

ART-SPEAK PUBLIC ART ACQUISITION POLICY FOR THE CITY OF PORTSMOUTH

The City of Portsmouth is committed to acquiring public art by donation, acquisition or commission. Only original work will be considered for acceptance.

Art-Speak will be charged with the formation of a standing committee, whose role will be to oversee the acquisition and de-accession (removal) of public art for all city departments¹. This committee will consist of between 7 and 11 members and will consist of Art-Speak Board Members (minimum of two), city staff, and community members.

Proposed donations, acquisitions or commissions will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- The quality of the artwork.
- Appropriateness of the size, scale and materials for the site(s)
- Availability of an appropriate site.
- Costs of installation and maintenance of artwork.
- Condition and durability of the artwork.
- Aesthetic merit.
- Inclusion of a mandatory maintenance plan (including materials used and proper care for such materials)

All donated, acquired or commissioned works of *outdoor* art must include a cash stewardship donation of at least 10% of the cost of the artwork which will be added to the Public Art Trust for ongoing stewardship of public art. *Indoor* art may or may not require a stewardship donation, depending on the type of art. The standing committee will determine if a stewardship donation is required for a given piece of indoor art, and if so, the amount of the donation. If the artwork is donated, the committee will determine the value of the artwork.

Art-Speak, along with recommendations from appropriate city boards, city staff, and/or committees, will review and recommend pieces of public art to the City Council for acceptance.

As pieces of public art are acquired, they will be catalogued by the City Library Director.

Suitable donations will be accepted unconditionally and free of all obligations and encumbrances. The City reserves the right to relocate donated artwork from time to time; and to not display a donated piece of art. Works from the collection may be considered for removal if they are in poor condition, damaged or deteriorated beyond reasonable repair or conservation.

1. The Trustees of the Portsmouth Public Library have their own policy for art acquisition. Art-speak will defer to the Trustees of the Library for art acquisition at the Library.