

# City of Grand Marais Public Art Policy

## City of Grand Marais Vision

Bring quality artistic expression in public spaces that complement our natural landscape to celebrate our unique identity bringing awe & wonder to the audience.

## Purpose and Intent

The purpose of this Public Art Policy (“Policy”) is to enhance the city of Grand Marais (the “city”) through public art. The intent of this Policy is to develop processes and policies that will:

- Guide the city’s approach to public art and provide a mechanism for the inclusion of public art throughout the city.
- Enhance community identity and aesthetics.
- Provide high quality public art through diversity in artistic expression.
- Enrich the city’s public landscape for its community members and visitors.
- Provide community stakeholders with a forum to share their perspectives and knowledge.
- Provide a process by which the city and the Cook County Creative Economy Collaborative (the “CEC”) can work collaboratively to accomplish the city’s vision.

**Note:** This Public art Policy shall not apply to art procured for or located at any city owned buildings nor any art on privately owned properties.

## Definitions

### “city”

The city refers to the city of Grand Marais, Minnesota.

### “CEC”

The CEC refers to the Cook County Creative Economy Collaborative

### “Public art”

Public art means physical works of art or craft , whether owned by the city, or not, in any medium that have been reviewed against adopted and standardized criteria, approved, and formally accepted by the city for installation within a public place, including buildings or land Public art may include sculpture, murals, fountains, and any other form of two or three dimensional work in any physical medium appropriate for the location and otherwise meeting the approval criteria. It may be temporary or permanent work.

### “Public Place”

A public place is a publicly accessible landscape, structure, and infrastructure owned or under the jurisdiction of the city of Grand Marais. Public places include, but are not limited to public parks, streets, and boulevards (right-of-way), and buildings.

### “Artist(s)”

An artist is an individual who creates original work of art and is recognized by professional peers and critics as a professional practitioner of the visual, craft, literary, musical, conceptual, or performing arts, as judged by the quality of that practitioner’s body of work and experience. This recognition is demonstrated

in the artist's resume through credentials such as professional training, an exhibition record, past public art commissions, published work, previous performances, reviews, and recommendations.

## **City Goals**

- A well-defined process to consider gifted or proposed art projects for placement in public places.
- Engage the CEC boards for review and advice in art accession and deaccession.
- Provide public engagement in public art selection and placement.
- Public art placement is considered within the entire community. (some of these are public, but not city owned and require coordination with the property owner) Examples include:
  - Public school grounds
  - Community Center
  - Court House grounds
  - Library grounds
  - Law Enforcement
- Public art is inventoried and maintained.

## **Duties and Responsibilities of the CEC**

- Utilize the city process to review and evaluate public art proposals submitted to the city.
- Make recommendations to the city council and city staff on matters pertaining to the selection, location, restoration, and maintenance of public art.
- Make recommendations to the city council and city staff regarding the terms of the proposed License and Maintenance Agreements related to public art.
- Coordinate physical and logistical components of public art installation with city staff, and the artist, including matters related to transportation and signage.
- Serve as an information conduit for the city staff and artists relating to public art projects.
- Maintain an inventory to track all public art including information including the title, artist and date of acceptance and installation and maintenance plan and original application material.

## **Accession – Acceptance of public art.**

### **Application Process**

- The artist completes the city application.
- The application was provided to the Council at a Council meeting for awareness and serving as notice to the community.
- The CEC reviews the application along with any supporting materials.
- If the CEC supports, and site location is within city park property, the application and supporting materials are sent to the Park Board for review and support.
- CEC holds one public meeting to gather community input OR....

The public art installation proposal will be announced to the public at a regular city council meeting and then made available for public review and comment for a minimum of thirty days after the Arts Commission's recommendation has been submitted to the city council.

- CEC and the Park Board (if applicable) provide written recommendation to the city council.
- Final Consideration and Decision by the city council.

**Review Criteria** – suggested considerations listed under each criterion.

- **Artist Expertise**

Consider the artist's values and inspired interest.

Evaluate credentials of the artist noting expertise and experience

- **Proposed Art**

Does the proposed work exemplify excellence?

Is the design technically feasible and of the highest quality?

Is fabrication completed with established processes and methods.

