

To: Members of Dublin City Council
From: Dana L. McDaniel, City Manager
Date: March 10, 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 a partnership between the City of Dublin and the Dublin Arts Council by which works of public art are regularly commissioned and/or acquired through other means. Dublin's Art in Public Places program goals include the following:

- 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

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. The 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, City staff and Dublin Arts Council representatives began the site selection process outlined in the attached Policy for Site Selection of Art in Public Places Works of Public Art in late October 2019.

Pursuant to the policy, the minimum criteria for an Art in Public Places project site is that it be:

- accessible to all,
- considerate of public safety, and
- feasible 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.

Discoverable: 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.

The site selection policy indicates City staff and Dublin Arts Council staff will present the potential sites to City Council and present any recommendations. Further, from the list of potential sites, Council will select a single site for the next scheduled project and, when feasible, the preferred site(s) for the next 1-2 projects.

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 in Earlington Park

Attached is a map depicting the various existing site locations and the recommended sites (Appendix B).

Staff is seeking Council’s selection of one of the recommended sites for the next scheduled project and authorization to initiate the artist selection process for the next site-specific public artwork.

APPENDIX A

CITY OF DUBLIN POLICY FOR SITE SELECTION OF ART IN PUBLIC PLACES WORKS OF PUBLIC ART

I. Background

The Art in Public Places program is a partnership between the City of Dublin and the Dublin Arts Council by which works of public art are regularly commissioned and/or acquired through other means. Site selection is the process by which locations for works of public art are chosen. The purpose of this document is to describe the desired characteristics of an ideal Art in Public Places project location and outline the procedure that will be used to site these works of public art throughout the City of Dublin.

II. Selection Criteria

The minimum criteria for an Art in Public Places project site is that it be accessible to all, takes into consideration issues of public safety, and be feasible for the installation of artwork.

Understanding that some sites might satisfy some selection criterion but not all and that variety of locale between projects is desirable, ideal locations for Art in Public Places projects should include but not be limited to the following:

1. Highly visible, highly trafficked and easily accessible areas such as City Parks, the interior and exterior of City-owned buildings, major roadways and thoroughfares.
2. 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.
3. Locations with historic significance to Dublin and/or residents of the Dublin area.
4. 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.
5. Locations should be City-owned property; although, under special circumstances, private property could be considered.
6. Locations that lend themselves to a specific project, audience or desired form of public art.

7. Locations that, when activated by art, create a strong sense of place.

III. Policy

This policy for site selection applies to public art projects submitted by City of Dublin Staff and the Dublin Arts Council to Dublin City Council for approval as part of the ongoing Art in Public Places program. Final approval of recommended sites shall be the responsibility of Dublin City Council.

IV. Procedure

The sequence of action for the selection of an Art in Public Places site is as follows:

1. In advance of initiating an Art in Public Places project or call for artists, City of Dublin Staff, a member of City Council, and Dublin Arts Council Staff shall meet to discuss potential mediums for the artwork and prepare a preliminary list of potential sites. This preliminary list of potential sites shall include locations recommended by the community.
2. City of Dublin Staff shall conduct an inspection of the potential sites—including an engineering assessment if necessary—to ensure they are capable of serving as an adequate pad for permanent artwork and the mediums of art being considered. Any sites that do not meet minimum criteria for safety, accessibility, and feasibility shall be removed from consideration.
3. City of Dublin and Dublin Arts Council Staff shall conduct a tour of sites and discuss the strengths and weaknesses of each. Following the tour, they shall create a prioritized list of potential sites and recommendations. This list should include notes on each potential site including strengths, potential drawbacks, as well as possible themes and mediums.
4. City of Dublin and Dublin Arts Council Staff shall present the potential sites before Dublin City Council and present any recommendations. From the list of potential sites, Council shall then select a single site for the next scheduled project and, when feasible, the preferred site(s) for the next 1-2 projects. For all potential sites that are brought forward for Council consideration, City staff will provide advance notice to any/all adjacent property owners to allow for feedback and notice of the Council discussion.
5. Should Council find none of the submitted sites satisfactory, City of Dublin and Dublin Arts Council Staff shall prepare a new list of potential sites and resubmit to Council.
6. Once a site is approved and an Artist selected, City of Dublin Staff shall work directly with that Artist and any necessary contractors to prepare the site and

oversee the installation of the artwork as described in the Agreement between the City of Dublin and the Dublin Arts Council.

V. Relocation of Existing Artwork

Should an existing Art in Public Places project need to be relocated due to issues of safety, changes to its environment, or other circumstances that create a need for it to be moved, City of Dublin staff, in collaboration with Dublin Arts Council staff shall recommend a new location or locations for the work and submit the potential new site or sites to City Council for approval.

