



# City of Port Moody

## Report/Recommendation to Council

Date: March 12, 2021  
Submitted by: Community Services Department – Cultural Services Division  
Subject: Art in Public Spaces Master Plan

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### Purpose

To present Council with a final draft Art in Public Spaces Master Plan for consideration of adoption.

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### Recommended Resolution(s)

**THAT the Art in Public Spaces Master Plan be adopted as recommended in the report dated March 12, 2021 from the Community Services Department – Cultural Services Division regarding Art in Public Spaces Master Plan.**

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### Background

In the 2018-2027 Arts and Culture Master Plan, developing a Public Art Master Plan is one of the action items identified (#3.1.1). Work on this plan began in 2019 by engaging Patricia Huntsman Culture + Communication to lead the City in developing this new master plan. Early in the process the plan evolved from a Public Art Master Plan to an Art in Public Spaces Master Plan.

The draft plan was presented to Council on October 6, 2020 (**Attachment 1**) where the following resolutions were passed:

#### CW20/081-082

THAT the draft Art in Public Spaces Master Plan be endorsed as recommended in the report dated September 23, 2020 from the Community Services Department – Cultural Services Division regarding the Draft Art in Public Spaces (Public Art) Master Plan;

AND THAT staff present the draft Art in Public Spaces Master Plan to the Economic Development Committee, Tourism Committee, Heritage Commission, and the Port Moody Arts Centre Society Board for their review;

AND THAT staff seek public feedback on the draft Art in Public Spaces Master Plan through the City website.

THAT the terminus of the service road in Bert Flinn Park be included as a potential site for placemaking and/or public art installation

## Discussion

Staff presented an overview of the draft Art in Public Spaces Master Plan to the Economic Development Committee, Heritage Commission, and the Port Moody Arts Centre Society Board for their comments. A review with the Tourism Committee was not possible as that committee has not yet been established for 2021.

With each review, only a few comments were provided and some questions asked. The following is a summary of the comments received.

### Heritage Commission

- intangible and tangible heritage components could be reflected more throughout the plan;
- would like to see public art within the different neighbourhoods throughout the city (not just concentrated in certain areas);
- had a good impression of heritage in the plan (can have overlapping themes – mid-colonial and Indigenous); and
- suggested adding the location of the artworks in the photos used in the plan.

### PoMoArts Board

- questions related to how the plan would be funded and if there would be an increase in funding to support public artworks; and
- do events such as The Shuffle – Port Moody Artwalk fit within this plan.

### Economic Development Committee

- commented on ensuring that placemaking near businesses were created with the area in mind;
- consider lunch time activations/programming near businesses (as well as at other times);
- like the emphasis on art in public spaces rather than just public art; and
- would like to see guidance for arts-based businesses on how to use the arts to attract more people.

Public feedback on the draft Art in Public Spaces Master Plan was facilitated through [engage.portmoody.ca](https://engage.portmoody.ca), an online platform where participants register to learn about plans and projects, share ideas, and provide feedback. Between February 1 and March 3, 2021, participants were able to review the draft document, leave a comment on the plan, and pose questions to staff.

Out of the 28 engaged participants, 27 shared a total of 30 comments (**Attachment 2**), and three posed a question to staff. 96% of respondents are residents, and 23% own or operate a business in Port Moody.

Engaged participants heard about this feedback opportunity through direct correspondence from Engage Port Moody (23), a referral (4), and email (3).

The comments received reflect a wide variety of feedback. The common and relevant topics, along with the number of times it was reflected in a comment, can be summarized as:

- would like to see the City focus funding on supporting artists (studios, galleries, etc): 11;
- question that we are, or should be defined as *City of the Arts*: 8;
- dislike our current inventory of public artworks: 6;
- disapprove of spending money (developer and/or public funds) on public artworks: 6;
- expressed concern of the timing of this plan/funding due to COVID: 6;
- generally supportive of the arts and the plan: 5;
- would like to see one or more larger, iconic public artworks: 2;
- prefer that funds be allocated to support other civic projects: 2; and
- would like the City to focus on smaller, less expensive initiatives: 1.

One question posed was related to a process on the Engage.portmoody site, while the other two questions received were regarding the cost to implement the plan. The following response was provided:

The draft Art in Public Spaces Master Plan does not have a budget attached to it. Once we have a final Plan that has been adopted by Council, an implementation framework will be developed, and potential partners and funding options will be considered for the various actions. Some of the recommended supporting actions require no budget and some propose an approach rather than a specific item that can be costed at this time. For those supporting actions that will require a budget, a project plan will be developed with a proposed budget, which will be presented to Council for their consideration as that supporting action is being developed. Costs for each action will vary based on Council's approved project scope and identified partners.

