City of Fort Myers, Florida

City of Fort Myers Public Art Program

Public Art for Private Development Projects

Purpose
The City of Fort Myers Public Art Ordinance #3229 encourages private developers to place art in publicly accessible locations for projects citywide. In lieu of acquiring art for their site, the developer can opt to provide a contribution to the city’s public art fund.

Public art serves to aesthetically enhance the site, engage the viewer, promote a greater awareness and appreciation for art, respond to and reflect the unique character and history of the city. The following guidelines have been established to assist the developer who wishes to acquire public art for their private development. Using the Florida Art-in-State Buildings program model, the city’s Public Art Committee (PAC) has adopted these same guidelines to build the city’s own public art collection.

General Guidelines
The city’s public art ordinance states that “fine art shall mean a work of art that is freestanding or free hanging in that it is not a structural part of a building or other structure nor an architectural element on or in which the work of art is placed, installed, or affixed, nor a mass-produced item with a standard design. Fine art includes, but is not limited to all forms of the visual arts conceived in any medium, materials or combination thereof; commissioned or purchased including those received as gifts to include sculpture, stained glass, statues, monuments, wall hangings, tapestries, photographs, mosaics, mobiles, murals, etchings, engravings, carvings, fountains and paintings.”

The PAC encourages the work of regional artists, but will also consider state, national and international artists. The work must be of a high artistic standard, appropriate in content and presentation for public display, durable and maintained in good condition as the artist intended. The PAC reserves the right to waive the artist criteria if the proposal has exceptional merit.

Application Process
- Developer meets with city staff to discuss specific public art obligation as established by PUD requirements. City staff to provide developer with PAC guidelines and application form.
- Review guidelines and application process. A pre-application presentation to PAC is encouraged.
- Complete application form and submit to city staff.
- City staff to distribute application to PAC members for review.
- Proposal to be placed on PAC meeting agenda.
- Presentation of proposal to PAC; the applicant’s attendance is encouraged.
- PAC review and vote; the review may be continued to a future meeting if questions about the application cannot immediately be resolved.
- PAC recommendation to city council for final approval.

For more information, please contact the City Manager’s Office, Public Art Liaison.
Address: P O Box 2217, Fort Myers, FL 33902
Phone: 239-332-6309
Public Art Application Form
For Private Developers

Criteria for Eligibility:

Artists must meet at least two of the following:

- Completed other public commissions of a similar scale
- Received awards, grants and/or fellowships for artwork
- Work is included in major private, corporation or museum collections
- Has had at least one solo exhibition at an institution accredited by the American Association of Museums within the past five years

Please check at least two of the above requirements and provide documentation.

[Fields for Development, Primary Contact, Address, City, State, Zip, Phone, Fax]

If purchasing an existing work, please complete the following:

Name of Artist: __________________________________________
Title of Work: __________________________________________
Medium: ____________________________________________
Dimensions: h_______ w_______ d_______
Current Value: __________________ Location: ________________

If commissioning a new site specific work, please describe the proposed public art project and description (100 words or less):

__________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________

Describe installation provisions such as lighting, pedestal, identification plaque, landscaping as well as maintenance requirements and projected installation date:

__________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________

Applicant’s Signature: ___________________________ Date: __________________

Provide one of the following with this application which visually documents the work:
Circle one:  8 x 10 Photograph  35mm Slide  CD  Macquette  Artist Rendering

A completed application is required for each work under consideration.

Please submit this completed form and related attachments, including the artist professional resume to:
City of Fort Myers Manager’s Office
Public Art Liaison
P O Box 2217
Fort Myers, FL 33902
239-332-6309