

Public Art

Classification:	Council Policy
First Issued / Approved:	10 May 2022
Last Reviewed:	6 October 2022
Next Review:	1 April 2026
ECM Tracking No.:	35189264
Responsible Officer:	Director Community and Development
Relevant Legislation:	Aboriginal Heritage Act 1988 (SA) Disability Services Act 1993 Heritage Places Act 1993 Local Government Act 1999 Landscape South Australia Act 2019 Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016 Eastern Health Authority Regional Public Health Plan
Related Policies:	Community Access Inclusion and Participation Policy Community Funding, Sponsorship and Donation Policy Asset Management Policy Community Engagement (Public Consultation) Policy Heritage Policy Open Space Policy Hire of Community Open Space and Facilities Policy Streetscape Policy Memorials and Heritage Plaques Policy

1. Introduction

- 1.1. The City of Burnside celebrates public art in order to enrich, enliven and foster a place of belonging and assist in establishing a connection to place, environment and community.
- 1.2. This Policy aims to provide a strategic approach to the commissioning and acquisition of quality permanent and temporary public art, which will assist in creating a sense of community and add value to the City's social, cultural, aesthetic, and economic vitality.
- 1.3. This Policy will foster best practice by providing guidance on criteria and conditions for the evaluation, acceptance, acquisition, location, development, approval and maintenance of public art, public art gift proposals, and memorials in public spaces.

2. Strategic Plan Desired Outcomes

- Principles:* Covers all principles
- Themes:* Spans all Strategic Plan Themes
- Goals:* Spans all Strategic Plan Goals
- Priorities:*
- 1.2 Resilience, well-being and recreation
 - 1.3 A sense of community
 - 1.4 Facilities, services and programs that meet our community's needs
 - 1.5 Small business support
 - 2.3 Use natural resources efficiently and minimise waste
 - 2.4 Healthy habitats and biodiversity
 - 3.1 Master planning our City
 - 3.2 Council as an advocate and influencer to ensure our community's voices are heard
 - 3.3 Attractive streets and neighbourhoods with easy access and movement and encouragement of greener transport
 - 3.4 Character and heritage protected, cherished and celebrated

3. Policy

- 3.1. The City of Burnside is committed to providing an environment rich in artistic and cultural expression which is valued and celebrated.
- 3.2. The Council commits to the ongoing support of art and cultural development within the City to strengthen and celebrate our diverse communities.
- 3.3. To achieve these objectives, this Policy provides a framework to plan, develop, deliver and fund appropriate artworks in publically accessible spaces across the City.

4. Our Approach

- 4.1. Develop awareness within the Council and the community of the value of art in public places.
- 4.2. Ensure public art is accessible to all members of the community.
- 4.3. Foster public art to reflect and cherish the City of Burnside's cultural and natural heritage.

- 4.4. Integrate public art where appropriate into the Council's infrastructure development to enhance community spaces.
- 4.5. Encourage collaborative arrangements and partnerships between artists, the community and design professionals.
- 4.6. Adopt transparent industry best practice methods of commissioning and acquiring public art, as outlined in the Arts SA document *Public Art, making it happen: commissioning guidelines for local councils*.

5. Interpretation

- 5.1. For the purpose of this Policy:
 - 5.1.1. "Public art" is regarded as the artistic expression of a contemporary art practitioner presented within the public arena, outside the traditional gallery system, where it is accessible to a broad audience.
 - 5.1.2. "Public open space" is defined as land (community land) that is set aside and/or used for public recreation and/or possesses significant conservation value.
 - 5.1.3. "Standalone art" refers to art commissioned for particular sites (eg: murals, signage, sculptures).
 - 5.1.4. "Integrated art" refers to art incorporated into infrastructure projects (eg: paving, gates, lighting, street furniture), made specifically for a place in which it is installed.
 - 5.1.5. "Memorial" is defined in this Policy as artwork or structure that serves explicitly to preserve the memory of a deceased person/s or a significant past event. If it is to be installed in or on a Council owned or administered public space, it is considered public art.

6. Public Art Principles

- 6.1. Public art is recognised as an important component of Council's open spaces, streetscapes and neighbourhoods to help create a sense of community and place.
- 6.2. To achieve this, the Policy is underpinned by the following best practice Guiding Principles:

Location Principles

- 6.2.1. Sites, where public art is to be displayed should address one of the following:
 - 6.2.1.1. Experience high levels of pedestrian traffic and be part of the City's circulation paths;
 - 6.2.1.2. Be easily visible and accessible to the public;

- 6.2.1.3. Serve to anchor and activate the site;
- 6.2.1.4. Enhance the overall public environment and streetscape experience;
- 6.2.1.5. Complement natural garden or bush settings;
- 6.2.1.6. Help to create a place for reflection and challenge senses, emotions and intellect; and
- 6.2.1.7. Establish landmarks and neighbourhood gateways.

Inclusion

- 6.2.2. Council values diversity and seeks to reflect and engage all sectors of the community to ensure public art is inclusive and accessible for all.

