

City of Huntington Park

Art-in-Public Places

**Prepared as part of the City of Huntington Park
Parks & Recreation Master Plan
May 2008**

Art-in-Public Places

In reviewing the Ordinance establishing an Art-in-Public-Places Program, it is very similar to other surrounding cities' ordinances at 1% for the arts program. The 1% can be required for all new residential developments of two or more units and all commercial and industrial developments that have a construction value of equal to or exceeding one-hundred thousand dollars.

The funds generated go into a "City Art Fund", with the City Arts & Culture Commission having sole authority to recommend to the City Council expenditures from the City Art Fund. The City Arts & Culture Commission is also with the sole authority to grant approval or denial of any proposed Artwork not associated with a development project.

The Planning Commission has sole authority to grant approval or denial of any proposed Artwork associated with a development project.

The issue in Huntington Park is that there is not very much development going on, so the funds for public art that can be generated are limited.

In an interview with Manuel G. Acosta and Eric K. Garcia, from the Community Development Department, it was stated that new development is difficult because Huntington Park is built out. Current projects that the Community Development Department are working on include converting some industrial sites into commercial sites and the development of a Restaurant Row along Santa Fe Ave.

The Redevelopment Area covers approximately 60% of Huntington Park. The Redevelopment Agency is working to stimulate economic growth by increasing the tax base and creating new employment opportunities. This program plays an essential role in the City's efforts to rejuvenate neighborhoods, increase and improve housing, and improve the overall quality of life for residents. They felt that the community sees Public Art as an important part of this rejuvenation.

In developing this Master Plan, with input from the community regarding the types of programs in which they would like to see more and the types of facilities they would like to see developed, Cultural and Performing Arts are a very important priority.

In the community input survey that was conducted for this Master Plan, 30% of the respondents listed Performing Arts Center/Theater as a new indoor facility they would like to see. It ranked fifth on a list of 11 choices.

When asked what program, class or activity those surveyed would most like to see added, many respondents marked more than one choice, with the cultural arts classes, programs, and events marked most often.

The City of Huntington Park has begun some Public Art projects with the Veterans Memorial at Freedom Park and the new monument signs at Pacific and 52nd street.