

CULVER CITY PUBLIC ART ORDINANCE REWRITE

PURPOSE.

- A. Cultural and artistic resources, that include visual artwork, the performing arts, and architectural resources, enhance the quality of life for individuals living in, working in and visiting the City, enrich the experience of the City's past, celebrate the spirit of the City's present, and shape the identity of the City's future.
- B. Balanced Development of cultural and artistic resources preserves and improves the quality of the urban environment, increases real property values, strengthen and defines the City's identity and celebrates our culture, history, people, events and locations while enhancing our economic vibrancy.
- C. As development and revitalization of real property within the City continues, the opportunity for creation of cultural and artistic resources is diminished. As these opportunities are diminished and urbanization occurs, there is an increased need to develop alternative sources for cultural and artistic outlets that reflect an awareness of the site, both physically and socially, and that fit the historical and cultural values and sensibilities of the community to improve its environment, image and character.

APPLICATION AND APPROVAL PROCEDURES FOR PLACING ARTWORK ON PRIVATE PROPERTY.

- D. Submitted artwork applications shall be assessed on:
 1. Compliance with the general APPP requirements as outlined in this subchapter;
 2. Artistic quality; Art that is of the highest quality, that will encompass a broad aesthetic range reflecting the City and the minds of its citizens; Original art that enriches the City and evokes meaning;
 3. Conceptual compatibility of the design with the immediate environment for the site considered in terms of the physical dimensions, social dynamics, local character and the surrounding context of the site;
 4. Appropriateness of the design to the function of the site; to represent an expression of our time, contribute to a sense of the City's identity, entail a measure of public significance, increase cultural awareness, and encourage public dialogue.
 5. Creation of a desirable environment for the general community to enable a better understanding of the community and their individual lives by the design and location of the artwork;
 6. Preservation and integration of natural features with the project;
 7. Appropriateness of the materials, textures, colors, and design to the expression of the design concept;
 8. Ability to convey the artist's intentions and underlying themes; evoking some aspect of social, natural, cultural, physical, political, economical or historical context of the site and its locale;

9. Whether the artwork is representative of a broad variety of tastes within the community and makes a contribution to the provision of a balanced inventory of artworks commissioned through APPP;
10. Permanence of structural and surface components including, but not limited to, the structural and surface soundness and inherent resistance to theft, vandalism, weathering, and excessive maintenance or repair costs.
11. Ability to provide experiences that reflect the historical and cultural essence of a community;
12. Ability to transform public spaces by giving them context and relevance and making them places of community interest and pride;
13. Ability to present fresh ways of seeing the community and City while also recognizing the historic and environmental context of the site;
14. The encouragement of public dialogue and interaction which increases public understanding and enjoyment of visual art;

DEFINITION.

P. "Qualified Artist" shall be defined as a practicing artist who had demonstrated a high level of accomplishment through a body of work, exhibitions, presentations, or performances. The qualified artist shall have a history of strong conceptual development, as well as possess the ability for skillful execution of tools, materials, and craft. An artist who is recognized by critics and peers as a professional possessing serious intent and ability and is not a member of the Project Consultant's team or employed thereby.

PUBLIC ART ORDINANCE LANGUAGE

Philadelphia, PA:

“The Office of Arts, Culture, and the Creative Economy shall strive to acquire works of art of the highest quality that advance public understanding of visual art, enhance the aesthetic quality of Philadelphia’s public spaces, and conform to best practices in the field. This goal shall be realized through:

- The commission of artists and works of art of the highest quality that represent an expression of our time, contribute to a sense of the City’s identity, and entail a measure of public significance.
- The pursuit of art that is intrinsically integrated into the fabric of Philadelphia, reflecting a broad range of community participation.

Austin, TX:

“It is the stated intent of the Art in Public Places Ordinance to direct the inclusion of works of art in the City construction projects in order to expand the citizens’ of Austin experience with visual art and enable them to better understand their communities and their individual lives.”

“The commission of artists and works of art of the highest quality, which represent an expression of our time, contribute to a sense of the City’s identity, and entail some measure of public significance.”

“The encouragement of public dialogue which increase public understanding and enjoyment of visual art, through appropriate public education forums and programs.”

Pomona, CA:

“Public art increases cultural awareness, stimulates imaginations, and provokes creative dialog among those in the community. Public art pieces become landmarks. They identify and draw attention to buildings and parks. Residents, business owner and customers, neighbors, and visitors will enjoy the quality of life that art provides on a daily basis.”

“Art is important to our common experience because it brings focus, importance, and cohesion to public spaces. Public art develops images and provides experiences that reflect the historical and cultural essence of a community. Public art transforms public spaces by giving them context and relevance and making them places of community interest and pride. Public art has the potential to improve the appearance of an entire business block; to heighten the ethnic, historical or cultural aspects of a neighborhood; and to attract foot traffic to a street that formerly had little or none.”

