Tempe Public Art Project Types

CIP = Capital Improvement Projects

CIP projects are how the City builds itself. Each time a new facility is created, a park is improved, or a streetscape is narrowed the funding is approved by City council as a CIP project ahead of time. These funds are where the 1% for Art in All its Forms are drawn from to ensure that Public Art (as well as Arts Engagement, Exhibitions, and Arts Grants) are funded within the City of Tempe. CIP funded Public Art Projects are those in which the artist is commissioned by the City through a competitive process and all funds used are paid for with the Municipal Art Fund and supported by partner departments within the City.

Neighborhood Projects = Mary Anne Corder Grant Program

The Maryanne Corder Grant Program allows Neighborhood Associations and Home Owner’s Associations to apply for grants up to $15,000 to create a project within their neighborhood. Residents can select the location and an artist to work with as part of the grant application with assistance from the Public Art Office as a resource. The proposed artwork should enhance the community and be a permanent work that is accessible to the public. Artwork may be installed in the public right of way however when the artwork is located on City owned property there are specific restrictions (see attached guidelines for details).

These project funds are administered through the Neighborhood Services Department with other departments, Arts included, acting as advisors to the process. Grants are very different from commissions because the City does not commission the artist through a competitive process. Instead, it is the grant awardee (the Neighborhood Association or HOA) who acts as the selection committee. Public Art staff assists in the design and installation process to ensure that the artwork is being created with best practices in mind.

Temporary Projects = IN FLUX, Arts in Parks, and more

Temporary projects are paid for using CIP funds and often include partnership with other organizations such as the Downtown Tempe Authority, Scottsdale Public Art, Chandler Public Art, Phoenix Public Art, and other arts organizations. These projects are smaller in scale and budget than larger CIP projects therefore the partnerships allow for a leveraging of funds and marketing development. Temporary projects allow artists new to Public Art the opportunity to take a risk and work outside of the studio in the built environment. Seasoned artists often see Temporary projects as an opportunity to create works that would not ordinarily work in the built environment, including but not limited to new media projections, performance-based pieces, social practice projects and interactive visual artworks.
AIPD = Art in Private Development

The goal of the city of Tempe’s Art in Private Development (AIPD) ordinance is to beautify the community with a wide variety of high-quality art installations. AIPD enhances the identity and character of the Tempe community making it more appealing to residents and helps to further attract visitors. The property owner(s) of any project that contains more than fifty thousand (50,000) square feet net floor area of commercial or office use within any zoning district, or is a phase of a larger project approved after Feb. 24, 1990, that contains a total of more than fifty thousand (50,000) square feet net floor area of commercial or office use within any zoning district, contribute to Art in Private Development. The art contribution may take the form of either on-site installation of exterior Artwork or an equivalent cash donation to the Tempe Municipal Arts Fund. Net floor area means the sum of all floor areas (including mezzanines, outdoor retail and dining areas) devoted to an activity, excluding exterior walkways, the thickness of exterior walls, or parking.

AIPD Projects are different from all other types of Public Art Projects because they are not paid for using City funds, they do not reside on City owned property, and artists are not selected through a City procurement process. Artists are selected by the property owner and reviewed by the City to ensure that the AIPD ordinance is being followed and the City’s AIPD guidelines are being met (see attached guidelines for details). Public Art Staff works with the Planning Department and the property owner to assist and guide the process. The art is usually one of many considerations a property owner must consider as a project is being designed and reviewed by the City. These projects can take several years since private development is subject to changes in the economy.

Other private project assistance:

Private murals are permitted through the Planning Department. Public Art offers some guidelines to help make the process a little easier to understand (see attachment). These works of art are privately funded and placed on privately owned property therefore the City’s Public Art staff does not assist in the procurement, placement or payment for the murals.

There are many Federal Laws in Public Art that need to be considered when creating artworks. In the built environment, the Visual Artist Rights Act (known as VARA) is the most frequently discussed. This law states that an artist must be notified before a work of art can be removed, altered, relocated, or otherwise changed. As a City Department, VARA is incorporated into all artist contracts however many private property owners are not aware of this law. For this reason, the Public Art staff along with the City Attorney’s office

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