Process for neighborhoods to pursue public art projects

Activating the 14 distinct neighborhoods that comprise the City of Shoreline emerged as a priority during 2016 public meetings. Shoreline neighborhoods uniformly desire public art activation and share an interest in the role that public art plays in making neighborhood places unique. The Public Art Coordinator, along with the City’s Neighborhoods Coordinator, are both primary resources for bringing a wide variety of projects to fruition, including:

- Street furniture painting (either by paid artists or by volunteers)
- Neighborhood banners
- Pocket parks, right of ways (also involves Public Works)
- National Night Out (First Tuesday in August)
- Support for existing neighborhood events (Jazz Walk, Strawberry Festival)
- Sculpture projects (temporary and/or permanent)
- Performances, readings, concerts

Each year, the Neighborhood mini-grant program offers community grants up to $5,000 for various improvement projects, some of which concern neighborhood public art. Recent examples include a mural painted by Michiko Tanaka on a restroom facility at Twin Ponds Park, a project initiated by the Parkwood Neighborhood Association and facilitated by the Public Art Coordinator, as well as an orca whale sculpture project initiated by the Richmond Beach Community Association in consultation with the Public Art Coordinator.

The general process for developing neighborhood initiated art includes:

- Meet with Neighborhoods Staff and Public Art Coordinator to discuss idea (or to brainstorm ideas for arts and heritage projects, meet with art coordinator as a first step).
- Public Art Coordinator serves as the first point of contact
- Apply for Neighborhood mini grant if appropriate
- Provide evidence of discussions with other stakeholders in area
- Consider repair, maintenance, installation aspects
- If placing artwork in Parks: create a proposal, map, and budget and submit to Public Art Coordinator.
- In some cases, a Park-Use Permit is required before installation can occur.
- Permanent or temporary, placement, location
- Call for Art; (invitational or open call or combination) parameters, honorarium
- Create submission system (independent from City)
- Reviewing artists’ proposals with City
- Final selection by Neighborhoods reviewed by City
- Involvement of PRCS department (maintenance staff; PRCS Director)
- Work begins