Consideration for realistic timeline and construction schedule for deliverables and completion

Quality control of production checkpoints

Copyright and ownership of project

- **Community Compatibility & Aesthetic**

Consider the Grand Marais' unique artistic, cultural, and creative attributes that collectively form its community identity and aesthetic.

Compatibility with neighborhood area, land use and parks.

Relevance of the proposed art to the site within the context of other artworks in the area and the general setting.

Consider sight lines, viewing angles and appropriateness of the scale to the site.

The work is not overwhelmed by and does not compete with adjacent structures, signs, etc.

Does it enhance the site?

Results in landmark focal points and destination place.

- **Financing**

Cost schedule and contingencies (total budget including insurance, if applicable.)

Examine budgetary considerations including maintenance, installation, transportation, and purchase prices of the piece must be considered.

Establish if there is funding secured for the ongoing maintenance and repair of public art.

Determine if there is cost and burden for the city of anticipated on-going maintenance and repair throughout the project's lifespan.

Documents financial commitments and project partners/financers

- **Safety & Sustainability**

Review design and fabrication for any hazard or safety issues in relation to placement and access to the public.

Engineering and structural concerns are adequately addressed.

Suitability for display, including consideration of maintenance and conservation requirements.

Confirm Insurance liability has been addressed.

Review maintenance manual.

- **Community Involvement & Sensitivity**

Does the proposed art encourage engagement with the community?

Placement should include community involvement and along with sensitivity to the people and community it represents.

Tells the story of people, places, and events.

Preference to local or regional artists

Communication and promotion strategies developed to celebrate the public art.

**DISCLAIMER:** Proposed public art will reflect favorably upon the city of Grand Marais. Public art that contains any type of content (direct or overt) related to political, religious, moral, or social issues and anything otherwise inappropriate in a public place will not be allowed. The city of Grand Marais, at its sole discretion, refuses to allow consideration, placement, or installation of art that it deems to be inappropriate considering the purpose and intent.

## **Maintenance**

### **Inventory**

A database will be used to inventory, photograph, document, and track all public art including information including the title, artist and date of acceptance and installation and maintenance plan and original application material.

### **Maintenance**

When accepted, public art proposals should include a maintenance manual, which outlines any treatment and maintenance related to the public art, including frequency and type of maintenance to be performed. The maintenance manual will also ensure the integrity of the public art and propose funding and maintenance for the lifespan of the public art. The city and/or artist/creative may make agreements for maintenance of the public art.

Public art not owned by the city shall be subject to a License and Maintenance Agreement between the owner of the public art and the city. The owner or provider of the public art shall be responsible for all

maintenance, insurance and repair costs associated with the public art, unless otherwise agreed by the city and approved by the city council.

## **Funding**

The city does not provide funding for public art projects. All projects must secure funding from an outside source. The CEC is not a formal city board and as such, the city does not provide financial support to the CEC.

## **Removal of Public art - Deaccession.**

The Grand Marais Art and Culture Commission will consider requests to evaluate the deaccession, or official removal of public art from a public place.

### **Considerations for removal of public art:**

- It has no relevance or serves no exhibition function.
- It is a duplicate of other public art.
- It no longer meets the current standards for public art.
- Due to concerns for public safety when it becomes a hazard or a public liability.
- It is in a seriously deteriorated condition.

Public Meeting: If a request for deaccession is received and concerns are validated, the CEC will advertise and hold at least one public meeting for the purpose of gathering community feedback on a proposed deaccession process. The artist (if possible) shall be contacted and invited to provide comments.

Or...Each request for removal shall be announced to the public at a regular city council meeting and then made available for public review and comment for a minimum of thirty days before action is taken by the city council.

Local media utilized, including newspaper notice procedures will be followed to announce the meeting.

**NOTE:** The city retains the right to relocate or remove public art from public display for any reason, at the sole discretion of the city. Reasons for removing public art from public display may include, but not be limited to hazards to public health, safety, or welfare; unsightly or deteriorated conditions of the public art; or the need to access, repair and maintain public facilities.

## **Compliance with Applicable Policies and Regulations**

Deaccession and removal of public art shall be done in a manner that complies with all other applicable city, state and federal procedures, policies, and regulations. For example, deaccession and removal actions must comply with applicable procedures and laws relating to the disposition of city property and with laws protecting artists' rights.