

City of Rapid City, South Dakota  
Department of Parks and Recreation  
March, 2013

***Public Art Policy***

To enhance and protect the public spaces throughout the Rapid City Park System, the following guidelines, adopted by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board on January 10, 2013, have been developed to review requests for placement of displays or works of art in the City's public parks. All requests will be reviewed subject to the Master Plan developed for each park within the City. Due to the Department of Parks and Recreation's operational, security, and public safety requirements, Parks and Recreation Department staff will be responsible for placement of all approved exhibits in the park system.

An individual or group who desires to place any public art on city property will be required to submit a Public Art Request Form together with a detailed description of the display for evaluation by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. At a minimum the following items must be addressed:

1. Proposed location desired for the display. The proposed site must provide access and consider ADA regulations. It must be stable and able to support the artwork for a number of years (no construction plans for the site). The site should be visible and attract visitors and should be a safe location that is accessible and well lit.
2. Theme of the exhibit or display, its relevance and linkage to the community and the proposer's view of how the exhibit will resonate with the public. The Department desires that public art reflect and respect local values and character, be informative for the traveling public, and provide a source of community pride for area residents. The exhibit must be aesthetically and functionally compatible with the environment, and use appropriate subject matter for display in a family oriented public place frequented by persons of all ages. Exhibits or displays that offer a diversity of style, scale, media, ethnicity, subjects and gender are encouraged.
3. Historical prominence or significance of the artist or arts organization.
4. The construction methods and materials used in the display, and any impact it may have on the public safety, security, or fire exposure for the City, to include how the proposer envisions the exhibit will be mounted, affixed, or secured.
5. The total estimated value of the exhibit materials and all associated signage.

6. The proposer must address how the public art will fare against environmental elements and detail any special maintenance and cleaning requirements in order to permit the Parks and Recreation Department to accurately estimate the operational and financial impact of the proposed maintenance and cleaning requirements. Exhibits that contain materials which are inherently dangerous or unstable, are made out of materials which may decay, emit odors, or are extremely fragile will not be considered.
7. The proposer shall identify any sponsors and specify any planned promotional events for the public art such as grand opening event, tours or any other event or gathering.
8. Art is reviewed solely on its own merit.

Requests for placement of public art in the City's park system will be routed to the following City departments, boards and commissions for their review and comments:

- Community Planning & Development Office
- Public Works Department (Engineering)
- Risk Management
- Human Resources/ADA
- Rapid City Public Arts Council
- Other Departments, Boards and Commission as needed

If a public meeting to consider placement of a particular piece of artwork is deemed to be necessary by the Director of Parks and Recreation or designee, the applicant will be notified of the appropriate procedures to conduct such a meeting.

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board will be responsible for evaluating all requests for public art displays. Determination will be based on consideration of the following:

- The proposer's compliance with the selection criteria
- The Artwork is of interest to a broad range of people
- The artwork is engaging and of high quality in concept and construction
- The artwork is "one of a kind" and constructed so that it can be reasonably maintained. A maintenance endowment may be requested.
- Compliance with the park master plan and the availability of space in the park system
- The artwork is safe and durable considering its placement in a busy public setting
- Staff Comments, and
- Input from City Departments, Board or Commissions

In the specific instance of considering a piece of art, the Parks and Recreation Department may list additional criteria based upon their knowledge of the site or the vision for the art. For example, the Department may request an interactive sculpture, or outline dimensions (height, width, etc.).

At the time it is accepted by the Department of Parks and Recreation, all artwork placed on public property within the City's park system will become the property of the City of Rapid City.

The recommendation of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board for each public art request will be forwarded to the Public Works Committee for presentation to the Mayor and City Council for their approval.

Notification of final action taken by the City Council will be issued to the applicant in writing by the Parks and Recreation Department staff.

Adopted this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2013

CITY OF RAPID CITY

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Finance Office

(SEAL)