



STAFF REPORT

CITY COUNCIL *of* SALT LAKE CITY

TO: City Council Members

FROM: Sylvia Richards, Policy Analyst

DATE: January 7, 2025

**RE: Required Public Art Program Maintenance and Conservation Report for FY24/25
Maintenance and Conservation Artwork Projections**

ISSUE AT-A-GLANCE

Each year, as required by ordinance, the Department of Economic Development's Arts Council Division provides the City Council with a report estimating the maintenance and conservation costs for the City's public art collection, including recommendations for the deaccession (removal) of certain art pieces. As in prior years, the Arts Council requests the transfer to the CIP Percent-for-Art Maintenance Fund 20% of the FY24-25 CIP Percent-for-Art funds which is \$40,000. Currently, there are a total of 150 pieces of city-owned artwork in various spaces throughout the city, including parks, streets, plazas, and buildings, as well as 92 art pieces located at the City & County Building.

During FY24-25, the Arts Council will focus on maintaining 13 art pieces for an estimated cost of \$73,529, \$33,069 from the CIP Percent-for-Art Maintenance Fund, and \$40,460 from the CIP General Fund Public Lands Maintenance Fund, plus \$15,000 of Arts Council funds for unexpected repairs (see attachments indicating *UR).

KEY CONSIDERATIONS

The Administration has noted that while most of the plans for maintenance and conservation this year are focused on the Assessment Report recommendations from FY20, the condition of some art pieces have worsened over time, requiring an immediate plan to preserve them.

Additionally, some of the Fine Art pieces located within the City & County Building, primarily two-dimensional artworks, are in need of maintenance, however, they are not being considered because funding regulations prohibit the use of CIP funds on non-capitalized objects.

One artwork, located on the 500 West Park Blocks, is being considered for deaccession because of complexity (various locations and mediums). See Item 1 of Attachment B. Further, some pieces were funded by the RDA, but when the RDA passed the 1.5% for Art Ordinance increase, no funding was set aside to maintain the RDA artwork.

Lastly, some additional objects in the City collection are in need of maintenance and are not being considered because repairs far exceed available funds (see Outstanding Repairs report).

POLICY QUESTIONS

1. The Council may wish to ask if the Administration has considered other sources to supplement the funding of the public art maintenance costs.
2. The Council may also wish to ask if the Administration has considered requesting additional maintenance funding during the annual budget process.

BACKGROUND

During FY23-24, the Public Art Program focused on the maintenance of 26 public art pieces in the City's collection for a total cost of \$142,340, of which \$63,890 was paid from the CIP Percent-for-Art Maintenance Fund while \$19,450 was from CIP General Fund from Public Lands, and \$59,000 was from the Mayor's Office (allocated in FY23-23). Through the annual CIP Percent-for-Art funding approved in FY22-23, the Public Art Program allocated \$31,221 towards the maintenance fund.

Additionally, four artworks were deaccessioned as recommended by the Art Design Board and approved by Mayor Mendenhall.

- a) The *200 West Cycle Track Planters* were partially deaccessioned due to structural concerns
- b) The *Vines and Leaves* piece was partially deaccessioned due to structural concerns and natural fading of the artwork
- c) *Peace Cradle* was stolen from the International Peace Gardens
- d) *Untitled* (4th Avenue Stairwell Pavers) near Memory Grove were deaccessioned due to natural fading of the artwork

Maintenance costs for two artworks exceeded the original bids (*Flight of Fancy* and *Signal Site*) and were postponed for completion. Two works were substituted in their place. Additionally, the following pieces were restored and reinstalled at Jordan Park's International Peace Gardens: *Irish Cross*, *Little Mermaid*, the *Olmec Head* and the Greek Goddess statue of *Hebe*. The Arts Council oversaw the managed the restoration work using the Public Lands CIP Maintenance funds.

For reference, the following ordinance allows the transfer of funds and requests an annual report:

ORDINANCE CONSIDERATIONS: 2.30.060: FUNDS FOR WORKS OF ART; REQUESTS FOR APPROPRIATIONS: A. When so designated by the City Council, in its appropriation for capital improvements, all City departments shall expend, as a nondeductible item out of any monies appropriated for the planning, design and construction of construction projects, an amount equal to one and one-half percent (1.5%) of such appropriations for the acquisition and installation of works of art and ornamentation, ten to twenty percent (10-20%) of which will be deposited in the public art maintenance fund and used to provide maintenance for existing works of art. The Mayor shall provide a report to the City Council of works of art that require maintenance and the estimated cost of such maintenance prior to the funds being deposited in the public art maintenance fund.

Attachments:

Attachment A: FY23-24 Completed and In Progress Artworks Addressed for Maintenance and Conservation

Attachment B: FY24-25 Maintenance and Conservation Artwork Projections

Attachment C: Future Artworks for Maintenance & Conservation Artwork Projections – Outstanding projects with no budget