



Corporate NO: R168

Report COUNCIL DATE: July 16, 2001_

REGULAR			
TO:	Mayor & Council	DATE:	July 11, 2001
FROM:	General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture	FILE:	8090-002
SUBJECT:	Public Art Policy Review		

RECOMMENDATION

That Council approve the Public Art Advisory Committee's recommendations for revisions to the Public Art Policy as outlined in this report and a Procedure change outlined in Appendix A.

BACKGROUND

The Public Art Policy was approved by Council in May, 1998. Section D.5 of the Policy states: "PAAC will review and recommend revisions of the Public Art Policy, to Surrey City Council on a tri-annual basis or as required." In accordance with this Section, PAAC initiated a review of the Policy beginning in September, 2000. This report summarizes the revisions PAAC is recommending to City Council both in policy and procedure. The report also includes two revisions that were made by Council in the last year.

DISCUSSION

The Public Art Advisory Committee held a workshop in September, 2000 to review the policy in depth, consider any procedural changes or improvements and identify areas for staff to research. Subsequently, PAAC has reviewed and thoroughly discussed the policy and procedural revisions. Staff have also brought the proposed policy and procedural revisions to the attention of members of the Interdepartmental Art Team (representatives from Planning and Development, Engineering, Finance, Facilities Management, Parks, Recreation & Culture) for their consideration and input.

Changes to the Policy Previously Approved by Council

1. Conflict of Interest: *Section C.3.1*

Background: The intent of this revision approved by Council at their May 1, 2000 Regular Council meeting was to preclude the perception that an individual could obtain a contract through privileged information, and to proactively identify what may be considered to be a conflict.

Original wording in the Policy:

Members of PAAC and ad hoc PAAC selection committees are disqualified from directly or indirectly benefiting from their participation in the public art policy.

Final amendment - Resolution No. Res.R00-1115

That Section C.3.1 of the City's Public Art Policy be amended to read as follows:

Members of PAAC are disqualified from directly or indirectly benefiting from their participation in the Public Art Policy Committee during their tenure and for a period of twelve (12) months following the completion of their term, Committee members are not permitted to participate in PAAC projects.

2. Council Liaise: Section C.1.2

Background: At the Monday, January 8, 2001 Regular Council meeting, the following resolution was adopted (*revisions are underlined*):

“That the following revised Terms of Reference for the Public Art Advisory Committee be approved:

C.1.2. PAAC will be a voluntary committee of eleven (11) members selected from the following disciplines: urban designer, landscape architect, architect, visual artist, art historian, art administrator, educator, curator, visual arts consultant, developer, civil engineer, art critic/writer, heritage professional, performing artist, with at least one member from the community at large, and two City Councillors. At least five members of PAAC will be drawn from the arts field. Members of PAAC should demonstrate significant knowledge in the field of public art and be familiar with the Surrey community. The majority of members will be residents of Surrey.

At the February 2nd PAAC meeting, it was clarified by the two City Councillors that they are liaison members only - not members of PAAC. Thus, Councillors Steele and Villeneuve asked staff to have the Clerks Office make an amendment to the policy that would reflect this clarification. Arts Section Staff recommended the following two part action be taken:

- (a) reverse the January 8th change to C.1.2. of the Public Art Policy and return it to its original state by removing the underlined items indicated above; and,
- (b) change the existing policy from:

“C.1.3 PAAC reports to Council and liaises with Council through the City staff member appointed to act as official liaison.”

to the following proposed wording (revisions underlined):

"C.1.3. PAAC reports to Council through a City Staff member (General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture and designated staff) appointed to act as official liaison, and liaises with Council through two City Councillors."

New Policy Changes Recommended by PAAC

1. Funding Strategy: Section B.2.2.

Background: PAAC and the Interdepartmental Art Team (IAT) recommended a revision that would simplify the language of Section B.2.2. in order to streamline the policy implementation and to provide a more positive base. IAT staff are working together to propose a fair and equitable process by which private sector projects qualify for public art inclusion and to determine funding.

Existing wording in Policy:

B.2.2. The "Percentage for Public Art" is a flat rate of 1.25% of the total construction cost of selected City capital projects which have been processed through the Long Term Capital Planning Model and privately constructed projects for which the City has made significant contributions. The flat rate will not apply to non-construction components of identified projects (e.g. architects & consulting fees, City permits, DCC's, etc.) Excluded projects would include roads, in-ground water, sewer & drainage structures and other structures with limited visual impact or public accessibility.

Recommended revision (changes are underlined):

B.2.2. The "Percentage for Public Art" is a flat rate of 1.25% of the total construction cost of selected capital projects funded in full or in part by the City. The flat rate will not apply to non-construction components of identified projects (e.g. architects & consulting fees, City permits, DCC's, etc.) Projects may include selected buildings, above-ground structures and civic amenities when it is determined by PAAC in consultation with civic staff that they have visual impact and public accessibility.

2. Terms of Service/ Membership on PAAC: Section C.1.4.

Background: The current Policy does not state a limit to the number of terms an individual could be re-appointed by Council. PAAC wants to ensure that both a broad range of community opinions and fresh ideas are represented through the PAAC membership. However, PAAC wishes to balance these aspirations with the benefits gained from continuity of membership. They also wish to be consistent with the length of service on other civic volunteer committees. The Deputy City Clerk was consulted. PAAC also reviewed the Terms of References for the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission, Advisory Design Panel and the Heritage Advisory Commission.

At their December 12, 2000 meeting, PAAC moved to change the existing wording from :

Members of PAAC are appointed for a three year term. The first terms of appointment are staggered so that some members of PAAC will sit for two years and other members three years to accommodate the future rotation of members.

to the recommended new wording (changes underlined):

Members of PAAC are appointed for a three year term. That members of the Public Art Advisory Committee may not serve for more than two consecutive 3-year terms. However, after at least one year out of office, a past member of PAAC may reapply and may be considered for reappointment by Council.

Please note that this recommended change includes removing the redundant sentence regarding the first term of appointments being staggered.

Procedural Changes Recommended by PAAC

Re: Gifts, Donations and Bequests of Artwork –Acquisitions and Deaccessioning Guidelines and Procedures: *Section D.3 and D.4*

Background: One of PAAC's responsibilities (Section C.2.4.) is:

“To advise Council on the implementation and maintenance of a civic public art inventory and the implementation of the accessioning and de-accessioning components of the Public Art Policy.”

Section D.3.2. states:

“The guidelines for acceptance of gifts, donations and bequests of items accepted, the criteria for acceptance, the placement of art work, acceptance of time limited loans, the procedures of documentation and the authentication of proposed art work to professional standard - are all to be developed by the PAAC.”

In accordance with Sections C.2.4, D.3.2. and Section D.4 (De-accessioning of Artwork), the “Gifts, Donations and Bequest of Artwork - Acquisitions and De-accessioning Guidelines and Procedures” have been developed and are included as an attachment. (See Appendix A: Acquisitions and De-Accessioning Guidelines)

CONCLUSION

In accordance with Section D.5.1 of the Public Art Policy, PAAC has completed a review of the Policy. The recommended changes to the policy include streamlining the Funding Strategy to ensure a fair and equitable approach to including private sector projects, and clarifying the Terms of Service to ensure consistency, freshness and broad representation. The recommended procedural change outlines the development of “Gifts, Donations and Bequests of Artwork – Acquisitions and Deaccessioning Guidelines and Procedures” in accordance with Sections D.3 and D.4. PAAC has been diligent and mindful in reviewing the Policy and believes that these recommendations serve to strengthen the original intention, purposes and goals of the policy.

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Manager of Parks, Recreation
and Culture

