77 Fair Drive
Costa Mesa, CA 92626

City of Costa Mesa

Agenda Report

Arts Commission

Item #: 24-081 **Meeting Date:** 3/07/2024

TITLE:	**PUBLIC ART DONATION POLICY REVIEW**
DEPARTMENT:	**PARKS AND COMMUNITY SERVICES**
PRESENTED BY:	**LAURETTE GARNER, ARTS SPECIALIST**
CONTACT INFORMATION:	**LAURETTE GARNER, ARTS SPECIALIST, (714) 754-5322**

RECOMMENDATION:

It is staff recommendation that the Arts Commission review the proposed Public Art Donation Policy (Attachment 1).

BACKGROUND:

The Art in Public Places Report created by consultant, Arts Orange County was approved by the Arts Commission on April 6, 2023, to address aspects of the Arts and Culture Master Plan's Goal #2: Expand Public Art throughout the City. The following initiatives were recommended as follows:

Action 2.1: Continue the City-operated program of temporary utility box art, which affords opportunities to local artists, established and emerging, to create images that offer the community beautification. Review additional sites that are suitable for such installations, including wayfinding signage.

Action 2.2: Develop a plan for more ambitious temporary and permanent public art, including the identification of potential locations around the City, creation of policies with respect to selection and acquisition of artworks, and determination of the funding sources to be used.

Action 2.3: Temporary art programs are very popular with the public because they are constantly refreshed with new works, offering a variety of themes, styles, shapes, colors, and scale to the cityscape. Create a new program of temporary installations of large-scale sculptures. We recommend two-year loans, placed at sites inclusive of all the City's districts. This can be ramped up gradually by installing three works in Year 1 (one in each of three districts), adding three (3) in Year 2 (in the remaining districts), and then continuing to rotate the works on expiring loans annually.

Action 2.4: City may consider adopting a policy mandating fees for public art from new development projects.

Action 2.5: Create a new program of permanent public art and implement the process of selecting and installing a first work.

Action 2.6: Incorporate imaginative design in all the City's functional elements and fixtures. There are artists and existing companies that specialize in the custom fabrication of creatively designed elements such as streetlights, playground equipment, fitness stations, bus shelters, benches. After a period of research, the City should conduct a call for artists to submit designs, which would be selected by the City through a process involving the Arts Commission, Planning Commission, City staff and Council. Based on budget, the City can choose to transform the chosen elements over a short period of time or phase them in as replacement of older elements.

The following steps for Action 2.2 have been presented at previous Arts Commission meetings:

- Public Art Criteria and Guidelines to assist with new temporary and permanent public art projects in May 2023
- The Murals on Private Property permit process in June 2023
- Murals on Public Property was presented in October 2023
- Permanent Public Art on Public Property in December 2023 and February 2024, for additional edits

The Public Art Donation Policy is the next step in this process.

ANALYSIS:

The Art in Public Places Report is a comprehensive report of recommendations for programs and policies and provides detailed specifics as to how the six (6) initiatives from the Arts and Culture Master Plan may be executed in the next three (3) years. Each of the components below detailed in the Art in Public Places Report, (Attachment 2) will be crucial to assisting staff in creating new policies and processes:

1. Public Art Commissioning Process
2. Public Art Collection Management
3. Murals and the Commissioning Process
4. Public Art Donations and the Criteria
5. Public Art inclusion in City Public Works Development Projects
6. Public Art inclusion in Private Development Projects

The newly drafted Public Art Donation Policy will address number four (4) from the Arts & Culture Master Plan initiatives and will also be part of a larger Public Art Policy document created by staff in the coming months.

Staff reviewed Public Art Donation Policy examples from various cities. Examples were provided

from the City of Austin (Attachment 3), the City of San Francisco (Attachment 4) and a Public Art Donation Policy Application from the City of Los Angeles (Attachment 5).

The newly drafted Public Art Donation Policy for the City of Costa Mesa utilizes portions from all three provided examples. The City of Austin (Attachment 3) example has a detailed framework with definitions, a statement of purpose and addresses the financial portion of public art donations. The example from the City of San Francisco (Attachment 4) shows, in great detail, a donation policy embedded as a city ordinance and also has a paragraph at the beginning of the document issuing a moratorium on gifts due to limited resources for maintenance, storage and conservation. The example from the City of Los Angeles (Attachment 5) has a detailed application process that addresses the nuances of art law and what it means to have a civic art collection. All of these different examples assisted in creating this first draft of a Public Art Donation Policy for the City of Costa Mesa.

FISCAL REVIEW:

There are currently no costs associated with this process.

LEGAL REVIEW:

There is no legal review required for this report.

CONCLUSION:

Review and discuss the proposed Public Art Donation Policy for eventual citywide implementation.