

# Temporary Art Updates + Refresher

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- Types of Projects that Require Approval
- Updated Guidelines
- Approval Criteria
- Review Process Refresher

# Types of Projects that Require Approval

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- Temporary art installed on City property
- Temporary art funded in whole or in part by City funds (regardless of its proposed location)
- This can be either/or
- Either 3D (sculpture, installation) or 2D (painting, mural)
- This includes proposals initiated or funded by other City departments, or by outside sponsors, such as individual artists, organizations, or commercial enterprises
- These projects are distinct from SFAC-initiated temporary projects

# Examples of SFAC Temporary Projects: Patricia's Green, Civic Center, Public Art Trust

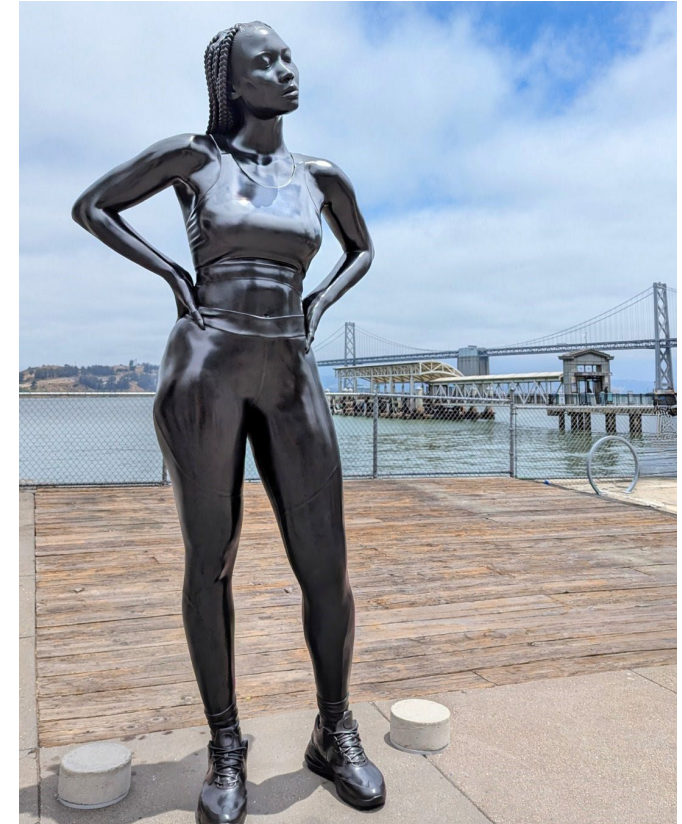
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Oleg Lobyskin, *Talking Heads*, 2025  
Patricia's Green



Zak Ove, *The Invisible Man and the Masque of Blackness*, 2018  
Civic Center



Thomas J. Price, *As Sound Turns to Noise*, 2025  
Embarcadero/The Port



# Examples of Outside Temporary Projects

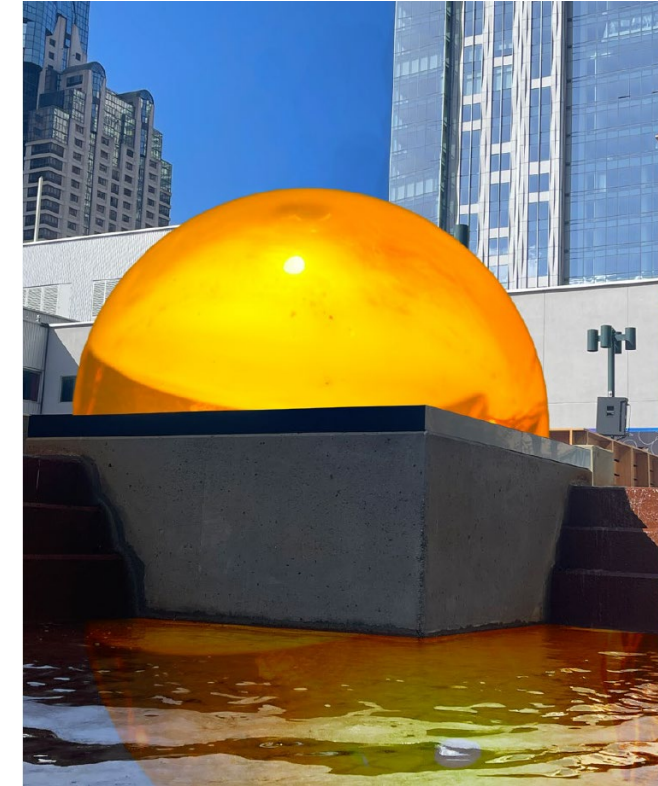
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Katy Boynton, *Hearfulness*, 2025  
Sponsor: Big Art Loop/Mid-Market Foundation



Cjay Roughgarden, Stephanie Shipman, and Jacquelyn Scott, *Naga*, 2024  
Sponsor: Big Art Loop/Illuminate



mumu, *Sun Dome*, 2026  
Sponsor: SOMA Pilipinas

# Streamlined Process

- Revised submission format (fillable Google Form)
- Updated contacts for City property owners to facilitate review and site approval
- Provide examples of past presentations, community support letters, and a PDF version of the Google form, for easy reference
- Inform on structural engineering and ADA approvals but defer submittal to property owner

### Temporary Art Intake Form

The Arts Commission must approve the temporary or permanent installation of any work of art on City and County of San Francisco (CCSF) property.