Participation

- 6.2.3. Council benefits from participation and will make community and stakeholder consultation integral to the placement of public art.
- 6.2.4. Council will also ensure the Community Engagement (Public Consultation) Policy requirements are adhered to.

Innovation

- 6.2.5. Public art expressions and models change over time, and Council accepts that new works of public art and materials will reflect contemporary culture and practice.

7. Public Art Acquisition and Commissioning Framework

- 7.1. The following framework provides an outline for Council to acquire public artworks:
 - 7.1.1. Direct acquisition of existing work.
 - 7.1.2. Engagement of an artist to create a new work responding to a brief. This approach may be appropriate where a particular artwork or the work of a particular artist is required.
 - 7.1.3. Limited competition, where the commissioner selects and invites the artist to submit a proposal in response to a brief. This may be appropriate if the artist is required to collaborate with an architect or designer.
 - 7.1.4. Open competition, where the commissioner makes a public call for Expressions of Interest to respond to a brief.
 - 7.1.5. Donations/gifts from individuals, corporate entities, artists or a commissioning body other than Council.

- 7.2. The commissioning of public art must demonstrate the following:
 - 7.2.1. Relevance and appropriateness of the work to the context of the proposed site.
 - 7.2.2. Consideration for public access, by day and night, and in diverse weather conditions.
 - 7.2.3. Address safety, maintenance, nature and conservation issues.
 - 7.2.4. Evidence of funding source and sufficient budget allocation, funds for ongoing maintenance for the life of the artwork.
 - 7.2.5. Consistency with current planning, heritage and environmental policies and plans.
 - 7.2.6. Non-duplication of monuments commemorating the same or similar events.
- 7.3. The following are considered to be highly desirable attributes for public art in the Council area:
 - 7.3.1. Works that would complement the location principles.
 - 7.3.2. Projects which link thematically with the council area.
 - 7.3.3. Projects which link with community members, local business and industry.
 - 7.3.4. Works that have significant relevance to the City of Burnside's culture and history.

8. Assessment and Approval Framework

- 8.1. An Artwork Assessment Panel will evaluate and assess key public art projects, including commissions, submissions, decommissioning and donations, against criteria as outlined under section 6.
- 8.2. The Artwork Assessment Panel will include, but is not limited to:
 - 8.2.1. Relevant Council Staff
 - 8.2.2. The Mayor and Ward Councillor/s
 - 8.2.3. A proponent of the public art project (eg: community organisation, developer, Council staff)
 - 8.2.4. A representative of the community of interest (eg: historical group, neighbourhood etc).
 - 8.2.5. A relevant public art expert

- 8.3. The Artwork Assessment Panel will operate under the guiding principles for public art acquisitions, artwork selection and site selections in line with the Public Art Policy.
- 8.4. Council will be informed of the Assessment Panel recommendations or selections before final approval (as per delegation authorities).
- 8.5. Larger scale public art projects over \$100,000 will be presented to Council for approval.

9. Public Art Funding

- 9.1. Council will ensure that the delivery of public art is adequately resourced to enable a visible and growing public art program, safeguard quality, maintenance and sustainability.
- 9.2. Council will ensure adequate and ongoing funding of public art through:
 - 9.2.1. The creation of a reserve fund where \$100,000 is set aside annually to fund a commissioned artwork during the term of each Council, subject to annual budget deliberations;
 - 9.2.1.1. The Public Art Reserve Fund can fund acquisition and commissioning of artwork, maintenance and large scale projects such as murals.
 - 9.2.2. The inclusion of funding for the development and design of public art in all major Council projects;
 - 9.2.3. The active pursuit of external funding for public art projects via:
 - 9.2.3.1. Commonwealth and State Government grants;
 - 9.2.3.2. Private developer contributions; and
 - 9.2.3.3. Donations and gifts.

10. Decommissioning and maintenance

- 10.1. If artwork has been commissioned as a permanent piece, then all reasonable effort should be made to avoid permanent removal within ten years of its installation.
- 10.2. An Artwork Assessment Panel (as outlined under 8.2) will assess the decommissioning or relocation of any permanent public art against the assessment criteria as outlined under section 6 and will provide recommendations to Council outlining the rationale and justifications.
- 10.3. Decommissioning assessment criteria will be based on the following:
 - 10.3.1. The existence of damage or deterioration that reached a point that it is not possible to repair;

- 10.3.2. Consideration of ongoing maintenance costs in relation to the artwork;
- 10.3.3. Impact on the integrity of the work;
- 10.3.4. The agreed life span of the artwork has expired; and
- 10.3.5. The artwork has become unsafe or affected by changes in health and safety regulations.

10.4. Council will make reasonable attempts to consult with the artist prior to decommissioning or relocation of the public artwork.

11. Review and Authority

- 11.1. This Policy will be reviewed every four years in line with Council's Policies and Protocols Framework.

12. Availability

- 12.1. The Policy is available to be downloaded, free of charge, from Council's website www.burnside.sa.gov.au

13. Further Information

- 13.1. For further information about this Policy, please contact:

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