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Monday, December 22, 2025

Art in Public Places Program Action Plan (2026-2030)

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Introduction

Statement of Intent

The purpose of the City of Pomona’s Art in Public Places (“AIPP”) Action Plan 2026 – 2031 is to administer the AIPP program through sound operation that emphasizes (1) the importance of Public Art, (2) the commitment to supporting the arts community, (3) the expansion of Public Art in public spaces, and (4) the commitment to Preservation our Public Art Collection. Through these identified goals, we work towards ensuring that the City of Pomona (“City”) continues to be rooted in identifying as a City of Arts and a home to Artists.

This Action Plan will also consider the past two plans previously established—City of Pomona Cultural Plan 2010-2015 and Cultural Arts Commission Action Plan 2020-2025—to configure a more sustainably engaged future for the arts in Pomona. Both plans created substantial movement in the City by actively ensuring that the Arts were held with importance. The first established the Art in Public Places Program in 2011 and the latter propelled the City to truly invest through initiating the first dedicated City Art in Public

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Places Program staff in 2022. While these plans did much more than just the highlighted points, their legacy lives onward in ensuring the goals they set forth are still being cared for and sought after in our future endeavors.

It is important to note that the previous plans were in relation to Cultural Arts in respect to the City and Commission. While this action plan is dedicated to the Art in Public Places program, it holds pieces in which the program can be impacted through funding and others in which staff can contribute other resources. This plan only captures what Art in Public Places program staff will be working towards in the next five years.

LA28 x Pomona Olympics Statement

On September 13, 2017, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) formally announced Los Angeles as the host city for 2028 Summer Olympics and Paralympics. The Olympic events will take place throughout Los Angeles County. On April 15, 2025, LA28 announced that the City of Pomona would become the host for the Cricket event at the Pomona Fairplex.

The City is honored to stage a part of the Olympic Games and when applicable, intends to deploy the Action Plan in service of the City's pursuit to be a Cultural Olympiad partner.

Art in Public Places Program

In 2011, the Pomona City Council established the Art in Public Places Program ("AIPP"). This program identifies a public art requirement for private development to provide public art on site or contribute to an in-lieu fee fund towards the installation of public art elsewhere in the City.

[AIPP GUIDELINES] – to be linked.

Office of Economic Business and Affairs

Help us invest in the human scale.

In 2025, the Art in Public Places Program, and Cultural Arts Commission were placed within the newly named Office of Economic Business and Affairs ("OEBA"), a division of the Administration Department. Positioning public art within OEBA signals the City's value of public art as essential to economic and business affairs in the City of Pomona. OEBA intends to support artists and our community through investments that reflect community engagement, sustainable endeavors, and opportunities to support an artist workforce.

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Goals

1. AIPP supports a wide range of temporary and permanent public art across a variety of mediums.

S1.1 Formally expand the definition of public art.

The current codified definition of public art is limited to permanent visual works of art. This precludes valuable opportunities to commission temporary public art and public art across different mediums. The current AIPP Manual has established interpretations of this codified definition that have enabled the City to pursue different kinds of public art over the past five years, but this interpretation does not provide sufficient certainty to the community on their role in the creation of public art.

- 1.1.1 Amend the definition of public art in the City's code to include permanent visual art (sculpture, murals, mosaics, etc.), temporary and ephemeral art (installations, activations, projections, and digital media), and performative and social practice art (performance, events, and community engagement), that is free and open to the public, commissioned or sanctioned by the City, and documented for the Public Art Collection.

2. AIPP supports emerging and established artists through calls for individual projects, innovative initiatives, and partnerships with arts-based organizations.

S2.1 Calls for Individual Projects

The fundamental element of the AIPP Program is the repeated investments in projects, whether developer-led during individual project construction, or through calls for projects on public and private property, that continue to deliver art that is accessible and free to the public.

- 2.1.1 Identify procedures and timelines for fabricating artwork and executing programming in the City.
- 2.1.2 Identify procedures and establish policies for Public Art on private and public property.
- 2.1.3 Establish an engagement policy for public artwork that takes into consideration community input.
- 2.1.4 Amend the current AIPP guidelines to include the appropriate updated

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policy and procedure information.

S2.2 Artist in Residency

An artist in residency program is an innovative initiative that provides individual artists with the opportunity to create public art for a designated period of time that also advances their career, shares their knowledge and skills with the community, and develops public artwork that can be shared freely and publicly and added to the Public Art Collection.

- 2.2.1 Establish a program for residency with outline and outcomes.
- 2.2.2 Identify the qualities of candidacy for artist residency.
- 2.2.3 Identify roles in which the residencies will serve as a community liaison and/or facilitator for the AIPP program.
- 2.2.4 Identify spaces and partnerships that can support an artist in residency.
- 2.2.5 Implement a Call for Qualifications of artists interested in a residency.

S2.3 Partnerships with Arts-Based Organizations

Establishing partnerships with arts-based organizations will increase the AIPP's capacity to support emerging and established artists in creating public art. These organizations can be non-profits with direct mission statements that are involved in servicing the arts, museums, galleries, and other arts-based spaces. These organizations can also play a vital role in streamlining the support of artists by acting as fiscal sponsors.

- 2.3.1 Identify the qualifications for organizations to work with the City.
- 2.3.2 Execute a Call for Qualifications to establish key candidates.
- 2.3.3 Identify roles in which identified partners will serve as a community liaison and/or facilitator for the AIPP program.
- 2.3.4 Conduct a needs assessment and identify artist support and development opportunities.
- 2.3.5 Establish a protocol to support promotional needs of these partnerships with the City.

