

# **GLOSSARY**

## **(Public Art Terminology and Definitions)**

### **Please Note:**

*This glossary was adapted from the glossary of terminology and definitions included Board of Port Commissioners Policy 609 (Public Art Program) as revised on April 23, 2003. The Board and Port staff relies on that glossary as the legal standard development of public art at the Port. The glossary presented here as part of the Public Art Resource Guide includes additional terms and definitions of public art. These are included to further describe opportunities for public art around the tidelands.*

### **Accession**

The procedure followed to log in, designate, and incorporate an artwork or art place into an art collection.

### **Appropriateness to Site**

Relationship of artwork and site shall be considered in terms of the physical dimensions, social dynamics, local character and surrounding urban context of the site, existing or planned.

**Artist (Visual)**

- ?? One who works in, is skilled in, or conceptually creates in any area of the fine arts, such as painting, drawing, sculpture, etc., but also including one whose skill and primary focus are cross-disciplinary.
- ?? A practitioner in the visual arts generally recognized by critics and peers as a professional possessing serious intent and ability that is not a member of the Project Consultant's firm or employed thereby.
- ?? A "professional artist" is any person who by virtue of professional training, exhibition history, and/or critical review is recognized as skilled in creating works of art.
- ?? A person who has a reputation of artistic excellence, as judged by peers, through a record of exhibitions, public commissions, sale of works, educational attainment, or other means.
- ?? A person who is a working professional making the majority of their income from creating artworks.

**Artwork or Work of Art**

All forms of original creations of visual art that may be portable as well as permanent. To include but not be limited to:

- ?? Paintings of all media, including both portable and permanently affixed works such as frescoes and murals;
- ?? Sculpture of any form and in any material or combination of materials. To include statues, monuments, fountains, arches, or other structures intended for ornamentation or commemoration. Also included are reliefs, mobiles, kinetic, electronic and neon sculptures;
- ?? Other works of visual art, such as inscriptions, stained glass, fiber works, carvings, mosaics, photographs, drawings, collages, assemblage, textile works, and prints. Also included are crafts, both decorative and utilitarian in clay, fiber, wood, metal, glass, stone, plastic and other materials;
- ?? Artist designed landscapes and earthworks, including the artistic placement of natural materials or other functional art objects;
- ?? Media and electronic arts;

?? Any combination of the foregoing art media or any other work as recommended by the Port's Public Art Committee.

The term "work of Art," as used in this part, may also include functional elements of improvement projects such as benches, gates, lighting devices and landscaping which are intended as artistic elements and which have been designed by professional artists.

For the purposes of the Public Art Program, artwork shall be defined in terms of the visual arts, as distinguished from the performing arts, media arts, and literary or cultural arts. The artwork should be permanent in nature and installed in public view. The selection of each work of art will be site specific and be selected based on the character and aesthetics of the landscape and architecture of that site. The project must include a professional artist on the creative team and/or a product created by a professional artist.

### **Board of Port Commissioners**

The seven-member body appointed by the mayor's and City Councils of the Port of San Diego's member cities; the City of San Diego, National City, Chula Vista, Coronado and Imperial Beach, who oversee the operations and development of the Port's efforts on the tidelands of San Diego Bay and the Imperial Beach oceanfront.

### **Building Valuation**

Total value of all construction work for which a building permit is issued, and includes all finish work, painting, roofing, electrical, plumbing, heating, air conditioning, elevators, fire-extinguishing systems and any other permanently installed work or permanently installed equipment.

### **Cleaning**

Routine cleaning to remove superficial dust, dirt, atmospheric fallout, organic deposits, cobwebs, foreign objects and trash from an art work without damaging, dissolving, abrading, marring or otherwise altering the surface, finish, patina or other components of the artwork.

### **Collaboration**

The process of co-equal, cooperative goal-focused effort by members (artists, architects, landscape architects, and/or engineers) of a team, in the design of an art concept or artplace.

### **Collection**

See Public Art Collection.

**Conservation**

Actions implemented to provide for the long-term integrity and preservation of artworks, including such techniques and strategies implemented to arrest deterioration, repair accumulated damage, provide protection against deleterious elements and restore artworks to like-new or acceptable condition. Conservation also includes cleaning when a substance has penetrated or altered the surface of an artwork. Art conservators who possess specialized skills, knowledge and experience in this field normally perform conservation and restoration.

**Construction Project**

Any project to construct or remodel any building, decorative or commemorative park, or parking facility or any portion thereof. Generally, when the following are done as isolated projects, they would not be included.

- ?? Purely decorative remodeling projects such as new carpeting, painting or the installation of portable partitions.
- ?? Health and safety improvements
- ?? Environmental compliance work
- ?? Normal maintenance and repair to an existing structure
- ?? Demolition
- ?? Equipment costs
- ?? Costs for fees and permits, as well as those costs associated with debt issuance
- ?? Normal major maintenance
- ?? Real property acquisition

**Deaccession**

- ?? The indefinite removal of an artwork or artplace from permanent display whether it is disposed of or not.
- ?? Relinquishing title to a work of public art.

**Diversity**

Recognizing the multi-lingual and multi-cultural nature of San Diego's residents and visitors, public artworks shall reflect as wide a range of expression as possible.

