated or damaged beyond repair and deemed to be of negligible value.~~
  
- ~~3. — If the council is unable to dispose of the artwork in a manner outline above, the work shall be donated to a nonprofit organization or otherwise disposed of as council sees fit.~~



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

Arts Council Hybrid Meeting  
January 15, 2025



## 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

Illustration of *Gateway Figures* by Garth Edwards

# 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)

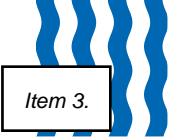
## **Accepting Community-Initiated Project Proposals**

- 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

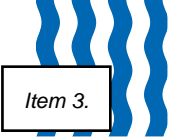


Item 3.

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 Orla 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. Replace that.
2	Refresh the Teen Center Barriers	Update the existing barriers installed on TC sign areas.	Place Connection	Yes	No	No	Yes - Teen Center businesses, MVAL	No	None	Current barriers installed in 2018. May want to consider something more permanent than and barriers. If a project that fits the space.
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	
4	Outdoor Gallery Gift	Refresh OROSO with pop-up gift items designed by an artist and 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 project may impact implementation.
5	Aubrey Davis Park Streets Project	Streets area with gathering place, including parking, seating, and moving 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 Lullwater Park	No	None	Has Source listed in 2020.	Could be considered with ADP Lullwater Park, Replacement and ADA improvements (28-30).
7	Custom Sculpture Park Interpretive Installations	Design and implement interpretive art pieces for the park.	Aesthetic Place Connection Longevity	Yes	Yes - Currently 25-30 CIP	Yes - Seattle Parks Department, Friends of Lullwater Park	No	None	None	Project may be eligible for State Quarter or other grant funding but requires close and early collaboration 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
2	Public Safety and Maintenance Building Art	Integrated public art for future capital project.	Aesthetic Place	Yes	Yes	Yes - Future project in CIP	None	None	None	Could be a good opportunity for partnership with other departments.
14	LIP Bull Building Art	Create a "signature artwork" from the Bull Building to the west end of the park.	Aesthetic Place	Yes	Yes	Yes - LIP Bull Building (20-23)	Yes - MVA, MVAL, Friends of Lullwater Park	None	None	Monitor progress for reviewing P2 of capital project.
15	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 Lullwater Park	None	None	Event sign light rail highlighted to open 2025.
16	Enhance outdoor sculpture collection with public art	Artwork for outdoor sculpture collection with public art.	Place Connection	No	Maybe	No	None	None	None	Funding and staffing support required from Operations.
17	Public Art Auk	Other take by location of work on the park art collection.	Place Connection	No	Maybe	No	None	None	None	Funding and staffing support required from Operations.
18	Local Art Auction	An artist of local art to raise funds for the park.	Place Connection	No	No	No	Yes - MVA, MVAL, Friends of Lullwater Park	None	None	Funding and staffing support required from Operations. Could be a good revenue source for art projects.
19	Local Art Auction	Other take by location of work on the park art collection.	Aesthetic Place Connection	No	Yes	No	Yes - MVA, MVAL, Friends of Lullwater Park	None	None	Funding and staffing support required from Operations.
20	Public Art Auk	Other take by location of work on the park art collection.	Place Connection	No	Maybe	No	None	None	None	Funding and staffing support required from Operations.
21	Public Art Auk	Other take by location of work on the park art collection.	Place Connection	No	Maybe	No	None	None	None	Funding and staffing support required from Operations.
22	Public Art Auk	Other take by location of work on the park art collection.	Place Connection	No	Maybe	No	None	None	None	Funding and staffing support required from Operations.
23	Public Art Auk	Other take by location of work on the park art collection.	Place Connection	No	Maybe	No	None	None	None	Funding and staffing support required from Operations.
24	Public Art Auk	Other take by location of work on the park art collection.	Place Connection	No	Maybe	No	None	None	None	Funding and staffing support required from Operations.
25	Public Art Auk	Other take by location of work on the park art collection.	Place Connection	No	Maybe	No	None	None	None	Funding and staffing support required from Operations.
26	Public Art Auk	Other take by location of work on the park art collection.	Place Connection	No	Maybe	No	None	None	None	Funding and staffing support required from Operations.

Item 3.

