

Criteria for Selection of Greenspace Sculpture

- Quality – of highest priority are the capabilities of the artist and the inherent quality of the artwork.
- Relevance – artwork should speak to the terrain, history, and/or gestalt of the north Oak Cliff area.
- Style - artworks of all schools, styles, and tastes will be considered.
- Nature - artworks should be appropriate in scale, material, form and content for the immediate, general, social, and physical environments with which they are to relate.
- Permanence - consideration should be given to structural and surface integrity and stability, to permanence, protection against theft, vandalism, and weathering, as well as to the probability of excessive maintenance and repair costs. Artwork should require minimal maintenance.
- Elements of Design - Artwork must be highly visible in the landscape. Consideration should take into account that in addition to measuring up to aesthetic standards the sculpture should also serve to establish focal points; modify, enhance, or define spaces; and/or establish identity. Artwork should require no electricity and be resistant to graffiti and vandalism,
- Safety - sculpture must be free as far as reasonably possible from any unsafe conditions or factors and meet ADA requirements (see *Recommendations and Requirements for Greenspace Sculpture*).

Recommendations and Requirements for Greenspace Sculpture

Artists should take the following general construction and design recommendations and requirements into consideration in the creation of work for public spaces in order to minimize damage from vandalism, inherent vice, and the environment.

Please note that a structural engineer may require fabrication techniques and materials that conflict with those below in order to achieve structural integrity for a given design. In such cases, always follow the engineering requirements.

Overview

- Any exterior surface pedestrians will walk over is required to be fabricated of materials that do not create a slip hazard.
- No sharp points or edges.
- All polished metal surfaces must be positioned in a manner that prevents heat transfer and glare that may pose a safety risk to motorists and pedestrians.
- Artwork is required to use security hardware, which requires a special tool or driver bit to remove the hardware.
- Security hardware is required to be stainless steel with an exception for aluminum portions of artwork, in which cases galvanized or zinc-plated steel hardware is appropriate.

Safety

- Safety is a primary concern and should be considered throughout every aspect of artwork design, fabrication, and installation.
- Avoid sharp points and edges and surfaces that can be a slip hazard.
- Fragile materials, components, surfaces, or easily leveraged parts can be bent or broken off accidentally or as an act of vandalism.
- Materials considered fragile are also easily abraded, dented, or scratched.
- Access for cleaning, maintenance, and repair is necessary.
- Vandalism and theft can be problems for exterior works of public art. Sound construction techniques, sealants, and proper installation methods will help reduce the effects of vandalism, or deter a would-be thief.
- Corrosion from environmental pressure is the most common long-term destructive element to an artwork's lifecycle. Routine maintenance can greatly reduce the effects of pollution and weather-related stress on the surface, but cannot address problems of inherent vice.
- Artwork design should consider that the public may climb on the piece. Discouraging climbing is very important, especially for tall works.
- Any exterior surface pedestrians will walk over is required to be fabricated of materials that do not create a slip hazard. Polished or lightly textured metal and stone surfaces are common slip hazards.
- When constructing artworks with materials that retain heat and potentially pose a burn hazard, consider incorporating design elements that would reduce the amount of direct sunlight exposure, or consider other materials.
- No sharp points or edges.
- Polished metal in exterior environments must not create a glare that poses a safety risk to passing motorists and pedestrians. All polished metal surfaces are required to be positioned in a manner that prevents heat transfer and glare that may pose a safety risk.

Local Environmental Concerns

- The landscape and environment near the artwork should be considered as a factor in selecting appropriate materials.
- Insect infestations can severely damage an artwork. Pest control for specific materials should be considered for annual or anticipated special maintenance. If a particular material is especially prone to infestations, it is worthwhile to explore comparable materials.
- Bushes, trees, and foliage planted near an exterior work can create many sources of possible damage. Trees can weep difficult to remove sap onto the artwork, and the leaves from deciduous trees can plug drain holes and prevent water management systems from working properly. Tree roots may also disturb the placement of the artwork. Grounds crews will likely spray fertilizer around any plantings near the artwork. By spacing the plantings far enough away from the artwork, there will be less of an opportunity for corrosive elements in the fertilizer to damage the artwork when it is sprayed or wind-blown onto the piece.
- Mold and mildew can damage many organic or porous materials. The most susceptible materials should not be considered when designing artwork in coastal zones.
- Artwork near saltwater often develops a layer of briny crust or coating. Some materials will experience accelerated deterioration due to the alkalinity of the local atmosphere.

- Industrial and automotive pollution can create a dark layer of oily residue on the surface of materials. The residue is difficult to clean and will retain airborne particulates (e.g. dirt, pollen).

Water and Condensation Management

- Water and condensation management are very important for both external surfaces and internal voids of artwork components.
- Pooling water is damaging to most materials and creates an environment for mold and mildew growth, rot, oxidation, and the development of other agents of deterioration.
- Water will shorten the lifespan of most materials. Water features, sprinklers, and fountains in close proximity generally expose the artwork to increased humidity and overspray. Water may also create a slipping hazard for pedestrians.

Ground Level Placement

- All artwork should be raised above grade by a 1 inch minimum, if set upon a hard, non-porous surface, and 4 inches if placed over lawn, foliage, or bare earth. If installing on lawn, creating a maintenance within 6 inches of any portion of the artwork at ground level is essential. If the work needs to be closer to the ground than 4 inches, one solution would be to incorporate a drainage system of crushed gravel, at least 10 inches deep subgrade, to allow moisture and water to evacuate quickly. This will also reduce the amount of ground moisture evaporation directly beneath the artwork.

Graffiti and Vandalism

- Anti-graffiti coatings should be considered for use depending on the medium and potential rate of incidence. Some traditional sealants, i.e. wax, work as graffiti barriers and should be carefully researched as possible substitutes for commercial anti-graffiti coatings. Most sealants need some degree of maintenance, and eventual replenishment or total replacement. Sealants that require complete replacement are not desirable.

Theft Prevention

- All publicly accessible artwork is required to use security hardware, which requires a special tool or driver bit to remove the hardware.

Accessibility for Maintenance

- The artwork should be safely accessible to perform annual routine maintenance.