

ERIN MENDENHALL
MAYOR



BEN KOLENDAR
DIRECTOR

DEPARTMENT of ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Salt Lake City Art Design Board Meeting
November 4, 2021
5:00 – 7:00 pm
Webex Online

PRESENT: Tiffini Porter Meggie Troili
 Colour Maisch Alejandro Moya

ABSENT: Aurelio Velazquez

Staff Members

Renato Olmedo-González, Public Art Program Manager
Taylor Knuth, Arts Council Assistant Director

I. Call to Order/Welcome and Introductions

Ms. Meggie Troili called the meeting to order.

II. Approval of Minutes

Ms. Troili requested that a note be added to the previous month's minutes regarding Bridge Over Barriers discussion. The artwork is located on a state road and it should be noted that UDOT is a stakeholder/partner and should be contacted regarding partnership and discussion of repairs to the artwork. Ms. Tiffini Porter made a motion to approve the minutes with the change noted, Ms. Colour Maisch seconded, and all members voted in favor.

III. FY22 CIP Site Selection Process Overview

Mr. Renato Olmedo-Gonzalez presented on how the public art site selection process works for Salt Lake City. At the beginning of the fiscal year, the Salt Lake City Council approves the Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) for the year. These are the investments in infrastructure that the City is making and may be for roads, new facilities, remodeling existing facilities, parks, etc. One and a half percent of the CIP budget is designated to go towards new art at one or more of these sites. A small portion of the 1.5% is placed in a maintenance fund for existing public art.

The Public Art Manager reviews the CIP projects approved for the year and meets with the different departments in charge of each project to determine the potential for art to be included on specific projects. This process helps reduce the number of potential public art projects and identify which ones have the best potential for public art.

In December, the project manager from each pre-selected CIP project will present to the Art Design Board regarding the scope, timeline, goals, location, etc. of each project. After the presentations, the Board will decide with CIP projects will be allocated funding.

The Public Art process begins at this point and takes between 9-18 months to complete. The following steps are taken with input from the Art Design Board, public stakeholders, and City and community partners. Step one is to decide on best method for call for artist: Request for Proposal (RFP), Request for Qualifications (RFQ), commission artist from Pool of Qualified Artists or Direct Purchase. Step two and three is to create and then release the Call for Artists. The Art Design Board reviews the proposals and with stakeholder input selects the artist(s) for the commission. The Public Art Program Manager sends a letter to the Mayor recommending the artist for commission. Finally, the Public Art Program Manager contracts and oversees the fabrication and installation process.

The public art budget from CIP projects for Fiscal Year 22 (FY22) will be approximately \$135,000 total, 15% of this budget will be placed in the maintenance fund. This leaves \$114,841 for new artworks. Ideally there will be two public art projects funded this year.

There were 75 CIP projects allocated by City Council for FY22 and Mr. Olmedo-Gonzalez has refined the list to seven projects based on meetings with the different City Departments and project managers. The Art Design Board will hear from these seven project managers at the December meeting.

There is specific criteria and guiding questions for deciding which site to select for public art. The criteria is informed by the Salt Lake Arts Council's Strategic Plan, the Mayor's Goals and the Mission and Values of the Art Design Board. The criteria include: (a) Foster Cultural Equity and Social Impact, (b) Cultivate and Build Partnerships, (c) Placemaking and Identity, (d) Elevating the Arts Sector Through Public Art, (e) Integrated and Contextual Artwork, (f) Funding, (g) Public Art as a Catalyst for Economic Development. Mr. Olmedo-Gonzalez described each item in detail.

Mr. Alex Moya asked about the inclusion of different media for Public Art installations. Looking to the future, can the Board help define what public art can be or are there restrictions from the City? Mr. Taylor Knuth stated that last year the Art Design Board did consider sound based art, but it was not selected as one of the CIP projects last year. The Public Art Ordinance gives this body the ability to recommend public art that is a good direction for Salt Lake City to take. There is the requirement that the artwork be permanent with a lifespan of 5 years or greater.

Ms. Maisch asked how previous selection meetings have worked. Did the board rate the projects based on the criteria listed or was it a more organic process of discussing benefits and drawbacks? Mr. Olmedo-Gonzalez stated that the board was very thoughtful in their approach and reviewed the projects more organically in the recent past.

Ms. Troili asked if the criteria presented are more guiding principles rather than criteria in the process of selecting the CIP projects. Mr. Olmedo-Gonzalez confirmed that they are the guiding principles and that is a much better way to look at them rather than as criteria because rarely will a project meet all the parameters listed. Ms. Maisch commented that the board is looking for what is holistically the best option.

Mr. Moya requested a list of public art projects by district so when determining where to allocate funding for the upcoming CIP funding they would know which districts have not received public art most recently.

IV. Deaccession Policy Discussion and Feedback

Mr. Olmedo-Gonzalez presented the deaccession policy to the board. City Council granted the option to deaccession artwork with the adoption of City Ordinance 2.30. The Ordinance requires that the Art Design Board adopt an official policy on the process. The policy presented is based on research by staff of both National and International organizations Public Art Programs.

The policy outlines the reasons a piece of art would be considered for deaccession. It only needs to meet one of the criteria to be considered. Criteria is maintenance and condition of the artwork, safety, the work is missing, quality, public opinion and context, fraud, site, or by an artist's request. The procedures for deaccessioning a piece of artwork include: (a) the Public Art Manager will create a report related to the value, condition of artwork, cost to remove or deaccession, public response to artwork, and suggestions for what to do with the artwork after deaccessioning to present to the Art Design Board. (b) The Board decides if they recommend deaccession and if so the report and recommendation is sent to the Mayor for final approval. (c) The Mayor will give City Council notice 45 days prior to the deaccession. If the artwork is an imminent safety hazard the notice period is not required.

There are still questions pending with the City Attorney regarding how the artwork can be disposed of. Upon clarification that section will be updated with the appropriate options.

Ms. Porter asked for clarification on the requirement for appraisal of the value of the artwork being considered for deaccession. She believes it would be helpful to have that information but knows the process and cost of appraisal may not be feasible. Mr. Olmedo-Gonzalez advised that the cost of an appraiser would come from the maintenance fund. After discussion the Board decided that they will assess the need of an appraisal on a case-by-case basis.

Mr. Olmedo-Gonzalez asked about the creation of a committee specifically for deaccession. The Board decided that they would like this to be used in certain situations, but not a standing committee.

Ms. Troili asked about community feedback and notification for this process. The board decided that as artworks are discussed for decommission it will be determined what the community feedback/notification process is.

The policy will be formally adopted at the next board meeting on December 2, 2021.

V. Maintenance Brief

Mr. Olmedo-Gonzalez presented updates on the maintenance report. The goal is to address all the items listed as priority one by the end of the fiscal year and this is on track to be accomplished.

In February a report on what will be repaired next year will be presented to City Council.

Metal Arts Foundry is creating a bid on repairing a significant number of the pieces listed in the maintenance report. This will simplify the repair process if they are able to address multiple artworks.

VI. Public Comment

No public was present.

VII. Other Business / Adjourn

- a. December 2, 2021 meeting, 5:00 pm
- b. Save the date for the Arts Council holiday party

Ms. Maisch motioned to close the meeting; Mr. Moya seconded. All members voted in favor.