PUBLIC ART ACTIVITY GUIDELINES

Public art activities play an important role in distinguishing Wellington as a sophisticated, tolerant, dynamic city with creativity at its heart.

Public art activity encompasses:

- artists contributing to the thinking and design of public places and spaces
- art concepts and/or artworks and/or design features integrated into urban design developments (including buildings, streets and parks)
- artists working in and with communities in public spaces
- art processes and artworks in the public sphere that may be variously described as sculpture, murals, street-art, performance, new-genre public art, relational aesthetics and/or installations.
PUBLIC ART POLICY (2012)
The Council’s Public Art Policy outlines eight desired outcomes for public art activity, which form the basis for the approval and prioritisation of public art activities in Wellington City.

The outcomes express Wellington’s commitment to the role of public art in the overall strategic planning of the city. They will also contribute to the implementation of the Council’s strategy Towards 2040: Smart Capital and its Arts and Culture Strategy.

The outcomes are:

1. Wellington’s public art activities will be fresh and innovative.
2. Public art activities in Wellington’s suburban centres enhance sense of place.
3. Māori whakapapa1 and history are expressed in Wellington’s public art activity.
4. The city’s diverse communities are represented through public art activities.
5. Wellingtonians are more engaged in the development of public art activity.
6. The city’s public infrastructure integrates art concepts and/or design features and/or physical artworks.
7. Initiate and implement programmes to communicate and educate people about Wellington’s public art activity.
8. Public art activities directly contribute to social and economic change and urban/suburban revitalisation in Wellington.

You can view the full Public Art Policy at Wellington.govt.nz

PUBLIC ART PANEL
The Public Art Panel is made up of professionals in various arts fields. They provide expert advice to guide the development of public art activity in Wellington City.

The Chair of the Panel makes the final decision on support provided to projects.

The PAP comprises:

- five Council Officers, including:
  - Chair, Manager City Arts team
  - PAP Administrator, Arts Advisor, City Arts team
  - Officer responsible for maintenance of public artworks
  - Manager, Treaty Relations team
  - Representative from the Urban Design team

- three–four independent members, including:
  - Curator Māori, Indigenous Art, Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa
  - Curator, City Gallery Wellington

PAP members:

- maintain a curatorial overview of public art activity in Wellington
- contribute to the development of a public artwork programme that meets the Council’s desired outcomes for public art activity
- advise the Council on proposals for public art activity
- advise on commissioning processes and artist selection methods
- make recommendations to the Council on the acquisition, bequest, donation or loan of art for public spaces
- make recommendations on works that should be relocated or de-accessioned
- liaise with key public art stakeholders — Mana Whenua, Wellington Sculpture Trust and Wellington Waterfront Ltd
- suggest ways to develop sector skills and nurture the creation of public art projects.

FURTHER INFORMATION
For information on the assessment process for public art proposals, please refer to the Assessment Guidelines for Public Art Activity.

If you wish to submit a public art proposal, please complete a Public Art Activity Proposal Application.

For more information about public art in Wellington, please contact Eve Armstrong, Arts Advisor, City Arts, email: Eve.Armstrong@wcc.govt.nz or phone (04) 803 8207.

1 The Māori term ‘whakapapa’ is used to describe genealogies, and the many spiritual, mythological and human stories that flesh out the genealogical backbone.