Brea’s Art in Public Places Program Overview

The sculptures in Brea’s Art in Public Places Program are privately owned. Under the current Art in Public Places Policy, developments with a total building valuation of $1,500,000 (based on International Code Conference Building Valuation Data) or more are required to integrate publicly visible sculptures into their development projects. The artwork is an onsite amenity, a fixed asset on the property. Developers of projects with a total building valuation of between $1,500,000 and $3,999,999 have the option of contributing to Brea’s Art Fund in lieu of installing a sculpture at the project site. Developers of projects with a total building valuation $4,000,000 are required to install a sculpture approved by the City.

Developers are responsible for selecting an artist, commissioning the artwork, and maintaining the artwork. Each developer submits their proposed artwork for review by the Art in Public Places Advisory Committee, who reviews the sculpture application based upon policy-defined criteria, such as artist’s qualifications and durability of materials. The multi-step application and approval process includes milestones that should be considered when developing a construction schedule. Please see Brea's Art in Public Places Policy Manual for details.
Brea’s Art in Public Places Program has received positive feedback and support from the local Development Community. Some of the feedback we have received from Developers includes:

- Artwork acts as a way to set their project apart from the crowd.
- Artwork acts as a magnet for commercial and retail shoppers.
- Artwork is a “place-maker,” linking commercial and residential developments with memorable, iconic images.

Brea’s Development Community recognizes that sculpture brings more than capital value to development projects; Developers appreciate the cultural value artwork brings to the community. Outdoor artwork is seen as a “giveback” to counterbalance the more negative effects of development, such as increased traffic, visual blight, and construction noise.

Widely acknowledged as one of the most intriguing collections of public artwork in the country, the City has also received positive feedback from residents and visitors. Residents often remark that the sculptures are part of the reason Brea is a special place to live. Students from elementary school through college regularly visit sculptures in Brea’s “outdoor gallery” as part of their art education. Individuals and groups enjoy the self-guided highlight tour of selected pieces featuring artists from New York, Florence, and Tokyo.

The Self-Guided Highlight Tour, featuring a map and color photos of 20 of Brea’s Art in Public Places sculptures, is available at the Brea Art Gallery gift shop for only $2. You may contact the Brea Art Gallery gift shop at (714) 990-7730 for hours of operation.

For questions about Brea’s Art in Public Places Program, or to purchase a hardcopy of the Art in Public Places Policy Manual for $10, please email Trinitee Manuel, Art in Public Places Specialist, at triniteem@cityofbrea.net or call (714) 671-4452. To download a copy free of charge, click here.