



To: Members of Dublin City Council
From: Dana L. McDaniel, City Manager
Date: February 4, 2020
Initiated By: Matt Earman, Director of Parks and Recreation
David Guion, Executive Director of the Dublin Arts Council
Shawn Krawetzki, Landscape Architect Manager
Re: Art in Public Places – Proposed Art Project Budget and Site Selection Authorization

Background

The Art in Public Places program is funded by hotel/motel taxes at a rate of \$75,000.00 annually. Currently there is an accrued balance of \$300,000.00 available in 2020 for new public art projects. Dublin Arts Council is proposing to utilize \$150,000.00 in 2020, another \$150,000.00 in 2021, and then \$150,000.00 in 2022 from the accumulated 2021 and 2022 funding years. In preparation for the first of these projects, several potential sites have been investigated based on the following:

Dublin's Public Art Program goals:

- Emphasize Dublin's identity and enhance community pride
- Promote cultural and civic engagement
- Provide a framework for creativity and innovation in civic art, design and landscape
- Enhance public art's role in
 - Parks and community development
 - Cultural tourism
 - Creative place making
- Positively impact quality of life

To facilitate these goals City staff and Dublin Arts Council representatives visited a number of potential art project sites in late October, 2019 and narrowed them down to three preferred sites based on the following comprehensive criteria:

- Accessible to all
- Considerate of public safety
- Feasible and safe for the installation of artwork

Understanding that not all sites will satisfy all of the selection criteria, and that equal geographic distribution between permanent artworks is desirable, ideal locations for Art in Public Places projects include but are not limited to the following:

VISIBILITY: Highly visible, highly trafficked and easily accessible areas such as City Parks, the interior and exterior of City-owned buildings, major roadways and thoroughfares.

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY: Locations that are walkable to provide the viewer with 360-degree access to the eventual artwork and educational components of the collection, such as informative signage and the Dublin Art in Public Places cell phone tour signage. Sites that lend themselves to inclusion in national registries such as “CultureNOW” should also be considered.

HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE: Locations with historic significance to Dublin and/or residents of the Dublin area.

DISCOVERY: Locations where public art might not be expected or can be discovered by the viewer such as trails, bike paths and unique areas of City Parks.

CITY-OWNED PROPERTY: Locations should be City-owned property; although, under special circumstances, private property could be considered.

PROJECT SPECIFIC: Locations that lend themselves to a specific project, audience or desired form of public art.

SENSE OF PLACE: Locations that, when activated by art, create a strong sense of place.

Recommendation

Based on the aforementioned selection criteria, application of best practices in the siting of public art, considering geographic distribution of artworks and day-to-day knowledge of Dublin’s parks and public spaces, City staff and Dublin Arts Council staff recommend the following sites for the next site-specific, large-scale permanent artwork for Council’s consideration:

- EMERALD FIELDS
- M.L. “RED” TRABUE NATURE RESERVE
- DUBLIN COMMUNITY POOL NORTH - RENOVATION IN EARLINGTON PARK

Attached is a map depicting the various site locations (Appendix A.)

Staff is seeking Council’s selection of one of the preferred sites and authorization to implement the artist selection process for the City’s next site-specific public artwork.