3. AIPP supports the activation and creation of a variety of public spaces to showcase temporary and permanent public art.

S3.1 Public Art Activations

Public art activations provide an immediate way to engage the community with public art through temporary and permanent projects. This includes initiatives like mini-gallery pop-

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ups, temporary and permanent installations at vacant City lots, parks, plazas, and public parking lots, and temporary activations at other permitted publicly accessible spaces. This also includes long-standing City events like the Watercolor Contest and Chalk Art Festival, which activate public spaces and support emerging artists.

- 3.1.1 Conduct an assessment to identify public spaces and types of public art activations that can be conducted through the City.
- 3.1.2 Establish policies and procedures for City processing to support Art Activations with the appropriate permits.
- 3.3.1 Identify ways in which identified arts-based organizations can support the longevity and growth of events for Pomona residents and visitors.

S3.2 Public Streets and Alleys

The City has a robust network of public streets and alleys and other public realm features like roundabouts, utility boxes, and bus stops, that lend themselves to showcasing public art. Most recently, the AIPP commissioned a large-scale mural at the Garey Avenue underpass that embodies the potential for public art in the public rights-of-way.

- 3.2.1 Conduct an assessment to identify public streets and alleys that are candidates to showcase public art.
- 3.2.2 Coordinate with the City's Public Works Department to establish Capital Improvement Programs to implement public art projects

S3.3 Capital Investments in New Public Art Spaces

Beyond existing public spaces, the City seeks opportunities to establish new spaces that can showcase public art. This includes capital investments in tenant improvements on existing City facilities, and partnerships with other public agencies like Metro to build out spaces for public art.

- 3.3.1 Conduct an assessment to identify public spaces eligible for capital tenant improvements or construction for new public art spaces.
- 3.3.2 Coordinate with the City's Public Works Department and other public agencies as needed to establish Capital Improvement Programs to pursue necessary development.

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4. AIPP supports the preservation of the Public Art Collection, its curation, and its administration by City staff.

S4.1 Artist Registry

Maintaining an active artist and art organization registry.

- 4.1.1 Establish an active artist and art organization registry that is available to the public.
- 4.1.2 Establish an approved Pre-Qualified Artist list that is annually reviewed by Cultural Arts Commission for private developers, property owners, and neighborhoods, who have artist opportunities for their projects.
- 4.1.3 Create a monthly newsletter that updates artists and organizations.

S4.2 Preservation & Management

Establishment of a policy procedure that occurs for preserving artwork and managing the collection for annual review of collection conditions.

- 4.2.1 Provide an annual reviewal period for Cultural Arts Commission to take into consideration a restoration/preservation project that will require establishing a project for funding.
- 4.2.2 Create procedural policy form that requires all artworks Commissioned by the City to have submitted archival documentation that ensures the work can be preserved.
- 4.2.3 Promote the Public Art Registry through user navigation and local program Endeavors (ie. Public Art Tours)
- 4.2.4 Establish a program for graffiti/tagging removal.
 - Conduct an assessment of known methods from other cities.
 - Review current City resources and support.
 - Identifying options that reflect the best outcomes for collection maintenance.
- 4.2.4 Amend the current AIPP guidelines to include the appropriate updated policy and procedure information.

S4.3 Archival Documentation

Presenting a public archive of the City's art collection and ensuring it is maintained and utilized.

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- 4.3.1 Update the current Public Art Registry.
 - Photographic documentation of current artworks.
 - Information about the artworks and/or the artists added for clarity of the project.
 - Identifying temporary v. permanent artworks.
- 4.3.2 Identify and invest in a space in which physical documentation can be kept safely stored.

S4.4 Curation

Beyond preservation of the Public Art Collection, there are opportunities to pursue curation of the collection to increase public awareness and interaction with commissioned work.

- 4.4.1 Identify strategies for curation of the Public Art Collection.
- 4.4.2 Engage arts-based organizations to support curatorial efforts.

S4.5 Art in Public Places Program Staff

The sustainability of the AIPP requires dedicated City staff for program administration. This also includes interdepartmental coordination with other key City departments to support public art that is achievable and compliant with all rules and regulations.

- 4.5.1 Amend the City's code to formalize up to 20% of the Public Art Fund to be available for AIPP program administration.
- 4.5.2 AIPP Program coordinates with Development Services (Planning, Building & Safety, and Code Enforcement) on developers pursuing on-site public art projects instead of in-lieu fee payments.
- 4.5.3 AIPP Program coordinates with Public Works (Engineering, Vehicle Parking District, Parks and Recreation, Facilities) on projects affecting the public rights-of-way, public facilities, City parking lots, and public parks.
- 4.5.4 AIPP Program coordinates with Community Services on projects and programs to align with existing City programs targeting youth, seniors, and all ages.
- 4.5.4 Establish clear budgeting procedures that includes public and Cultural Arts Commission engagement to forecast expenditures and investments from the AIPP.

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Acknowledgements

COMMUNITY MEMBERS

Engagement conducted for community input acknowledges that over 40 community members support and gave their input.

CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION

Joshua Swodeck

Lisa Soiseth

Jovani Esparza

Christian Ornelas

Angel Arellano

Diana Batts

Nancy Tessier

STAFF

Ata Khan, Deputy Director of Office of Economic & Business Affairs

Jocelyn Ayala, Art in Public Places Program Manager

June Ku, Art in Public Places Coordinator

Photographs (to be added)

Courtesy of City of Pomona Public Art Collection Staff Photos