Tarpon Springs
Public Art Committee
(TSPAC)

The TSPAC meets the third Tuesday of every month at 1 p.m. in the Tarpon Springs Public Library. Members of the community are welcome to attend. For more information, please contact Denise Manning at (727) 943-4922 ext. 10 or dmanning@ctsfl.us

Current TSPAC members:
Lynn F. Pierson, Chair
Suzanne E. Murphy
Sherry Orr
Rene L.C. Torres

City Staff Support:
Advisor, Dr. Kathleen Monahan
City Liaison, Denise Manning
The mission of the Tarpon Springs Public Art Program is to enrich community through art in our surroundings and life.

**Purpose and Value of Public Art**
Public Art surrounds and enlivens the world around us and stems from the philosophy that everyone should have access to art. Free and out in the open, public art evokes a community’s visual expression and sense of place.

Sculpture, monuments, and murals are the most traditional forms of public art—but public art can be anything from architecture to graffiti.

**Tarpon Springs Public Art Program**
Florida’s first Public Art Program was created in the 1970s. Public Art in Tarpon Springs has a long history, but lacked an organized structure to help efforts flourish. In 2007, the TSPAC was formed. Appointed by the City’s Board of Commissioners, the TSPAC administers the Public Art Program.

The TSPAC is made up of urban and landscape planners, engineers, professional artists, and interested public citizens. All members reside in the City.

**Support for Public Art Programs**
Funding for Public Art in any city is derived mostly from a percentage of new building construction. Private donors can lend their support for a specific project or to match existing city funds. Grants also provide funding.

**Artistic Beginnings**
Tarpon Springs, where the Anclote River spills into the Gulf of Mexico and bayous shelter manatees in winter, has attracted artists for more than a century.

World-renowned landscape painter, George Inness, and other famous artists have been inspired by the living history, pristine beauty, and unique culture that is Tarpon Springs. The City continues to ignite the imagination and creativity of a vibrant arts community: home to an annual plein air event, outdoor art festivals, and the celebrated Leepa-Rattner Museum of Art, St. Petersburg College.