This includes proposals initiated or funded by other City departments, or by outside third party sponsors, such as individual artists, organizations or commercial enterprises. In considering approval, the Arts Commission must evaluate proposals within the context of its mission to promote a rich, diverse, and stimulating cultural environment for the city's residents, visitors and employees, and to enhance the city's image both nationally and internationally.

[sfacpublicartandcollections@gmail.com](mailto:sfacpublicartandcollections@gmail.com) [Switch account](#)

The name, email, and photo associated with your Google account will be recorded when you upload files and submit this form

\* Indicates required question

#### SAMPLES AND EXAMPLES:

- [Temporary Public Art Proposal Form](#) (in PDF form, for reference)
- [Sample Presentation to Visual Art Committee, ex. 1](#)
- [Sample Presentation to Visual Art Committee, ex. 2](#)
- [Sample Presentation to Visual Art Committee, ex. 3](#)

#### TEMPORARY ART PRESENTATION CHECKLIST FOR VISUAL ARTS COMMITTEE

*Please ensure that your presentation to Visual Arts Committee includes the following:*

- How Your Project Fits the Criteria for Approval (listed above)
- Examples of Past Work / Artist Bio
- Brief Narrative Description of Proposed Project
- Scale Drawing or Model of Proposed Project
- Image of Proposed Site
- Rendering of Artwork in Proposed Site
- Materials and Methods
- Community Engagement
- Timeline
- Maintenance Plan

# Other Updates to Guidelines

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- Changes to time frame:
  - 1 year time limit on installation (new criteria)
  - If longer, requires justification and a status report from the project team of install/maintenance after one year
  - Installations less than 7 days may be approved by Director of Cultural Affairs and do not need to be calendared for approval
- Changes to community outreach:
  - In addition to three letters of community support,
  - also asking about their community outreach
  - Included a checklist in the submission form



Amanda Parer, *Intrude*, 2016  
Civic Center



# Other Updates to Guidelines

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## Community Engagement Checklist \*

*Please use this checklist to ensure that you have shared your proposed project with relevant constituents and community stakeholders. Please check all that apply.*

### How to identify Cultural District, Community Benefit District, and Supervisor's Office:

Enter in your project site address and check <https://sfplanninggis.org/pim/> to see what Cultural Districts (Zoning Information), Community Benefit Districts (Zoning Information), Supervisor's Office (Property).

### How to Identify Local Arts Organizations and Cultural Centers:

If the project site is within 5 block radius of a Cultural Center, please include them in your community engagement. Please identify any visual arts organization within 5 block radius of the project site and include them in your community engagement.

We verify that we have reached out to the following:

☐ Cultural District

☐ Community Benefit District

☐ Local Arts Organizations

☐ Cultural Centers

☐ Supervisor's Office

☐ Other: .....

# Approval Criteria

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- Appropriate for a diverse audience.
- Compelling reason to site the exhibition on City property.
- Enhance the public's experience of the site.
- Expose the public to diverse artists and artistic styles.
- Align with City's values.
- Appropriate in scale, media and context.
- Demonstrated community support.
- Withstand outdoor conditions and be maintainable.
- Comply with building codes and ADA requirements.
- Must be feasible, with evidence of sponsor's ability.
- Must not interfere with normal site use.
- Cover all costs.



Zhang Huan, *Three Heads, Six Arms*, 2010  
Civic Center



# Commission's Approval Checklist

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- **Mission & Policy Alignment**
  - ☐ Promotes a rich and diverse cultural environment
  - ☐ Enhances the public experience
  - ☐ Aligns with SFAC approval criteria and guidelines
- **Community Engagement**
  - ☐ Appropriate outreach to affected community
  - ☐ Community input is reflected (when applicable)
- **Site Relevance & Context**
  - ☐ Artwork is appropriate for the proposed location
  - ☐ Scale and placement are suitable to the site
- **Artistic Merit & Public Value**
  - ☐ Demonstrates strong artistic quality
  - ☐ Contributes positively to the public realm
- **Feasibility & Sponsor Capacity**
  - ☐ Realistic timeline
  - ☐ Sponsor has capacity and experience to deliver
- **Materials, Durability & Maintenance**
  - ☐ Materials appropriate for environment and duration
  - ☐ Clear maintenance plan
  - ☐ Defined responsibility for upkeep
  - ☐ Removal/deinstallation plan included

[Temporary Public Art Guidelines](#)