

**COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS POLICY**

Subject

Inclusion of Works of Art on Certain County Public Buildings

**Policy
Number**

F-23

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Purpose

To define and establish a policy for the inclusion of original works of art for the interior, exterior, and/or grounds of qualifying County-owned public buildings. This policy applies to all construction or renovation of County owned buildings with an approved project budget over \$10,000,000.

Background

Public buildings often contain original works of art and material culture such as murals, sculptures, interactive and other artistic gateselements, reflecting pools, or fountains to enhance the aesthetic quality of the building or to reflect the local community. The Board of Supervisors has established a County policy for providing artwork on public buildings, including how the artist will be selected and reimbursed.

The County Administration Center is an example of a County public building where artwork in the form of reflecting pools, sculpture and murals was successfully incorporated in the original design.

It is noted that the federal government, through the adoption of a similar policy, includes works of art on public buildings. Without such a policy, artwork is only sporadically and not always effectively provided for in the new buildings. The Board of Supervisors believes that the most economical and effective method of including any artwork on public buildings is to include it in the original design whenever possible; by so doing, supporting services and structures or utilities, if needed, can be included in the original construction.

Policy

It is the policy of the Board of Supervisors that:

An artwork allowance, based on the estimated construction cost of a building approved project budget may, under the procedure described herein, be expended for works of art integral to a project. This allowance shall be one ~~half~~ percent (0.5%) of the estimated approved project costs not to exceed \$500,000.

The County shall encourage donations of public art as part of new building projects from the public or community. Any monetary or artwork donations shall not be considered in determining the allowance.

~~New p~~Public buildings qualifying under this policy shall have an estimated construction approved project budget cost of \$10,000,000 or more and be widely used by the general public, such as County libraries, office buildings or complexes, hospitals and clinics.

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The original artwork and material culture qualifying under this policy may include, but not be limited to, sculpture, murals, ~~reflecting pools or fountains~~, handmade light fixtures, decorative windows or skylights, decorative screens, wooden or metal entry doors, or other ~~artistic elements items~~ that may lend themselves effectively to the particular project.

Procedure

A ~~three~~four-member committee shall be established. It shall consist of the architect responsible for project design, one member appointed by the project-sponsoring department, one member from the Arts and Culture Commission, and one member appointed by the Director of the Department of General Services.

The committee shall:

1. Determine the type and location of artwork best suited to the overall design of the public building.
2. Invite selected artists to submit proposals to construct and/or supervise the construction of the type of artwork that has been determined to be appropriate.
3. Select from one to three of the interviewed artists, or more if more than three art elements are identified, to develop fully elaborated proposals, including sketches or models of the proposed work.
4. Submit final recommendations to the Director of General Services regarding the proposed artist(s) and design(s).

The director of the Department of General Services, or his/her designee, will consult with the member of the Board of Supervisors representing the Supervisorial district in which the building will be constructed, or his/her designee, on all art for the building. The final decision regarding the artwork and allowance shall be made by the Chief Administrative Officer or designee.

The Committee may recommend to the Director of General Services that an honorarium be paid to each artist submitting final proposals. Such payment shall be approved by the Director of General Services. The total cost of any such honorarium payments and the cost of the approved artwork shall not exceed the maximum allowance for any project as specified in this policy.

Any preparation of the facility/site for the artwork, such as supporting structures, signage, equipment, or utilities, shall be incorporated into the cost of the general

Commented [MG2]: Donation policy, public engagement, and commission engagement

construction contract. Signage should include the name(s) the artist(s) and /date of art work, including the same information in braille. Continuing maintenance and repairs of the artwork shall be done by the Department of General Services, and where possible, under the advisement of the artist.

Artwork may be periodically de-accessioned and will not be removed without due consideration, justification, and documentation.

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Responsible Departments

~~1. 4.~~ Department of General Services

~~+2.~~ [Office of Economic Development and Government Affairs](#)

Sunset Date

This policy will be reviewed for continuance by 12-31-2023.

References

Board Action

1-9-73 (37)

1-31-78 (16)

12-5-95 (36)

01/28/03 (16)

12/9/08 (33)

12/08/09 (16)

11/15/16 (15)