## 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.



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





# 14 Updated Project Opportunities List

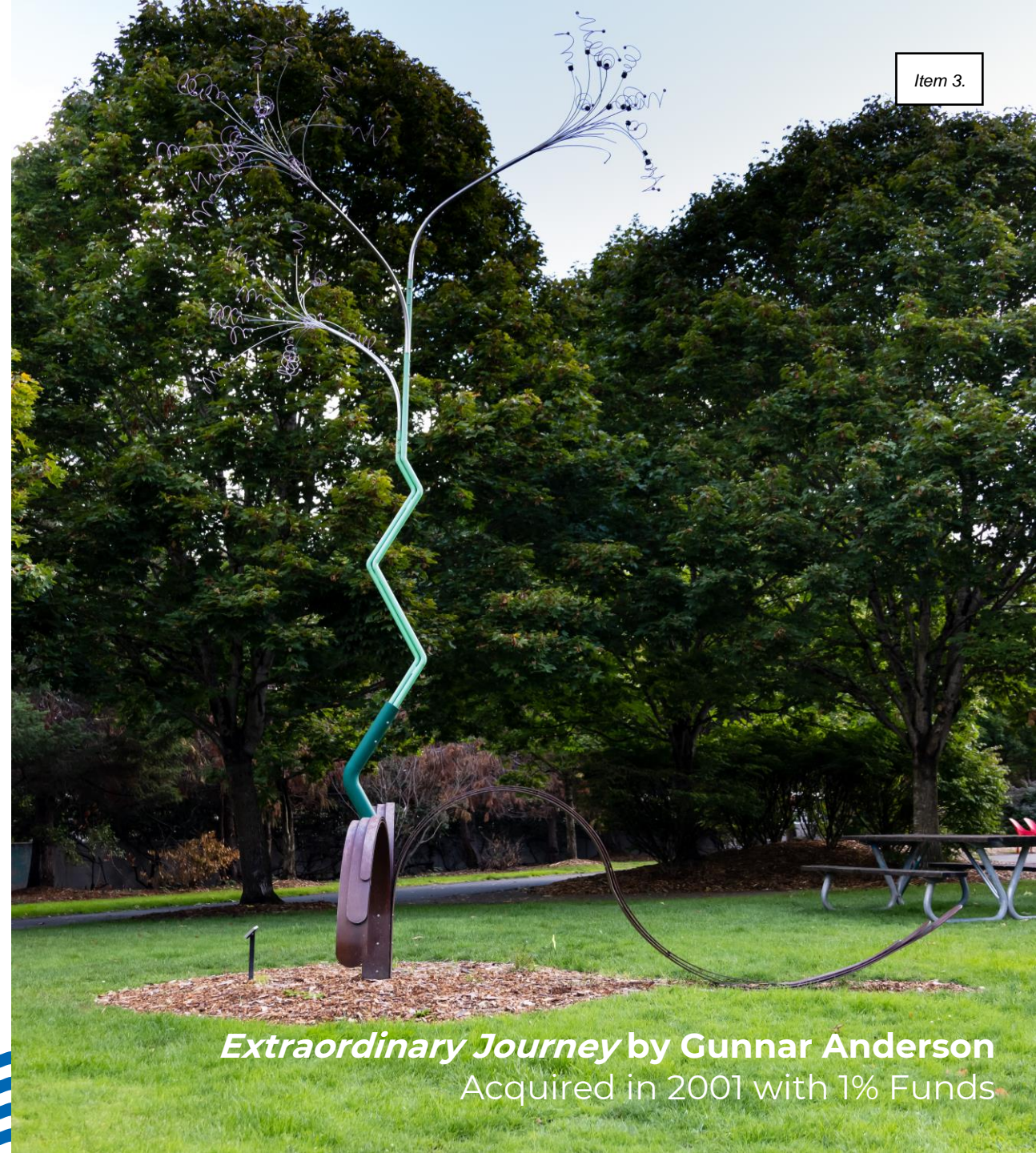
Item 3.

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

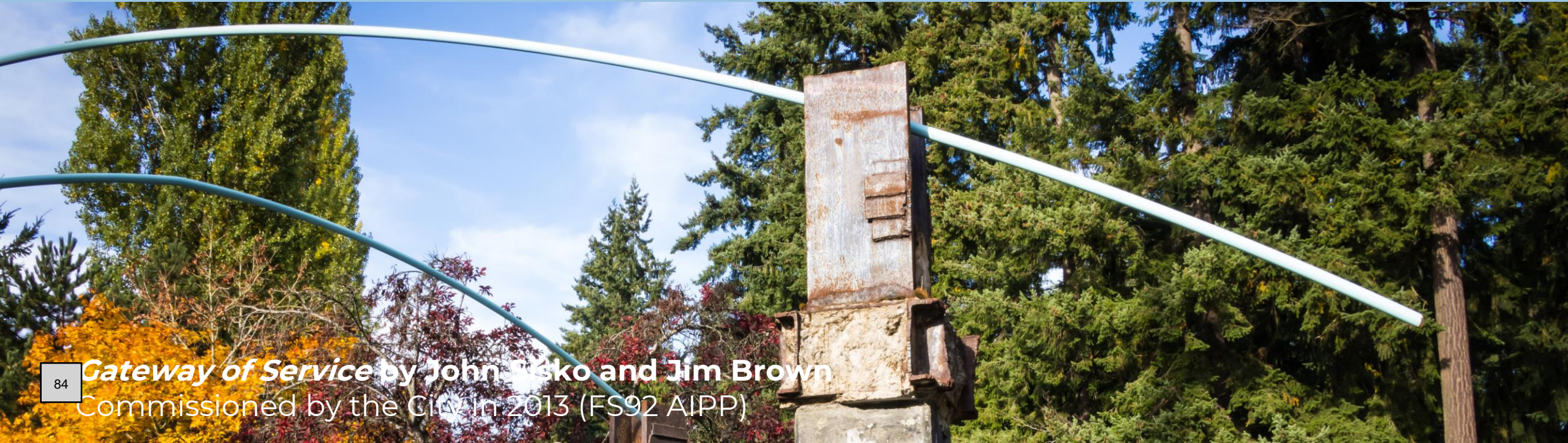
# 16 Draft 2025-2030 Public Art Project Timeline

Item 3.

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	█				█				█				█				█				█			



# Updated 6-Year Workplan for Art in Public Places



84 *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.

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.

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?**