



Council Policy

Public Art to Enhance Edmonton's Public Realm

Programs Impacted	Land Development <i>Edmonton is developed to support growth and social, cultural, economic and environmental well-being.</i> Recreation and Culture <i>Edmontonians are physically and emotionally healthy.</i>
Number	C458E
Date of Approval	October 22, 2024 (Next Scheduled Review date revised)
Approval History	August 16, 2021 March 24, 2010 (C458C Percent for Art to Provide and Encourage Art in Public Areas) June 19, 2009 (C547 Public Art Administration, Registration and Outreach) June 19, 2009 (C548 Public Art Accession, Selection Criteria and Gift Policy) June 19, 2009 (C549 Public Art Conservation, Deaccession and Resite)
Next Scheduled Review	July 30, 2026

Statement

Art in public spaces is essential for integrating art, design and creative ideas into public life.

Public art:

- actively engages citizens and artistic leaders in planning and building an inclusive, attractive, liveable, healthy, and thriving city for the future.
- connects communities in cultural experiences that create a sense of belonging and connectedness to people, places, stories and creative ideas
- builds memorable urban places, neighbourhood vibrancy and unique city identity.

By investing in public art the City of Edmonton supports the local economy and helps build an attractive, healthy and thriving city where creative spaces emerge and art, design, and culture flourish.

Guiding Principles

Administration will use the following principles to invest in city-wide growth, development and care of public art.

- **Public Visibility and Accessibility** - Public Art will be located in publicly accessible and visible locations.
- **Diversity and Inclusion** - Public art reflects the diversity of our civic makeup with consideration for equity of marginalized communities and populations.
- **Public Art Appreciation** - Public art raises the public awareness and appreciation of the arts.
- **City-Wide Impact** - Invest in public art and artists with the intention to maximize city-wide impact and enhance the public realm.

Funding

- The City of Edmonton will annually fund a Public Art Reserve on a Pay-As-You-Go basis in the minimum amount of 1% of eligible capital projects, as approved by City Council through the operating budget.

Public Art Program

- City Administration partners with the Edmonton Arts Council to comprehensively and sustainably manage the City of Edmonton's public art program and collection in alignment to City Plan and Connections and Exchanges.
- Public art acquired under this policy will be part of the City of Edmonton's Public Art Collection.
- The program provides curatorial and artistic vision for building, caring for and animating the Public Art Collection.
- Public Art will be diverse, representing the community and be distributed throughout the City.