In response to the feedback received and from conversations with the Arts and Culture Committee, the draft plan was updated (**Attachment 3**) with the following key revisions:

- the following statement was added: *Artists need affordable spaces to create, and must be compensated fairly for their work* (page 18);
- the following statement (from Council's 2019-2022 Strategic Plan) was added: *We are a welcoming community that celebrates and defends diversity* (page 31);
- developer contributions have been further detailed to include options for public artworks, financial contributions, and creative spaces (page 35);
- Bert Flinn Park service road has been added as a priority site (page 36);
- the locations of the artworks featured in the photos has been added; and
- general editing throughout the document to improve further clarity and grammar.

Some of the feedback received has elements that are currently reflected in the plan. This includes bringing the arts into the communities; developing placemaking projects that reflect the areas in which they occur; and, ensuring that heritage (cultural and natural) are considered when projects and programs are considered. Some of the other feedback received was outside the scope of this plan, but will still be valuable for its implementation (i.e. placemaking/programming that also support businesses) or as a future initiative (i.e. developing a document with suggestions on how businesses may be able to incorporate the arts).

Following the review of the draft plan and the edits made as a result, staff now recommend that the plan be adopted. However, Council should be aware that the implementation of the plan will commence slowly due to the budget reductions necessitated by the pandemic. At this time, the Public Art Coordinator position, which is essential in the implementation of this plan, remains vacant (since March 2020 due to reductions).

Staff also recognize that these difficult times require an additional level of financial care and would prioritize no-cost and low-cost actions during the initial implementation of the plan. The plan was initially intended to have a five-year implementation timeframe; however, given the limitations at this time due to COVID, the implementation timeframe will most likely range from five to seven years.

Following adoption, an implementation framework will be developed. At this time no, funding is being requested for the implementation of the plan. Funding will be requested as the actions are being developed for implementation and presented to Council for consideration.

### Other Option(s)

Council may choose to provide further direction to staff regarding the contents and implementation of the Art in Public Spaces Master Plan.

### Financial Implications

There are no financial implications related to the adoption of the Art in Public Spaces Master Plan. As specific action items are explored, implementation strategies and associated budgets will be brought to Council for consideration.

### Communications and Civic Engagement Initiatives

An announcement of the plan, once adopted, will be made through social media and the plan will be publicly available on the City website.

### Council Strategic Plan Objectives

The Art in Public Spaces Master Plan touches on several areas of Council's Strategic Plan:

#### Exceptional Service

- Ensure City employees are engaged, properly equipped to do their work effectively, and motivated to build their careers in Port Moody;
  - Commit to strategies for employee engagement; and
  - Encourage innovative, critical, and creative thinking,
- Provide the public with transparent and open government, and opportunities to provide input on City issues;
  - Encourage public participation.
- Form effective relationships with service delivery partners, industries, and stakeholders to improve service delivery;
  - Strengthen relationships with other levels of government, First Nations, community groups, and partners; and
  - Seek partnerships where applicable for the provision of amenities.

### Healthy City

- Provide local services and access to amenities for residents of all ages and abilities;
  - Ensure plans and programs take into account the diverse needs of residents and factors related to age and other demographics such as income, languages, housing types, and abilities.

### Economic Prosperity

- Create an attractive and vibrant community through events, arts, and culture;
  - Encourage and promote community opportunities for the public to experience arts, culture, and heritage activities; and
  - Encourage and promote community events.

### Community Evolution

- Bring people together by activating public spaces;
  - Create engaging public spaces by incorporating or highlighting arts and culture, innovative urban design, events, recreation, natural assets; and
  - Engage Port Moody's creative community in beautifying the city.

### Attachment(s)

1. Draft Art in Public Spaces (Public Art) Master Plan, report dated September 23, 2020.
2. Engage Port Moody Public Comments.
3. Revised draft Art in Public Spaces Master Plan.

### Report Author

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## Report Approval Details

Document Title:	Art in Public Spaces Master Plan.docx
Attachments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Attachment 1 - Draft Art in Public Spaces (Public Art) Master Plan.pdf</li><li>- Attachment 2 - Engage Port Moody Public Comments.pdf</li><li>- Attachment 3 - Revised draft Art in Public Spaces Master Plan.pdf</li></ul>
Final Approval Date:	Mar 29, 2021

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

Ron Higo, General Manager of Community Services - Mar 26, 2021 - 8:02 AM

Dorothy Shermer, Corporate Officer - Mar 26, 2021 - 12:14 PM

Rosemary Lodge, Manager of Communications and Engagement - Mar 26, 2021 - 12:42 PM

Paul Rockwood, General Manager of Finance and Technology - Mar 27, 2021 - 6:48 PM

Tim Savoie, City Manager - Mar 29, 2021 - 5:16 AM