

JULY 2023

PUBLIC ART STRATEGIC PLACEMENT PLAN 2023-2028



Acknowledgment of Country

The City of Kingston proudly acknowledges the Bunurong People of the Kulin Nation as the Traditional Owners and Custodians of this land, and we pay our respect to their Elders, past, present and emerging.

Council acknowledges the Bunurong's continuing relationship to the land and waterways and respects that their connection and spiritual identity is maintained through ancient ceremonies, song lines, dance, art and living culture.

Council pays tribute to the invaluable contributions of the Bunurong and other Aboriginal and Torres Strait elders who have guided, and continue to guide the work we do.

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Executive Summary

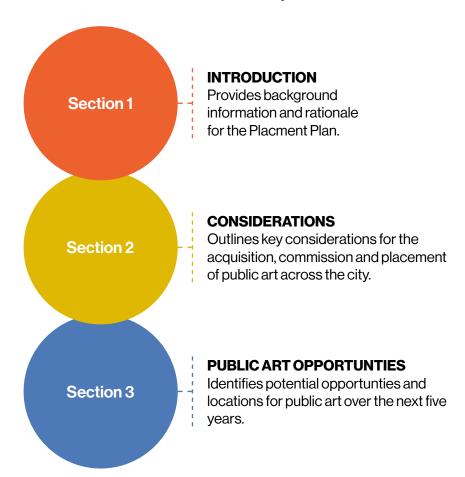
The City of Kingston is committed to fostering a thriving and innovative arts and culture scene, which is both diverse and inclusive. These vital elements are reinforced and reflected in Our Council Plan 2021-25, where liveability plays a central role in creating a vibrant, enjoyable and easy place to live.

Council acknowledges that Public Art is an important element in the city's cultural and creative vitality and seeks to build a public art collection that reflects and adds value to the distinctive character and lifestyle of the city.

To achieve this goal, Council contributes 2 per cent of the Kingston capital budget for open space and building projects over \$1,000,000 in value to public art. These funds are allocated to a Cultural Asset Reserve for the commissioning of new public art within infrastructure and new developments.

The purpose of the Public Art Placement Plan is to contextualise the abundant opportunities that await and to provide direction for investment in the delivery of site specific, relevant and strategically planned public art across the city. Ongoing collaboration with community, business owners and developers will be important to achieving our goals.

The Public Art Placement Plan is compiled as follows:



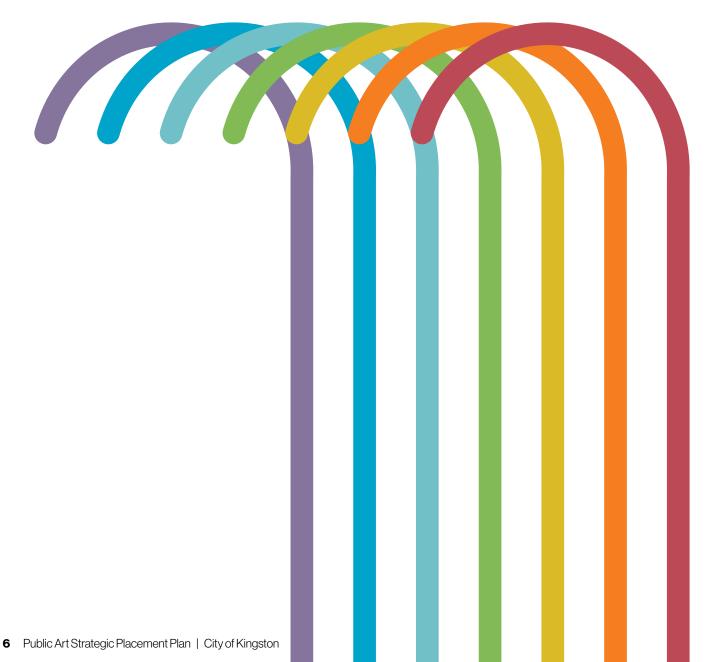
1. Introduction

Background & Rationale

In October 2022, Council resolved to review and revitalise its strategic framework for implementing and managing the city's Public Art Program, comprising:

- The renewal of Council's Public Art Policy
- The creation of a Strategic Placement Plan that considers interconnected Public Art Trails and high-profile and high-priority zones across the municipality
- · The development of Public Art Guidelines.

The Resolution was initiated to strengthen the existing Public Art Program, and establish a plan that is in step with Council's broader corporate objectives, community expectations and the changing cultural landscape of the city.



Public Art Strategic Framework

The below suite of strategic documents provides a unified framework and guide for the delivery of public art.

Together, they form the masterplan for the implementation and management of the city's public art program over the next five years, and should be utilised as a collective guide when:

- Planning for capital works and infrastructure projects (including private and public sector development)
- Scheduling for asset maintenance and infrastructure renewal
- Creating or reviewing relevant policy/planning documents or strategies
- Developing placemaking and public art events and activities.