**Focal Point artwork**

Artwork that draws the viewer's attention to a specific point focused on the work itself. Used to attract viewers to a pre-determined location or viewpoint.

**Focus of Public Art**

The focus of Public Art shall be original, contemporary art. This shall not, however, preclude the acquisition of important historical works, which provide a context for contemporary art, where most appropriate for the site.

**Gateway artwork**

Artwork used to mark a significant entryway or transition point for roads, pedestrian routes or other transit paths within a specific geographic area.

**Interpretive artwork**

Artworks that assist the viewer to understand the environment surrounding the artwork. Often used to enhance descriptive signage near transition points and view corridors between the built and natural environments.

**Leasehold**

Specific tidelands property offered by the Port of San Diego to one or more tenants offering compensation to the agency for use of that land.

**Maintenance**

Those actions, either preventative or corrective and normally periodic, that are applied to an artwork's supporting or ancillary infrastructure, including water elements, lighting, electrical, electronic, hydraulic and mechanical components, climate control systems, security devices, concrete work, plantings and adjacent floors and walls. Maintenance is normally performed by skilled facilities management personnel qualified in the appropriate trades. Maintenance also includes those practices included in Cleaning.

**Maintenance of artwork**

Periodic procedures usually recommended by the artist(s), such as dusting, washing, etc., necessary for the protection of an artwork from normal environmental damage or wear and tear from normal usage.

**Mitigation Measures**

Requirements imposed on a project to relieve or moderate impacts created from development designs.

**Place-making artwork**

Artwork of such scale or features that its site becomes generally known by that artwork's characteristics or name.

**Port of San Diego**

The state chartered agency responsible for the management and development of the tidelands and waterways of San Diego Bay and the Imperial Beach oceanfront.

**Professional**

A person who is paid for his or her expertise, skills and talent. Does not include amateur or knowledgeable laypersons.

**Project Milestones**

- ?? Conceptual Design: The first stage of design, based on feedback from the community on which artistic direction the artwork should take. Submitted to the Public Art Program, reported to the Public Art Committee.
- ?? Schematic Design: The first stage of design development. A scheme is pursued based on the conceptual design. Interactive between community and inter-departmental. Submitted to Public Art Committee for approval
- ?? Design Development: Final design development, showing artwork to scale, site plan, sample materials, technical and maintenance requirements, fabrication and installation procedures. Submitted to Public Art Committee for approval.
- ?? Construction Documents: Design check by Port staff, architects and contractor to be used as basis for issuing permits, fabricators and contractor's agreements, and for coordination with base building.
- ?? Construction Check/Fabrication: Public Art Program review of fabrication to ensure adherence to design and for assistance in troubleshooting.
- ?? Installation: Artist and/or artist's subcontractors install work on site of capital project
- ?? Dedication: Formal ceremony recognizing completion of the project and grand opening to the public.

**Public Art**

- ?? Artworks or art places created by an artist, artists, and/or a collaboration of artists and design professionals, for a public place for the public to experience, or for a public purpose.
- ?? Art or design that is created specifically for a public context or place which, through a public process, influences that context or place in a meaningful way.
- ?? Artwork that is publicly visible and accessible for a minimum of eight hours per day.

**Public Art Collection or “The Collection”**

Artworks acquired through the public art process outlined in BPC Policy 609 or BPC Policy 611.

**Public Art Committee**

A ten-member committee that guides the Port’s Public Art Program. There are five members of the Committee appointed at the recommendation of the mayor’s of their respective cities. One member is appointed at the recommendation of the executive committee of the Port Tenants Association and there are four “at large” members recommended for appointment by the Public Art Program Director and confirmed, as are the other members, by the Board of Port Commissioners.

**Public Art Fund**

A fund established by BPC 609 for the acquisition, design, fabrication, installation, improvement, maintenance and administrative costs associated with artwork displayed on public areas within the Port District.

**Public Benefit**

Amenities that provide benefit to the public without charging the individual to enjoy them such as public access, public views, public art, open space, or parks, walking and biking trails or walkways, vista points of the Bay, birdwatching overlooks, etc.

**Public Place**

Any structure or open space that is visible or accessible from a public right of way, such as sidewalks, streetscapes, plazas, parks, buildings, bridges, waterways, parking garages, sports and recreational facilities.

**Signature artwork**

An artwork that becomes generally known as a defining element for the jurisdiction hosting it. Simon Rodia’s “Watts Towers” is a signature work.

**Standard of Excellence**

Acquisitions for Public Art shall be, in the judgment of recognized art experts, of exceptional quality and enduring value.

**Tenant Improvements**

Improvements within the confines of an existing building exclusive of those required to meet minimum Uniform Building Code occupancy standards, such as wiring or plumbing.

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### **Tidelands**

Those areas at or toward the waterside of the mean high tide line as established for the Port of San Diego's jurisdiction. The tidelands incorporate both land, partially submerged and wholly submerged properties around San Diego Bay.

### **Transitional artwork**

Artwork that helps to define the passageway or transition point from one specific environment or set of surroundings to another. Often used to bridge the natural and build environments.

### **Urban Design Guidelines**

Minimum design standards adopted by the Board.

### **Work of Art**

See Artwork.