

Policy Name: Public Art in Parks
Section: 3000 Operational: 3500 Parks
Policy Number: 0000

Purpose: To indicate the Park District's commitment to public art in parks and facilities, and define criteria related to this.

Reference: None applicable

Policy:

The Bainbridge Island Metropolitan Park & Recreation District is committed to providing in parks and facilities public art of exceptional quality and diversity which will add to the community's vibrancy and identity. The District's public art program strives to:

- Make public art and artistic expressions available to the public.
- Provide community with access to work of local artists.
- Use public art as vehicle to express the community's history and cultural heritage.
- Educate community about public art.
- Use public art as means to foster the community's sense of spirit, pride, and community values.
- Recognize public art's contribution in cultural tourism and economic development.
- Add value of arts to Park District public spaces.

Definition of Public Art

Public art is defined as an expanding and evolving field of inquiry which takes many forms and encompasses a broad spectrum of activities and approaches. It is work created by artists for places accessible to and used by the public. It ranges from temporary installations to permanent objects to the creation of entire public places. Artists who create public art may take cues from the work's physical environment, involve the community or other professional disciplines in a collaborative process, or pursue independent forms of creative expression. Public art often reveals its meaning gradually over time. Public art may shape public places, serve a function, engage a community, or send a message.

Donations, Loans and Purchase of Artwork

Proposed gifts or loans to the Park District will be reviewed by the Executive Director or a Park District Art Committee when he or she determines this to be appropriate. Such committee would be appointed by the Executive Director to make a recommendation on whether the artwork should be accepted. Decisions on accepting artwork that will be displayed on a temporary basis will be made by the Executive Director and pieces that will be displayed on a long term basis or will become a fixed amenity in a park or facility will be made by the Board of Commissioners. The Executive Director will keep the Board of Commissioners informed of any decisions he or she makes regarding the acceptance of artwork.

When deemed necessary by the Executive Director, accepted donations or loans of artwork will have a written agreement specifying location and outlining specific terms for installation, maintenance, duration of display, endowment funding, and anything else deemed appropriate. Unless specified otherwise by written agreement, all donations of art will become the property of the Park District.

Any artwork purchased by the Park District will be done in accordance with District purchasing policies and procedures.

Criteria for Evaluation of Proposed Gifts, Loans, or Purchases

- Quality of artwork.
- Whether the piece enhances existing collection or adds diversity.

- Whether the piece engages the public.
- Appropriateness of materials.
- Susceptibility of artwork to vandalism or graffiti.
- Availability of an appropriate site.
- Issues concerning siting, costs of installation, and maintenance of artwork.
- Donor conditions, if applicable.
- Condition of artwork.
- Durability of artwork.
- Ability to maintain artwork.
- Aesthetic merit.
- Appropriateness to site.
- Consistency with use of park.

Removal, Relocation, or Sale of Artwork

Artwork not specifically noted as otherwise in a donation agreement may be removed, relocated or sold for one or more of the following reasons:

- Condition or security of artwork cannot be reasonably guaranteed in its present location.
- Artwork presents a public safety risk.
- Artwork is damaged and repair is not feasible.
- Significant changes in use, character or actual design of site requires a re-evaluation of artwork's relationship to site.
- Artwork requires excessive maintenance or has failures of design or workmanship.