

**March 5, 2024**

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**To the Mayor and Members of the City Council****SUBJECT: FORT WORTH PUBLIC ART AND PRIVATE DEVELOPMENT  
REVIEW PROCESSES**

The purpose of this Informal Report is to provide information on how City of Fort Worth-owned and commissioned public art, which is part of the Fort Worth Public Art (FWPA) Collection, is accounted for and protected during the private development process.

In 2001, through Ordinance #14794, City Council established the Fort Worth Public Art program “to create an enhanced visual environment for Fort Worth residents, to commemorate the City’s rich cultural and ethnic diversity, to integrate the design work of artists into capital development of the City’s capital infrastructure improvements and to promote tourism and economic vitality in the City through the artistic design of public spaces”, as well as the Fort Worth Art Commission to act as an advisory board. Since that time, through the FWPA program, the City of Fort Worth has commissioned new works of art in all Council Districts and has accepted donations of art into the collection. The FWPA Collection also includes public artworks that were owned by the City prior to the originating ordinance. To date, the FWPA Collection includes 104 commissioned and 55 donated artworks, for a total of 159 artworks.

Typically, public art is commissioned in conjunction with City-led capital improvement projects and is located on City of Fort Worth property (e.g. “United We Stand” at Fire Station #8, “Seed the Future” at Trail Drivers Park, and “Rising Strong” at the Diamond Hill Community Center). Depending on the location, plaques identify the artwork and name of the artist, the date of creation, the media, and basic context of the artwork. Public art donations accepted by City Council into FWPA’s “Legacy Collection”, such as the “Red Steagall” and “The First Bulldogger – Bill Pickett” sculptures in front of the Cowtown Coliseum in the Stockyards, are not always physically identified as part of the FWPA’s Legacy Collection program as plaques are provided by the donors. All artwork in both the Commissioned and Community Legacy collections are individually represented on the FWPA website (<https://fwpublicart.org/artworks/>).

A publicly accessible map showing the location of public artworks is available on the FWPA program’s website (<https://fwpublicart.org/map/>); however, this data is not currently integrated into the City’s ArcGIS mapping system. Moving forward, Development Services staff will collaborate with FWPA staff to integrate this data into the City’s ArcGIS system. Development Services staff will also create new workflow processes to ensure that public art is accounted for using ArcGIS during the development permitting review process to ensure that art is protected and accounted for during construction.

If you have any questions, please contact D.J. Harrell, Development Services Director at 817-392-8032 or Justin Newhart, Planning Manager-Preservation and Design at 817-392-8037.

**David Cooke**  
**City Manager**