The considerations and artwork opportunities contained in these documents will be utilised by the following to inform their public art projects:

- Council officers
- Property developers
- Consultants, contractors, artistic advisors engaged by Council and/or advisory groups convened by Council
- Artists, art groups, business owners, residents and community groups.
- Government agencies and funding bodies

Public Art Public Art Public Art Policy Placement Plan Guidelines Provides a Provides best Provides guidance formalised for public art practice procedures and consistent invesment and and process framework to deliver identifies locations for acquisition, for public art across the city's public art commission and collection program. priority areas, spaces and projects management. across the city.



2. Considerations

This section of the Placement Plan outlines key considerations for the acquisition, commission and placement of public art across the city.

These underpinning factors are important to the overall delivery of a connected, cohesive and strategically planned program.

These considerations are intended to inform conceptual planning and development of public art and public art events led by Council, developers and community.

	The Role of Public Art in Kingston
0	What's Important to Community?
	Public Art Budget and Typeologies
0	Kingston's Existing Public Art Collection
0	Guiding Principles
	Curatorial Themes and Narratives

The Role of Public Art in Kingston

Research tells us that cities with an active and dynamic cultural and creative scene are more attractive for people to visit, work or reside, and that public art can be a catalyst for establishing a city's unique creative and cultural reputation.

As well as its ability to generate visitation and cultural tourism, Council recognises that public art is an essential and fundamental part of our daily lives. It beautifies our city, celebrates our diversity and our history, and fosters community pride.

Our Council Plan 2021-25 emphasises Council's aspirations to create a city that is rich in arts, innovation and tourism. Council views public art as a vital tool to reaching the vision.

Investing in the public realm and incorporating public art into the city's urban design objectives is essential to establishing the City of Kingston as a creative, liveable and world-class city.

Public Art...

...talks to the narrative of place

... can provide the community with their first connection to our Indigenous culture

... gives our community pride in where they live

... shows the character of our community and our city

... creates a destination for the broader community to visit

... goes to the heart of health and wellbeing

... beauifies an area, makes you smile and think

What's important to Community

The process for developing the Public Art Placement Plan has been driven by a people-centred approach to planning. Feedback, advice and observations have come from more than 200 community and internal stakeholders helping to shape the principles of the plan and identify locations for public art across the city.

Findings outlined in the Public Art Consultation Report highlights the intrinsic value of public art to the vitality of Kingston. This is a snapshot of what stakeholders told us was important.



Determining Scale, Type and Budget



Street Art and Murals such as 2D painted artworks on building facades, footpaths or public infrastructure.



Integrated Artworks such as landscape design, entry statements, wayfinding or footpath treatments.



Functional Artworks such as seating, shade structures, bike racks, or lighting.



Landmark Artworks such as large-scale, stand-alone sculptures.



Play-Friendly and Interactive Artworks such as slides and swings, waterplay, climbable or sensory artworks



New Media Artworks such as digital projections, soundscapes and light-based artworks

¹ Butterfly Renewal & The Monarchs 2022 Mike Makatron and sculptures by Damian Vick through Artbox Horscroft Place Pocket Park Moorabbin

² Untitled – Abbey Rich, Designer & Installer 2022 Karingal Hub Frankston

³ Cuttlefish Craig - Karen Carr 2022 Whyalla. Image Courtesy of Whyalla City Council

⁴ Pompei's Boat - Julie Squires 2010

⁵ Woven Fish - Brian Robinson Cairns Esplanade. Image Courtesy of Cairns Regional Council

⁶ Australian Birds - Julian Opie 2022 National Gallery of Victoria, City of Melbourne Collection

Artist fees vary between 20% and 40% of the project's overall budget, depending on the scope and scale of the artwork and the timeframes, technical nature, fabrication, materials, and level of assistance provided.

- National Association for Visual Arts (NAVA)

Identifying the scale, type and appropriate budget for the acquisition and commissioning of public artwork is a prerequisite in the early planning phase of the project. These considerations are often based on, and commensurate with, the specific site as well as the size and profile of the overall project or development. Case studies researched for this plan tell us that typically, public art projects range between \$50,000 to \$400,000 in value but there are also many major projects with far larger budgets.

Section 5.1 of the Public Art Policy details the range of services that may need to be considered when budgeting for the commission of public art. The Policy also encourages artworks to be responsive to the intended site and sympathetic to the surrounding built and natural environment as well as to the location's cultural and social history. The opposite examples of public art typologies are further referred to in the Public Art Guidelines.

Kingston's Existing Public Art Collection

The City of Kingston's current Public Art collection comprises around 20 documented artworks, including sculptures and a diverse range of murals produced by local, national and international artists.

The collection has been acquired over many years, primarily through Council's capital works, as well as via projects specifically designed to encourage community participation, urban revitalisation and social activities and events.

