

Council Policy

Art Collection



Legislation/local law requirements	<i>Local Government Act 1995</i>
Relevant Delegation	N/A
Related policy procedures and documents	D22/64899 – City of Kwinana Public Art Masterplan Local Planning Policy No.5 – Development Contribution Towards Public Art

Introduction

Recognising the vital role of art in shaping vibrant, connected communities, the City of Kwinana values its art collection as both a cultural and financial asset that enhances public spaces, fosters civic pride, and enriches community identity. The Art Collection Policy provides a comprehensive framework for the acquisition, management, and conservation of artworks that reflect the City's rich history, diverse cultural identity, and unique sense of place.

Art Collections within Local Government contribute to placemaking, cultural tourism, and public engagement, while also supporting the creative economy and preserving local heritage. This policy ensures that all commissioning, purchasing, and decommissioning of artworks are conducted with transparency, cultural sensitivity, and a focus on celebrating the City's unique character.

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to outline the City of Kwinana's approach to collecting and commissioning artworks, including the when and why, and criteria for artwork purchases. By outlining clear objectives, criteria, and processes, the policy supports the City's commitment to fostering creativity, supporting local artists, and integrating art into civic infrastructure, contributing to cultural tourism and community wellbeing.

Objective

The primary objective of this policy is to provide a framework for development and management of the City's Art Collection.

Scope

This policy applies to the management of the City's artwork collection, including artworks that have been or will be:

- Purchased or commissioned by the City,
- Donated to the City, or
- Provided through Local Planning Policy No. 5 – Development Contributions toward Public Art.

Policy Provisions

Definitions

Art Collection - Any Moveable or Public Art which has been commissioned or acquired by the City.

Art Collection Management - The acquisition, maintenance and deaccessioning of items in the City's Art Collection.

Civic Infrastructure - Public buildings and spaces including parks provided to facilitate community activities and contribute to community health and wellbeing.

Deaccession - Officially remove an item from the Art Collection.

Moveable Art - Non-permanent indoor artworks which can be transported to various locations. This may include paintings, sculptures and maquettes.

Public Art - Permanent artworks which are displayed in or visually accessible from public spaces. This may include ground treatments, lighting, digital displays, screens, canopies, sculptures or murals.

Policy

The City's art collection is both a cultural and financial investment, built through the purchasing or commissioning of artworks that reflect Kwinana's history, people, place, and diverse cultural identity.

Through commissioning artwork, the City aims to:

- Develop and enhance a sense of place, pride, and ownership in public spaces.
- Improve the quality, attractiveness, functionality, and design of City buildings and public spaces.
- Increase public awareness and educate City staff on the value of art.
- Contribute to the development of cultural tourism opportunities.
- Add meaning to Kwinana's unique environment, history, and multicultural community.
- Improve legibility by introducing artworks that make streets and buildings more identifiable.
- Support local and Western Australian artists, with a focus on artists of Nyoongar heritage.

Funding and Purchasing Artworks

Artworks will be funded or purchased to be:

- Of the highest affordable quality.
- Commissioned works will be undertaken by professional artists with relevant specialist skills, as defined in Local Planning Policy No. 5 – Development Contribution to Public Art.
- Artworks purchased for digitisation in signage and promotional materials will be considered part of the City's collection and must be guided by this policy.
- All artworks purchased with City funds will be deemed City assets and included in the City's Art Collection Register, in accordance with collection procedures.

The City's Art Collection

The collection will include:

- Innovative contemporary art that reflects the City’s diverse community, encompassing history, identity, people, place, landscape, and cultural diversity.
- Artworks from artists who have lived in, worked in, or have a strong connection with Kwinana.
- Artworks aligned with the themes identified in the City’s Public Art Masterplan.
- Artworks by local Aboriginal artists.
- Two- and three-dimensional works in all media.

The City will consider, but is not obligated to accept:

- Artwork donations and gifts that align with the above criteria.
- Philanthropic monetary donations to support the growth of the City’s art collection.

De-accession, Disposal, and Repurposing

Artworks may reach the end of their life and be de-accessioned when they have fulfilled their purpose or can no longer be feasibly maintained. When de-accessioning occurs:

- The artwork will be documented.
- Contact will first be made with the donor, followed by the artist, to confirm if the item can be returned.
- The artwork will be removed from its site.
- The artwork will be de-registered as a City asset, following de-accessioning procedures.

Loans

Incoming or outgoing loan requests will be considered within the context of developing meaningful, reciprocal arrangements that benefit the City. Requests will be reviewed and approved by the Manager of Community Engagement, with a Loan Agreement signed by the applicant.

Conservation

The City of Kwinana recognises its responsibility to preserve and conserve its art collection. Efforts will be made to provide the best possible physical environment, preventative maintenance programs, and conservation services to ensure the collection is properly maintained. The ability to care for the collection will depend on available resources.

Maintenance, Repair, and Conservation

Maintenance and repair will be funded through the annual budget, determined by condition reports. The condition of the artwork will be first be determined by City Officers, professional advice will be sought as required. The artist will be given priority for any maintenance required on their artwork.

OFFICER USE ONLY

Officers may amend this section without council approval.

Responsible Team	Community Development	
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