“The goals of the Art in Public Places Program: To place public art that is site specific and environmentally responsive in publicly accessible and visible locations;”

“The artwork effectively engages the public and invites interest. The types of artwork that involve the public can be described as thought provoking, inspiring, entertaining, clever,

whimsical, powerful, reflective or symbolic. Public artwork is expected to be innovation and show originality.”

St. Paul, MN:

“Planning studies articulate the potential of public art for expressing neighborhood history, identity and sense of place, and for fostering intercultural harmony and understanding in our increasingly diverse city.”

“City Councilmember Russ Stark, who has represented the Council on the Oversight Committee throughout development of these Guidelines, remarks, “as we go about the incredibly important business of making Saint Paul a City that serves its citizens, attracts new residents, businesses and visitors, the Public Art Ordinance and City Artists in Residence program are playing critical roles in helping us create great places – places that reflect our history, cultures, and ideas, and that reinforce our fondness for this City and ties to our community.””

“Public art shall mean publicly accessible original art that enriches the City and evokes meaning.”

Auburn, NY:

“Local significance and site-specificity by creating a sense of excitement on public property and presenting fresh ways of seeing the community and City while also recognizing the historic and environmental context of the site.”

Suwanee, GA:

“What kind of art: For the purpose of this ordinance, art is defined broadly. It applies to original works of art that are durable and accessible to the public; reflect an awareness of the site, both physically and socially; and that fit the historical and cultural values and sensibilities of the community. Site specific installations of artwork may be functional, stand-alone, or integrated into the architecture of buildings in the form of architectural elements such as unique and creatively executed gates, entryways, sitting areas, fountains and walkways.”

“It is the intent and purpose of the Public Arts Ordinance to aesthetically enhance our environment and enrich the lives of Suwanee’s citizens as they go through their daily activities by encouraging the voluntary installation of works of art where they will be visible to the public. This includes private commercial and residential developments as well City-owned properties. Importantly, the ordinance calls for all public art projects to reflect the aesthetic, cultural and social values of the community.”

“The relationship of artwork and the site should be considered in terms of the physical dimensions, social dynamics, local character and surrounding context of the site, existing or planned.”

The City of Hutchinson, KS:

“The Public Art Design Council shall endeavor to develop a collection of public art that is of the highest quality, that will encompass a broad aesthetic range reflecting the City and the minds of its citizens, that will improve the quality of life in the area, that will be accessible to all individuals and be a source of pride to all residents.”

“Each proposed Percent for Art project will also be evaluated as to: its artistic excellence, appropriateness in terms of scale, material and content relative to the immediate and general architectural, social and historic context; and long term durability against vandalism, weather, theft and excessive maintenance.”

London, Canada:

“London’s City Council, at its meeting on September 17, 2007, approved its Strategic Plan for the next four years (2007 – 2010). One of the strategic priorities identified is, “Creative, Diverse and Innovative City: Capturing the value of London’s heritage, culture, arts and diversity. Our goal is to define and strengthen the city’s unique identity.””

“Public art can reaffirm or reveal a sense of place in a symbolic and visually stimulating way by evoking some aspect of the social, natural, cultural, physical, political, economical or historical context of the site and its locale.”

“The City of London supports the display of art in public places that will strengthen the natural assets of the city, provide unique attractions and act as a constant delight to residents and visitors to London. Public art celebrates and honours our culture, history, people, events and locations while enhancing our economic vibrancy. Public art impacts many aspects of community living. Public art enriches daily life through visual experiences and attracts people to art enriched places.”

“Public art is intended to contribute positively to London’s urban space by providing landmarks, defining meeting places, injecting humour, speaking of history and reminding us of greatness. It is hoped that works of public art on municipally-owned public space will be viewed by citizens and visitors with a keen sense of pleasure, wonder or curiosity and lend a feeling of satisfaction that these works are “ours”, that they help to define “us” and that they belong to this community.”

Alexandria, VA:

“PUBLIC ART WILL: enrich the experience of Alexandria’s past, celebrate the spirit of Alexandria’s present, and shape the identity of Alexandria’s future. PUBLIC ART WILL ENRICH THE EXPERIENCE OF ALEXANDRIA’S PAST... fostering exploration and generating dialogue about Alexandria’s multiple and many-layered stories, and engaging the past in contemporary ways. PUBLIC ART WILL CELEBRATE THE SPIRIT OF ALEXANDRIA’S PRESENT... connecting people to art that enriches their lives, providing opportunities for people to have hands-on encounters with art, fostering conversation among people throughout the city, and creating whimsy and delight in everyday places. PUBLIC ART WILL SHAPE THE IDENTITY OF ALEXANDRIA’S FUTURE... establishing a distinctive identity for Alexandria’s evolving

communities, enhancing parks, gathering places and neighborhood focal points, and enhancing new infrastructure and community facilities.”