Community and stakeholder feedback suggests improvement in First Nations representation, as well as curatorial direction and the need for a broader diversity of artwork.

Stakeholders would also like to see a more balanced collection, with works by local, national and international artists, as well as the creation of bold and contemporary artworks that complement the city's existing collection.

The combined collection provides an important context for the Placement Plan. It is important that the location and theme of these public art assets is considered when planning new works.

Explore Public Art in Kingston



THE CENTAUR (1994)

By Wendy Reiss Kingston Arts Centre, Moorabbin



URBAN ANGELS (1994)

By Wendy Reiss Kingston Arts Centre, Moorabbin



RESTING PLACE (1999)

By Anne Ross Westfield Southland



WATERWAYS (2008)

By Ken Blum Bowen Park Bridge, Waterside Drive and Westbridge Board Walk, Waterways



EXCAVATOR (2008)

By Greg Johns Waterside Drive Waterways



ARGYLE (2007 - 2008)

By CPG Australia Lake King Circle, Waterways



BUNDLE OF STICKS (2008)

By Elizabeth Weissensteiner Clarinda Community Centre, Clarinda



HORSE (2009)

By Julie Squires Beach Road, Mordialloc



POMPEI'S BOAT (2010)

By Julie Squires Pompeis Landing, Mordialloc



TWO ACRE VILLAGE (2012)

By James Beattie & Andrew Bourke The Fore Apartments, Cheltenham



MOORABBIN JUNCTION (2014)

By James Beattie Kingston City Hall Moorabbin



TILLAGE (2014)

By Paul Johnson Roundabout at the intersection of Old Dandenong Rd, Centre Dandenong Rd & Tootal Rd, Dingley Village



UNUKOMUNO (2017)

By Ian Bracegirdle Westall Community Hub Fairbank Rd. Clayton South



NEW RIVIERA (2019)

By Julie Shiels Mentone Piazza. Mentone



Guiding Principles

The city's annual public art program, along with the acquisition, commissioning and management of public art, will be guided by aspirations expressed and defined through our engagement with community and stakeholders.

These eight guiding principles and core values aim to ensure that relevant and strategically planned public art is achieved. They provide a compass to direct decision making, investment and future planning.



Integration

into the initial planning stage of new developments and public spaces, and involving the conceptual contribution of artists at the earliest stage of design.



Responsive

to the intended site and sympathetic to the surrounding built and natural environment as well as to the location's cultural and social history.



Reflective

of a diverse range of creative expression and practice, while incorporating excellence, quality and innovation.



Enhancing

the visual amenity of the city, beautifying public infrastructure and strengthening pride in the city.



Accessible

to Kingston's diverse community, irrespective of age, ability, social or cultural background.



Cultivating

appropriate engagement with the Traditional Custodians, the Bunurong peoples.



A catalyst

for collaboration, co-operation and cross-sector partnerships and alliances with artists, communities, industry professionals and the private sector.



Managed through the processes outlined in the Public Art Policy and Public Art Guidelines.

Curatorial Themes

Identifying appropriate curatorial themes and narratives to guide the conceptual development of public art is crucial.

Ensuring relevant and meaningful themes that are responsive and sympathetic to a site's cultural and social history, its character or its stories will ensure greater appreciation by residents and visitors alike.

The determination of curatorial themes will require considered investigation and collaboration with the relevant stakeholders when planning for new works. These are a selection of fundamental subjects and ideas drawn from survey responses and discussions with stakeholders. They provide a starting point for further research and enquiry.

- First Nations Culture
- Health and Wellbeing
- Cultural Heritage
- **Cultural Diversity**
- Coastal Living and Lifestyle
- Creativity and Sustainability
- Environment natural flora and fauna, water sources, wetlands and grasslands.



Public Art Opportunities

This section of the Placement Plan identifies potential public art opportunities identified by Council, along with stakeholders, as priority locations for public art in Kingston.

Projects listed here are by no means set in stone and will rely on available funding.

These abundant opportunities provide a landscape for the integration and commission of new works over the next five years.

The public art opportunities have been categorised under:

- (a) Potential City of Kingston-led priority projects, with specific project themes: Major Developments; Gateways; Foreshores, Parks, Gardens and Playgrounds; Sports and Recreational Facilities; Accessibility Improvements; Activity Centres and Shopping Strip Revitalisations.
- (b) Community and Stakeholder-identified priority locations and the type of artworks they would like to see.







3. Public Art Opportunities



Public Art Opportunities



Where Stakeholders would like to see Public Art?



Pedestrian zones



Retail and shopping precincts



Foreshores



Residential streets



Sporting reserves, parks and gardens



Public Libraries

What type of Public Artworks do stakeholders want to see?



Street Art & Murals



Integrated artworks



Functional artworks



Landmark artworks



Play-friendly and interactive artworks





kingston.vic.gov.au

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