

HELPFUL QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER IN DEVELOPING A PUBLIC ART PROJECT

Site

- Who owns the site? What is the future of the site? Is future construction planned for the site and how might this impact your project? What will happen to the artwork if ownership of the site changes?
- Have you talked to adjacent property owners? Are they supportive of your project?
- If your installation involves excavating landscaping, how will it be replaced? Do you know where utilities are? Can all of the equipment needed to create the work get onto the site?

These are appropriate for permanent works, but many apply to temporary works as well

Maintenance and Structure

- How will the artwork be maintained? Is daily maintenance or inspection necessary? If so, who will do it? If the artwork is permanent, how will it be maintained in fifteen years? If there are plantings around the artwork, how will they be watered and maintained?
- How will the area around the artwork be maintained? How can the design prevent damage from maintenance equipment (barriers, bollards)?
- How might skateboarders use the artwork?
- What impact will rain, wind, heat, and snow have on the artwork?

Public Safety

- Will the artwork block the way of pedestrians or the views of drivers?
- Can people hide behind the work? Is the area supervised? If so, does the work block the views of those responsible for supervision?
- Can small children climb the artwork, and if so, how might they get hurt? Could larger people climb it? Can the artwork support the weight of these people?
- Accessibility Issues
- How might people with various disabilities engage with the artwork? What are the barriers that prevent them from engaging with it?

Copyright and Signage

- Does your contract allow the artist to reproduce the artwork and sell it to someone else? Do you care? Can you use images of the artwork in publicity? How can you best support the rights of the artist through your project? Do you or future owners have the legal rights to remove the artwork?
- Will there be a plaque and, if so, who will be recognized on the plaque? Is the plaque consistent with the property owner's policies?
- Does the artwork include text? If so, do you have permission to use the text? Is use of the text consistent with City sign codes?

Capacity

- Does your group or organization have the capacity to support this project from beginning to end? Do you have the capacity to do maintenance for years to come?